2021-2022 Fiscal Year Report













Berkeley County Government



Berkeley County is West Virginia's second oldest county, and is governed by a five-member County Council. The five Council members are elected to six-year terms of office. The Council President is the presiding officer of the board at meetings and hearings.

Each member of the Berkeley County Council must be elected from a different Magisterial District of Berkeley County. There are six Magisterial Districts in the County.

Council Responsibilities

- Generating revenues to fund the county's capital and operating budgets as well as other county departments and agencies.
- Own and maintain county property
- Lay and disburse county levies based on assessed property values.
- Providing for the general public health, safety and welfare of Berkeley County residents and visitors.
- Adopting various orders, ordinances and regulations as authorized by the West Virginia Legislature.
- Act as the Board of Review and Equalization to review assessments of property values returned by the Assessor of Berkeley County and to consider appeals by property owners.
- Act as the Board of Canvassers in review of election returns prior to certification of the election.
- Appoint members of county boards, authorities and public service districts.
- Appoint Fiduciary Commissioners to oversee and settle certain estates.

Council Meetings

Regular meetings of the County Council are held in the County Council Chambers, 400 W. Stephen St., Suite 205, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

The public can view the sessions of the County Council in-person and online via YouTube and Facebook.

Residents can register on the County website https://berkeleywv.org/ to receive email notices for upcoming public meetings, meeting agendas and other information at no charge. Meeting agendas are posted in advance on the County website https://berkeleywv.org/ in compliance with West Virginia Open Governmental Meetings Act.

Members of Berkeley County Council



Council President Douglas E. Copenhaver Jr. is a lifelong resident of Berkeley County. He is a graduate of Martinsburg High School. For more than 40 years, he has owned his own contracting business. Re-elected in 2016 from the Valley Magisterial District, he is serving his second, sixyear term and his eighth year as Council President.

Council Vice President James Whitacre is a lifelong resident of Berkeley County. He is a graduate of Martinsburg High School and studied at Shepherd University. For 40 years, he has worked as an excavating contractor. Re-elected in 2020 from the Shenandoah Magisterial District, he is currently serving his second, six-year term.





Council Member James R. Barnhart is a lifelong resident of Berkeley County and resides in the Martinsburg area. He is a graduate of Hedgesville High School, and West Virginia University. He is retired from the Berkeley County Health Department. Re-elected in 2018 from the Tuscarora Magisterial District, he is serving his second, six-year term on Council.

Council Member G. Edgar "Eddie" Gochenour is a lifelong resident of Berkeley County and resides in Gerrardstown. He is a graduate of Musselman High School and attended Shepherd University. Elected in 2020 from the Norborne Magisterial District, he is serving his first six-year term. Gochenour, is a retired firefighter and also served as the director of the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Berkeley County and served as the first county Fire Chief.





Council Member Dan P. Dulyea is longtime resident of Berkeley County, and lives in Martinsburg. He has owned and operated a contracting business and other ventures in Berkeley County for more than 30 years. He was elected from the Norborne Magisterial District in 2014 to a six-year term and appointed to an unexpired term in 2021 in the Adam Stephen Magisterial District.



Welcome from Council President Douglas E. Copenhaver Jr.

On behalf of the Berkeley County Council and the staff of Berkeley County Government, I am proud to present the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Report.

Berkeley County can take great pride in the progress that we have made not only over the last year, but over the past 250 years. County Leaders have been advancing initiatives that are achieving the goals that we set out to accomplish, from expanding broadband to spurring economic growth and making investments in infrastructure. We also continue to deliver the high-quality programs and services you rely upon every day.

Berkeley County is looking forward as we plan for new investments in infrastructure that we need, including projects to improve public access to government services and Quality of Life enhancements throughout Berkeley County.

I hope this report honors the extraordinary efforts of those who volunteer in our community and work every day to make Berkeley County a safe and welcoming place.

I am proud to share the achievements we have made together over this past year.

Sincerely,

Douglas E. Copenhaver Jr.

Jough & Copular

Council President

Fiscal 2022 Budget/Finance Highlights

Levy Rate

-Approved levy rate reduction by 25 cents - from \$14.06 to \$13.81 - for 2022-23 fiscal year that began on July 1, 2022). Rate is lowest since 2011-12. Prior levy reduction in 2017-2018 reduced from \$14.10 to \$14.06.

