

# Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority

Newsletter Fall 2012  
Volume 1, Issue 3



## Contents

Grant Coordinator Spotlight	1
Adell Chandler	2
Harrison County	2
Courthouse Assessment	3
Director's Brief	4



## 10<sup>th</sup> Cycle Grant Applications Deadline Postmark October 5, 2012

The mission of the WVCFA is to preserve the history and invest in the future of our county courthouses. How is that mission accomplished?

Daily all fifty-five county assessors, circuit clerks, county clerks, magistrates, and sheriffs' offices collect fees. A portion of certain fees collected have been designated by WV State Code to be deposited into the Courthouse Facilities Improvement Fund (CFIF).

For example, when the county clerk issues a marriage license, \$10 of the total fee is deposited at the state level into the CFIF. Another example would be when the Sheriff issues a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon. Fifteen dollars from the total fee collected from each person who obtains a license is deposited into the CFIF. The Legislature felt that by working together as "Team Counties", we could accomplish more. They implemented a small fee structure that, individually

### Grant Coordinator Spotlight!

Frances Hale knows that the McDowell County Courthouse has a lot of history behind its structure. The main courthouse was built in 1909 and, shortly thereafter, witnessed the killing of Matewan Police Chief, Sid Hatfield, on the main steps in the year 1921. Chief Hatfield was deeply involved in the coal mine wars, but on that day, was unarmed and accompanied by his wife. For this reason and many others, Frances has a strong desire to maintain and improve the courthouse building in Welch. She knows how important the structure is to the heritage and future of her

county. Frances loves working for the County Commission and the people in McDowell County. She is most proud of the EECBG grant for new lights, WVCFA grants for windows and electrical wiring. Frances is currently working on grants through the West Virginia Development Participation Office for McArts, VFW 1144, McDowell County 4-H, Post 8, Coalwood Sewer, and Appalachian Outreach.

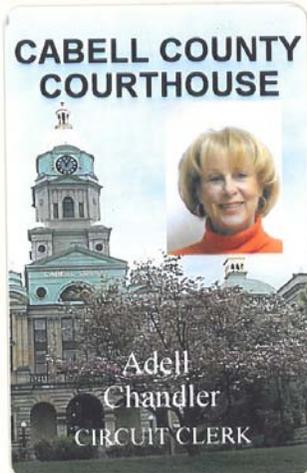
Each year the fees are totaled and awarded by the CFIA Board of Directors in the form of grants. Our goal is that all fifty-five counties are applicants for grant funding. Unfortunately, all counties will not be funded, but if the county does not apply, then the opportunity is lost for that county until the next year.

205 County Courthouse Projects have been funded by the West Virginia Courthouse Facilities Improvement Fund since 2004. Totaling \$16,104,124.00 and an average of 25 projects a year.

The clock is ticking for this year's deadline, but you still have time to apply. The 10<sup>th</sup> Cycle Grant application can be found on our web-site at [www.cfia.wv.gov](http://www.cfia.wv.gov).

Frances is married to Barry Hale and the mother of Amanda and Gary, whom served in the US Army in Afghanistan and Kuwait.

## Adell Chandler Cabell County Circuit Clerk Retiring November 30, 2012



Adell Chandler, as a young girl of 17, came to the United States from England in October of 1962. Her first job was in the Prosecutor's Office of the Boone County Courthouse. In 1965, Adell moved to Cabell County and worked in the courthouse for the late Judge Dan C. Robinson for seven years.

In 1989, Adell was appointed Cabell County Circuit Clerk and on November 30, 2012, she has chosen to retire after many years of faithful service to the citizens of Cabell County.

Adell was appointed by the Supreme Court to a 38 member commission on the Future of the West Virginia Court System while serving as President of the WV Association of County Clerks 1996-98, WV Trial Lawyers Association "Outstanding Circuit Clerk" 1997; Member of the Supreme Court

Liaison Committee, Member of the Supreme Court Manual Committee, former member of TEAM for WV Children and WV Association of Counties Board of Directors.

Adell has served as an outstanding board member of WVCFA since the formation of our state agency.

Adell lives in Milton with her husband Pete Meadows. Her sons are Sean, a police officer in Colorado, and Aaron, a trucking dispatcher in Ashland, KY. When her family gets together, all nine grandchildren have lots of fun.

Adell is looking forward to retirement in November but will miss all her colleagues and friends and has enjoyed her work as a board member of the Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority.

