

SPECIAL SESSION:

State of West Virginia, County of Jefferson, to-wit:

At a Special Session of the County Commission of said County and State continued and held at the Old Charles Town Library ground floor meeting room on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Dale Manuel President
Walter Pellish, Vice President
Patsy Noland, Commissioner
Jane Tabb, Commissioner
Lyn Widmyer, Commissioner
Debbie Keyser, County Administrator
Cynthia Schott, Administrative Assistant

In re: Appointment of Sheriff for Jefferson County

Commissioner Manuel opened the session at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Tabb led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Manuel began the session with a brief overview of the State Code requirements for appointing a Sheriff and the process the County Commission has followed in this instance for filling the Sheriff's position. Mr. Manuel stated this is not the first time Jefferson County has had to appoint a Sheriff. In the past, the Jefferson County Commission has appointed a Sheriff from within. Mr. Manuel stated this Commission has gone above and beyond what is required to make this process as transparent and open to the public as possible. Resumes have been available for citizen review at the office, and meetings have been open.

Commissioner Manuel began the interview process stating each Candidate will be:

1. Given two (2) minutes to make an opening statement explaining what they believe they can bring to the Sheriff's Office.
2. Asked a series of pre-determined questions.
3. Questioned by each individual Commissioner.
4. Given a summary explaining the Sheriff's benefits as designed by Code.

Candidates were interviewed in the following order:

Mr. Louis Brunswick
Mr. Peter H. Dougherty
Mr. Stephen V. Groh

The Commission took a break at 11:10 a.m.
The Commission reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

After completion of interviews the County Commission began deliberations:

- Commissioner Noland – Anyone who has questioned the process only has to listen to the interviews to know how outstanding our choices are. This is not a lifetime appointment – they will have to run in 2014. The Commission is making a temporary appointment to this position.
- Commissioner Tabb – Stated she understands what it takes to be a candidate. It's not easy to put yourself out in front of the public. We have lots of questions having never gone through this process before. Each candidate has their own strengths.
- Commissioner Pellish – Thanked the three individuals for putting themselves out there. Believes the selection belongs in the hands of the people, but this is what we are faced with – prepared to take our responsibilities and fill the position. My criteria for a Sheriff are professionalism, management skills, ability to communicate effectually with the public and be able to make the transition smooth.
 - **Motion by Mr. Pellish to nominate Pete Dougherty.**
- Commissioner Widmyer – Thanked the candidates for their willingness to put themselves out there. Although impressed by all the Candidates, Ms. Widmyer is very impressed with the breadth of experience of Mr. Dougherty and Mr. Brunswick.
- Commissioner Manuel – Believes anyone of the three could handle the job. The question is who we feel could best handle the job. He echo's the sentiments of Mr. Pellish in what he is looking for in a Sheriff. He is looking for a manager, someone with a background in Human Resources.
- Commissioner Tabb – Is looking for a smooth transition and to uphold moral of the department.
 - **Ms. Tabb nominated Mr. Louis Brunswick**
 - **Motion by Ms. Noland to close nominations. Motion seconded by Mr. Manuel and unanimously approved.**

A vote was called on the two nominees –

	<u>Louis Brunswick</u>	<u>Pete Dougherty</u>
Commissioner Tabb	X	
Commissioner Pellish		X
Commissioner Noland		X
Commissioner Widmyer	X	
Commissioner Manuel		X

Commissioner Widmyer stated she would like the vote to be unanimous.

- **Mr. Manuel made a motion for a vote of confidence for Mr. Dougherty. Motion seconded by Mr. Pellish and unanimously approved. Mr. Dougherty is appointed Sheriff.**

Mr. Manuel recessed the meeting until 2 p.m. when they will reconvene to swear Mr. Dougherty into office and begin the Budget Work Session.

DALE MANUEL, COMMISSION PRESIDENT