Grants Administration

-Awarded total of \$15,837,113.78 in grant funding, including American Rescue Plan Act; Community Development Block Grant; FEMA-Public Assistance Grant; Record Management and Preservation Board Grant; Byrne Justice Assistance Grant; Bureau of Justice Assistance Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program Grant; West Virginia Community Corrections Grant; West Virginia Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program Grant; West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources-Mental Health Grant; Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Grant, and Screening, Brief, Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Grant.

2022 TAX LEVY RATES Arden, Falling Waters, Gerrardstown, Hedgesville, Martinsburg, Mill Creek, Opequon Districts TAX CLASS - Rural Districts Ш IV II State Current .0025 .0050 .0100 County Current .1381 .2762 .5524 School Current .1940 .3880 .7760 School Excess Levy .2250 .4500 .9000 School Bond .0223 .0446 .0892 **Total Rural Districts** Rate Per \$100 Assessment .5819 1.1638 2.3276 TAX CLASS - Municipal Districts 1 11 III IV Town of Hedgesville .5819 1.1638 2.3276 State, County, School Rate Municipal Rate .0572 .1144 .2288 Total Town of Hedgesville Rate per \$100 Assessment .6391 1.2782 2.5564 City of Martinsburg .5819 1.1638 2.3276 State, County, School Rate Municipal Rate .1238 .2476 4950 .0525 .1050 .2100 Excess Levy **Total City of Martinsburg**

.7582

1.5164

-The Berkeley County Council in May 2022 approved up to \$2.5 million of ARPA funding to be made available - in the form of grants - to nonprofits that have faced economic hardship resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency.

Rate Per \$100 Assessment

County Audit

-Completed Fiscal Year 2021 Audit with zero findings.

Funding for Sheriff's Office

- -Adopted county budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year that fully funds 66 full-time law enforcement deputies.
- -Awarded \$708,000 grant funding; supports four additional positions for law enforcement division (COPS Grant); Law Enforcement Mental Health & Wellness Act grant for law enforcement personnel; Homeland Security Grant Program-SWAT special response team equipment and STOP the Bleed.



3.0326

Office of Emergency Management

-Awarded \$126,250 for Homeland Security Grant Program-chemical suits, Emergency Management Planning Grant-Cost with Homeland Security, State Emergency Response Commission/Local Emergency Planning Committee Grant- Promotional Material.

Berkeley County Fire is the designated Region III West Virginia Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team. The team is comprised of firefighters trained to handle hazardous material-involved incidents, providing services to seven eastern West Virginia counties.

Berkeley County Fire



-Funding allocated for 22 paid firefighters stationed with the five volunteer fire companies of

Berkeley County: Back Creek Valley Volunteer Fire Co., Baker Heights Volunteer Fire Department, Bedington Volunteer Fire Department, Hedgesville Volunteer Fire Co. and South Berkeley Volunteer Fire Company.



Department of Emergency Communications



Call Data for July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022



73,637
Dispatched
calls for EMS,
Fire & Law
Enforcement
193,210

Total Calls

Department of Emergency Communications

-Acquired Priority Dispatch Voyager AI in February 2022 to improve performance of emergency dispatching agency. Voyager AI uses artificial intelligence to review substantially more recorded 911 calls, track trends and provides information for rewarding high performing staff by identifying exemplary actions. Also, spotlights inefficiencies and poor performance to pinpoint concerns.

