

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-6

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES RELATED TO THE EXPENDITURE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the policy of the State of Indiana is to grant local governments all powers that they need for the effective operation of government as to local affairs, as stated in Indiana Code section 36-1-3-2; and,

**WHEREAS**, Indiana Code section 36-2-2-2 establishes The Board of Commissioners of Morgan County, Indiana ("Commissioners") as the executive body of County government and further obliges the Commissioners to transact the business of the County; and,

**WHEREAS**, as its share of the Manufacturer's and Distributor's Opioid Settlement, Morgan County is scheduled to received restricted or Abatement Funds in a total amount in excess of \$4,000,000.00 and Unrestricted Funds in a total amount in excess of \$1,200,000.00, and Morgan county has thus far received \$263,523.17 in Abatement Funds and \$287,107.60 in Unrestricted Funds; and,

**WHEREAS**, as part of the guidelines for distribution of the grants to counties, there was promulgated a List of Opioid Remediation Uses which applied to some, but not all, grant funds; and,

**WHEREAS**, in order to fairly distribute the funds, on or about September 3, 2024, the Commissioners voted to approve the creation and composition of an opioid task force or work group, which was created and made recommendations relating to disbursement of some of the funds, which recommendations were approved at the regularly scheduled Commissioners meeting on May 5, 2025; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners believe that establishing specific procedure regarding the County's administration and use of opioid Settlement Funds is in the best interest of the County, and further believe that doing so will help to ensure compliance with the various expenditure rules and regulations and also enable these funds to be used in a manner that maximizes their impact and the overall benefit to the County and its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MORGAN COUNTY, INDIANA that:**

**Section 1.** The Commissioners are vested with the authority to select projects for spending the opioid Settlement Funds.

**Section 2.** The Commissioners hereby adopt the following rules to ensure accountable spending:

A. Any contract designated to use opioid Settlement Funds, regardless of Council appropriation must be approved and signed by the Commissioners.

B. All claims for the disbursement of the Settlement Funds must be signed by a Commissioner.

C. A copy of all contracts and invoices related to the expenditure of the Settlement Funds.

**Section 3.** All ordinances and/or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

**Section 4.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereunder.

**Section 5.** This Ordinance shall take effect on passage, and shall remain in full force and effect until further action by the Board of Commissioners to amend or repeal the same.

APPROVED, RATIFIED, AND ADOPTED at a public meeting of the Morgan County Board of Commissioners after statutory notice given on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kenny Hale

Kenny Hale, President

Bryan Collier

Bryan Collier

Don Adams

Don Adams

ATTEST:

Linda Pruitt

Linda Pruitt, Morgan County Auditor