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For immediate release

Weston Hospital Auction

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources will be conducting an auction at 1 p.m. on Aug. 29, when verbal bids will be publicly taken for the sale of 306.84 surface acres more or less known as the former Weston State Hospital Property. The property is situated west of the intersection of West Second Street and River Road in the Courthouse District of Weston, Lewis County. The sale is subject to exceptions and reservations of record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Lewis County, West Virginia.

This auction is for the surface estate of the former Weston State Hospital and the former institutional farm property. The mineral estate is owned by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture and is not included in this auction.

A pre-bid conference will be held on the front steps of the former Weston State Hospital on July 18, at 10 a.m. to discuss the details of the sale and provide prospective bidders with informational packets. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but it is highly recommended for any prospective bidders. A website is currently under development at www.wvdhhr.org/westonauction.htm and should be operational in two weeks.

The successful bidder will be required to accept the property in its current condition and agree to accept full responsibility for any and all hazardous materials on site, whether currently known or unknown. No representations of condition will be offered.

The apparent successful bid from the auction will be reviewed. If DHHR wishes to accept the offer, the apparent high bidder will be notified. Within five business days of the notification, the apparent high bidder will be required to make a non-refundable deposit of not less than \$10,000 by cashier's check or certified bank draft. The remainder is to be paid upon delivery of the special warranty deed.

DHHR reserves the right to respond to potential bidder's questions only if they are in writing. DHHR will not be held to information provided in verbal responses. All potential bidders' written questions and the DHHR answers will be provided to those who request such information.

DHHR reserves the right to waive any informalities or reject any and all bids, in whole or in part.