First Responder Recognition and Community Outreach



Government Services

County Courthouse - Administration Building Annex



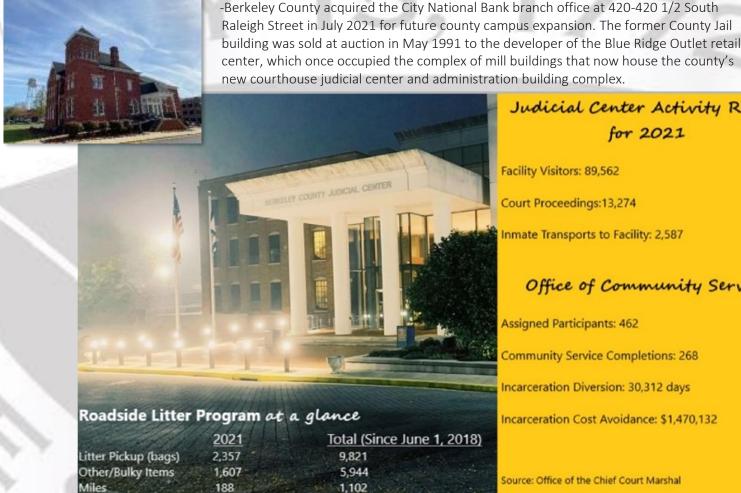
-Request for proposals posted on June 30, 2022 for 600square-foot building addition and renovation of 42,000 square feet to improve day-to-day accessibility to various county government services at 400 W. Stephen St. Renovations will provide space for remaining divisions of Berkeley County Clerk's Office currently located at 100 W. King St., completing county government consolidation project. Project also includes relocation of the Berkeley County Sheriff's Department – Tax Division, Berkeley County Assessor's Office and Berkeley County Emergency



Ambulance Authority Office to firstfloor locations for improved public access.

-Property fencing installed Administration Building parking lot.

Judicial Center



Judicial Center Activity Report for 2021

Facility Visitors: 89,562

Court Proceedings:13,274

Inmate Transports to Facility: 2,587

Office of Community Service

Assigned Participants: 462

Community Service Completions: 268

Incarceration Diversion: 30,312 days

Incarceration Cost Avoidance: \$1,470,132

Source: Office of the Chief Court Marshal

Day Report Center

-Awarded \$900,000 in grant funding for Day Report Center, which was dedicated in April 2021. Provides for youth social worker in Berkeley County Schools, among other service enhancements. Initial steps taken for expansion of Berkeley Day Report Center.



-Obtained Behavioral Health License, effective May 1, 2022.

Recovery Resource Center

-Opened new, larger facility for Berkeley County Recovery Resource Center in December 2021 at 800 Emmett Rousch Drive following a roof replacement by Black Stone Roofing LLC (\$30,000). Background: Former Berkeley County Health Department building was first repurposed for Berkeley Day Report Center.





Recovery Lives Here!

<u>Day Report Center</u>: With more than 300 active participants, the DRC is facilitating 80 support/recovery groups on a weekly basis.

The DRC conducted **19,331** Drug Screens and **71** participants successfully graduated in FY2021-22!

Recovery Services

Quick Response Team

404 - Doors Knocked After Overdose Call

158 - Overdose Survivors Reached

106 - Families Reached

55% - Survivors Accepted Services

Juvenile Opioid Treatment and Intervention Prevention Program

7 - Berkeley County public schools received Substance Abuse Prevention curriculum from staff

3,210 – Total Students Engaged

Home Confinement (FY 2021-22)

\$2,390,672 – Incarceration Cost Avoidance



Facilities Department

-Roof replacement project awarded for County Facilities Department building at 750 Baltimore St. for \$1,010,000 to Black Stone Roofing of Winchester, Va. Background: Facility purchased (\$250,000) in September 2015; provides storage space for county clerk and circuit clerk records and other needed functions for the County.

County Seal

- -Adopted County Seal as part of Berkeley County 250th Commemoration Celebration.
- -Replacement of building signage, letterhead and other branding materials across county government campus.



Quality of Life/Parks & Recreation Projects

Inwood Park

-Purchased approximately 23 acres near Musselman High School in Inwood in August 2021 for a new community park from Green Industrial Realty for \$344,905.

Background: Green Industrial Realty acquired the property in 2012 from Peach Glen, Pa.-based Knouse Foods

Cooperative, Inc. Knouse Foods previously purchased the C.H. Musselman Co., which had operated a large canning facility and vinegar distillery in Inwood.

Site is near the first "Inwood Park," which was established along the Cumberland Valley Railroad (now Winchester & Western Railroad). A campground and park established by J.R. Strong, Inwood Park was incorporated in 1890. Originally known as Strong's Grove, the park became a popular spot for picnics, tent revivals, reunions, dances, and home of the Inwood Fair. A clubhouse and dancing pavilion, as well as refreshment stands, bowling alley, shooting gallery, swings, seesaws and merry-go-round were also featured amenities.

UPDATE (July 7, 2022): Civil & Environmental Consultants Inc. (CEC) retained by Berkeley County to survey, map and develop master plan and manage park project.