**Good Monthly  
Progress  
Reports are  
Descriptive!**

**Due on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
of the Month  
following each  
quarter!**

**Reimbursement  
Requests can  
only be  
reimbursed at  
the 80% level.**

## Harrison County Completes Plaza Renovation

Letters of support from county officials and letters from the community expressed concerns for the tripping hazards at the Harrison Co. Courthouse. The 9<sup>th</sup> cycle application scored high and Harrison County was awarded \$106,200.00 to help level their entry plaza. The completed project totaled over \$500,000.





Before Harrison County Courthouse Plaza



After



## Courthouse Needs Assessment To Be Completed by July 2013

The 2012 -2013 Courthouse Assessment Team is comprised of Silling Associates Architecture Firm, Scheeser Buckley Mayfield MEP Engineering, Shelley Metz Bauman Hawk Structural Engineering, and Michael Gioulis Historic Preservation. The Assessment is being funded through the West Virginia Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority and will benefit all 55 counties at no cost to the county.

The approach by the team was to divide the state into 11 Regions: **August 2012** Wetzel, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall & Hancock ; **September 2012** Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, & Taylor; **October 2012** Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Mineral & Hampshire; **October 2012** Pleasants, Ritchie, Tyler, Wirt & Wood; **November 2012** Barbour, Upshur, Lewis, Doddridge & Gilmer; **January 2013** Hardy, Grant, Tucker, Randolph & Pendleton; **February 2013** Pocahontas, Webster, Braxton, Clay, & Nicholas; **March 2013** Greenbrier, Monroe, Summers, Raleigh, & Fayette; **April 2013** Mercer, McDowell , Wyoming, Mingo & Logan; **May 2013** Boone, Lincoln, Wayne, Cabell & Putnam; **May 2013** Calhoun, Roane, Jackson, Mason & Kanawha.

The on-site physical inspections at the courthouses will require time, energy, and effort on the part of the county. Silling will need the assistance of county administrators, managers, and/or building grounds/maintenance staff. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this effort. Thanks also to those who have already welcomed Silling to your county. The assessment will assist the CFIA Board with grant selection and assist the counties with grant development and project organization in the future. The assessment will NOT include directives, but merely suggestions.

The systems being evaluated parallel the categories included in the CFIA grant application: Life Safety, Roofing, Exterior, Mechanical (HVAC/Plumbing), ADA Accessibility, Structural, Electrical, Data, Interior, Doors, and Windows.

For more information or to assist with questions, please contact Mike Moore at Silling Associates at (304)346-0565 or email at [mmoore@silling.com](mailto:mmoore@silling.com) or call Melissa Garretson Smith at (304) 558-5435 or email her at [melissa.smith@wvcfia.com](mailto:melissa.smith@wvcfia.com).

## Director's Brief



WVCFIA

2003 Quarrier Street  
Charleston, WV 25311

Phone:  
(304)558-5435

Fax:  
(555) 558-9174

[www.cfia.wv.gov](http://www.cfia.wv.gov)

Melissa Garretson Smith,  
Executive Director

Brenda S. Ashworth,  
Executive Assistant

Summer vacations should all be finished. Now is the time to buckle in and finish your 10<sup>th</sup> cycle grant application. Unfortunately, the time has passed for our staff to conduct a thorough review of your application. However, we can still peruse your submission for completeness. Just a few reminders: Make sure your budget includes the payment of prevailing wage and that you begin communicating with the State Historic Preservation Office. The postmark deadline for the application is October 5<sup>th</sup>!

At this time I am not able to provide a definite dollar amount that we will be providing in grant funds. With the passage of SB 618 during the last legislative session, we anticipate our fees to be slightly lower. SB 618 established the priority of payment of magistrate court costs. The result of that legislation was that CFIA was pushed down two places in the funding stream from court costs. It is too early in the fiscal year to determine the

impact of the legislation, but we will almost certainly be getting less revenue because of this 2012 legislation. The Board will make every effort to provide grant funding consistent with previous cycles. Applicants will receive notification of funding prior to Christmas.

Christmas is just around the corner! If you have any history buffs in your family or your office, you might want to purchase the Emmy nominated documentary, "West Virginia's Living Monuments - The Courthouse", or pre-order the full color, 250 page book that will cover all 55 courthouses. If you're interested, give Patti or Kathy a call at the WVACo at 304-346-0591.

Hopefully, the movie and the book will increase the interest in courthouses of West Virginia's citizens. We should all be interested in preserving our past and investing in our future.

-Melissa

WVCFIA  
2003 Quarrier Street  
Charleston, WV 25311

