WEST VIRGINIA:

 At a special session of the County Commission, held for the County of Mercer, at the Courthouse thereof, on Thursday, August 23, 2018.

 Present: Gene Buckner, President

 Present: Greg Puckett, Commissioner

 Present: Bill Archer, Commissioner

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

THE MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION WILL MEET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE COMMISSION COURTROOM FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT CONTRACT FOR MERCER DAY REPORT CENTER ($287,500)

2. APPROVAL OF “HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT” (HAVA) GRANT APPLICATION FOR COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE (38,935.15)

3. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR WVU PRIDE MARCHING BAND

GENE BUCKNER, PRESIDENT

 MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

RE: GRANT CONTRACT – WV COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT

 This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the FY 2019 WV Community Corrections Grant Contract for the Mercer Day Report Center in the amount of $287,500.

RE: GRANT – “HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT” (HAVA)

 This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the “Help America Vote Act” (HAVA) grant application for the County Clerk’s Office in the amount of $38,935.15.

RE: RESOLUTION HONORING PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Bill Archer, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve a Resolution Honoring Pride of West Virginia.

**RESOLUTION HONORING**

**PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**Whereas**, The West Virginia University Marching Band – also known as the “Pride of West Virginia” – has served as ambassadors of WVU since 1901. With more than a century of service, the WVU Band has proven its worth in terms of musical and performance aptitude, as well as championing the Mountaineer attitude both state and nationwide; and

**Whereas**, the Pride’s 117-year story can be traced to WVU’s all-male Reserve Officer Training Corps Military Band that performed at football games, patriotic parades and events. After 24 years, non-ROTC students were allowed in the band’s ranks. Forty-three years later, WVU dropped its ROTC requirement for all male freshman and sophomore students, and in 1972, Don Wilcox, Director of the (then) “Mountaineer Marching Band,” invited women to join the band; and

**Whereas**, the WVU student body has always reflected diverse representation with in-state students matriculating side-by-side with students from surrounding states as well as national and international students of all genders, races, faiths, countries of origins and purposes pursuing their career, service and/or personal dreams by receiving an education at WVU. The Mountaineer Band reflects the strength of this diversity; and

**Whereas,** the Mountaineer Marching Band frequently touches a chord in the heartstrings of West Virginian’s through the Don Wilcox pregame masterpiece that combines popular music from John Denver’s “Country Roads,” with classical movements from Aaron Copland’s composition “Appalachian Spring,” to evoke a stirring moment of pride. The unit entertains at major bowl games, large holiday parades and even at venues like Hunnicutt Stadium here in Princeton; and

**Whereas,** in 1975, an announcer for the “Peach Bowl.” Coined the phrase, “Pride of West Virginia” to describe the Mountaineer Marching Band, and the handle stuck. From its patriotic roots in the months after the Spanish American War through World Wars I and II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, Cold War and War on Terror, the Pride of West Virginia has shown brightly through the horns, drum line, woodwinds, batons and more of the nearly 400 talented musicians who comprise the pride; and

**Whereas,** these student ambassadors of music travel to cities, towns and counties throughout the Mountain State, carrying a message of pride, joy, excitement to adoring fans. Here in Mercer County, we are proud of where we live and proud that the Pride of West Virginia Mountaineer Marching Band has been a frequent visitor to our slice of Almost Heaven; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Mercer County Commission commends the WVU Mountaineer Marching Band for their 117-year commitment to spreading a positive message of Mountaineer pride throughout our great state, our nation and the world.

**Dated this 23rd day of August, 2018.**

**MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION:** /s/ Gene Buckner\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Gene Buckner, President**

 /s/ Greg Puckett\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Greg Puckett, Commissioner**

/s/ Bill Archer\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Bill Archer, Commissioner**

It is ordered that this Commission be and is hereby adjourned until Tuesday, September 11, 2018.

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