WV 9 Bike Path-Frog Hollow Spur Connector Trail

MAY 15, 1772

-Intergovernmental agreement entered between Berkeley County Council and City of Martinsburg in March 2022 to provide for collaborative design and engineering of trail connections between the city's future Frog Hollow Recreation Trail and the WV 9 Bike Path.

-Berkeley County Council agreed to retain CEC (\$57,000) to complete design and engineering services for the extension of the WV 9 Bike Path project. CEC is completing

similar work for the City of Martinsburg Frog Hollow Recreational Trail.

Background: More than ¾ mile in length, the connector trail is to be built from the terminus of the WV 9 Bike Path near the Eastern Regional Jail & Corrections Facility, following Hack Wilson Way corridor to the future Frog Hollow Recreational Trail along South Queen Street.

Projected Completion: 2023

Poor House Farm Park - Expansion

- -Approved letter of intent in December 2021 to purchase 70 acres adjacent to Poor House Farm Park to expand recreational opportunities. Agreement gives county three years to purchase acreage.
- -Workshop held June 2022 by Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks & Recreation about long-term vision for additional acreage in collaboration with Berkeley County Council and City of Martinsburg.





Morgan Park (Bunker Hill, W.Va.)

- -Approved lease agreement in April 2022 with the West Virginia Division of Highways for Morgan Park with an envisioned plan to enhance and expand public fishing access.
- -Refurbishment of Morgan Morganrelated Highway Historical Markers on 1.05-acre parcel is underway in collaboration with West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture & History.
- -Engagement initiated with neighboring property owners on possible expansion of recreation site.

North Berkeley-Potomac Recreation Project

-Continued efforts to develop recreational use plans for Potomac River access, with additional property acquisition and exploration of access to Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park. Participation in Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks & Recreation Board Masterplan Workshop, exploring property access, campground layout, development and camp use.



Spring Mills Community Park

-Partnered with Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks & Recreation and Berkeley County Board of Education to develop 10-acre Community Park in Spring Mills.

History, Heritage & Farmland Preservation

Berkeley County Museum Commission

-Museum Commission created by the Berkeley County Council in March 2022 in support of envisioned regional museum and archival research center at 110 W. King St., and 100 W. King St. (Related demolition project at 126 W. King St. for future museum parking also approved).

The museum commission board, composed of nine-members, will help lead the project.

Demolition bid awarded (\$90,881) to Reclaim Company LLC of Fairmont, W.Va., on May 5, 2022 for 126 W. King St. to provide for parking.

Preliminary approval of \$70,000 grant award announced by West Virginia Arts, Culture & History Curator Randall Reid-Smith. Stakeholder meetings and outreach underway with multiple meetings and engagement.





Highway Historical Marker Refurbishment

-Initiated restoration of Highway Historical Markers across Berkeley County in collaboration with the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History Curator Randall Reid-Smith and staff.

World War 1 Doughboy Restoration/Relocation

- -Relocation, through county leadership, refurbished World War I "doughboy" monument to War Memorial Park in November 2021.
- -Partnered with City of Martinsburg and Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks & Recreation Board in development of strategic plan for public recreation.



Berkeley County Farmland Protection



Economic Development

Interwoven-Monument Companies

-Approved tax incentive package in November 2021 in collaboration

in collaboration with the City of Martinsburg and Berkeley County Development Authority for more than \$80 million remediation and

redevelopment of former Interwoven Mill and Perfection Garment

former and

industrial properties in Martinsburg. Richmond, VA.-based Monument Companies plans are for a mixed-use, historically sensitive development to create 5,000-square feet of new commercial space and more than 380 market rate residential units in Martinsburg's urban core.

Approved Commercial Lots July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022 -- Berkeley County Planning Department

Project	Description	Acreage	Advancemen
ARDEN			
Lot #2 (West) Mid-Atlantic I-81 Logistics Park	868,000 sq. ft. warehousing/light manufacturing facility with approximately 150 truck docks	70.00	8/16/2021
Tabler Station Logistics Park	three (3) warehouse buildings (totaling 1,591,000 square feet)	147.00	9/20/2021
Charles Town Road Storage	14,100 sq. ft. self-storage facility	1.60	4/4/2022
All Nations Outreach Center	13,600 sq. ft. church, basketball facility, and day care facility	3.80	5/2/2022
Mountaineer Recovery Village, Phase 1	(3) recovery residences	4.90	5/16/2022
	and According to the Control of the	227.30	
FALLING WATERS	Y Y		
Martinsburg Spec Building 1	829,947 square foot industrial building	62.00	12/20/2021
Falling Waters Industrial Center – Lot 6C	14,875 square foot warehouse, office space, axe toss, and brewery with an additional 2,040 square f	2.13	4/18/2022
		64.13	
GERRARDSTOWN			
		0.00	
HEDGESVILLE			
North Mountain Substation	6,000 square foot electrical substation	2.30	7/19/2021
Harlan Springs Storage Units	22 commercial storage buildings (1350 units),	19.00	10/18/2021
		21.30	
MILL CREEK			
Butler's Crossing Commercial	44,540 square foot grocery store with an adjacent 14,400 square foot retail building	18.48	8/16/2021
Tudor's Biscuit World/Anthony's Pizza	4,200 sq. ft. Tudor's Biscuit World & Anthony's Pizza	1.10	1/3/2022
		19.58	
OPEQUON			
7-Eleven – Winchester Ave. & Nadenbousch Ln.	4,650 square foot convenience store, eight (8) pump fueling station, three (3) pump high speed diese	2.97	10/4/2021
Project Nova	204,982 square foot industrial warehouse with car maintenance stations	77.00	10/18/2021
Dollar General – Shepherdstown Road	10,640 square foot Dollar General	1.05	5/16/2022
	Particular (CP) Particular and Communication (CP)	81.02	
COUNTY-WIDE TOTALS		413.3	3

Top 10 Permits

New Building* - 1,543 Deck - 359 Swimming Pool -124 Renovation - 123 Basement Finish - 109

Shed - 105 Pole Barn - 97 Mobile Home - 70 Addition - 66 Garage - 58

*Includes residential (single-family home, duplex, townhome) & commerical

Berkeley
County
Engineering &
Building
Inspections
July 1, 2021June 30, 2022

Berkeley County
Public Service
Water District New
Metered

Connections: 1,048



Total Permits: 3,177

Value: \$609,425,957

Fees Collected: \$2,396,149.70

Expanding Broadband Access

- -The Berkeley County Council collaborated with a local Wireless Internet Service Provider (WISP) to provide Fixed Based wireless broadband from the County's North Mountain communication tower site in 2021. The project provided more than 2,000 citizens access to broadband from a single tower site and continues to expand.
- -The County Council also committed \$1 million in matching funds for fiber expansion in western Berkeley County. In 2020-21, the County Council was awarded a \$50,000 grant for a broadband feasibility study, which outlines areas of the County that are underserved.
- -Responses to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) were opened in June 2022 for a Fiber Optic Infrastructure master plan for the study of locally-owned connectivity from Berkeley County to Ashburn, VA, and potential for Point-to-Point Protocol to create more broadband growth.



Berkeley County 250th Commemoration! Discover BERKELEY HISTORY EXHIBIT 250 Years Counting December 31, 2021 Through, 2022 Cember 30, 2022 BERKELEY COUNTY 1772-2022 WEST VIRGINIA

GET CONNECTED TO BERKELEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT BerkeleyWV.org



About Berkeley County

Located at the gateway to the Shenandoah Valley, Berkeley County, West Virginia is the state's second-largest county by population and fastest-growing. Approximately 70 miles from Washington, D.C., Berkeley County is in the most eastern region of The Mountain State, adjacent to western Maryland and northern Virginia. Berkeley County is comprised of 321 square miles and the current population estimate is 126,069. The city of Martinsburg, the county's largest municipality, is the county seat and has an estimated population of 18,777. Berkeley County is in transition from a rural to suburban area. Berkeley County was formed in 1772 from neighboring Frederick County, Virginia by an act of the Virginia House of Burgesses. The county was named in honor of Norborne Berkeley, Baron de Botetourt, Royal Governor of Virginia. Adam Stephen, the county's first sheriff, laid out the county seat along Tuscarora Creek and named it Martinsburg in honor of his friend, Colonel Thomas Bryan Martin.

Since the arrival of Morgan Morgan in 1726, the first colonial settler in what is now the State of West Virginia; Berkeley County has been at the epicenter of engagement, growth and community.



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