

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE BRYAN COLLIER, DON ADAMS, AND KENNY HALE. DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; LINDA PRUITT, COUNTY AUDITOR AND JIM WISCO, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

**PLEDGE**

PRAYER – *Kenny Hale*

**MINUTES – 2/6/23**

Don Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**OPIOID GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Josh Messmer introduced Keylee Wright, Robin Wonnell, and Pastor Rick Miller with the Better Communities Coalition. This group is working on opioid grant opportunities. A large portion of the opioid settlement that took place in Indiana went to counties and local communities and a portion went to the state. The state has turned back a portion of their funds as a grant opportunity. Pastor Miller stated that the Better Communities Coalition is a 40-plus member group of organizations within the county working on mental health issues, affordable and safe housing and transportation challenges. The Coalition is asked for a letter of support and a commitment for funding. Pastor Miller stated that the agencies are committed to the tasks listed in the grant, and would do them anyway, but with the grant opportunity, they would be able to do a lot more a lot quicker. Keylee Wright stated that the Morgan County Mental Health Taskforce is part of the Coalition. They have been working on a comprehensive assessment and capacity building and planning process. They would like to bring more resources into Morgan County to address mental health issues and substance misuse. They would be requesting \$620,000 to \$645,000 in grant funds over the next two years, and an additional 3% for administrative costs. Don Adams stated that this is an opportunity that Morgan County is set to take advantage of and made a motion to approve a \$5,000 contribution towards the match for the grant and to submit a letter of support. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Dave Rogers, Morgan County Jail Commander, stated that he has been communicating with Stability First and Judy Bucci and a lot of the organizations help support inmates when they leave. The jail recently engaged someone who does discharge planning and they are in support of the Coalition's efforts. Motion carried 3-0.

**OPIOID SETTLEMENT DISCUSSION**

Jim Wisco stated that they are waiting on a document from Cohen & Malad that needs to be returned by April 18<sup>th</sup> regarding the class action opioid settlement. Don Adams made a motion to allow the President or Vice President of the Board, if the President wasn't available, to sign the settlement agreement. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**ON-CALL AGREEMENT**

Grant Collinsworth, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, stated that in discussing the highway standards update with Beam, Longest & Neff, it was discovered that neither the Highway Department nor BLN could find a copy of the on-call agreement. The standards update is a separate agreement, but should they need assistance from BLN for other projects, both parties would like to have an agreement in place. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the on-call agreement with BLN. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**BANNING ENGINEERING AGREEMENT**

Grant Collinsworth stated that this agreement between Banning Engineering and Morgan County is for the PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation & Rating) for the roads. This rating is due to be submitted to the state in the fall of this year and are used to evaluate the roads from 10 being the best to 1 being the worst. This system helps in determining paving plans. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**UNITED CONSULTING AGREEMENT**

Bryan Collier stated that the county has been working with United Consulting regarding weight limits on roads. Josh Messmer started that there are a few roads that receive more traffic and they would like to get ahead of the process. If the county had an engineer on staff, this would be a task for that position. Don Adams made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

## **RESOLUTION GROUP AGREEMENT – Bottom Road**

Grant Collinsworth stated that this agreement is for a set of construction drawings for Bottom Road. This will outline how much material, size and length of pipe, elevations, etc. If this is more than the Highway Department can carry out, they can still use these plans to bid out the project. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

## **ALLISON ESTATES BOND**

Josh Messmer stated that Allison Estates is a housing project that is going in outside of Mooresville in what was formerly the buffer zone. As the development goes forward, the county needs assurances that the project components will be guaranteed if they need fixed. The Morgan County Treasurer has the bonds; \$52,037.00 for base binder and curbs, \$72,332.13 for asphalt surface and \$31,210.00 for sidewalks and common areas. There is also a \$35,707 bond for storm sewers that the Drainage Board will acknowledge at their meeting. Kenny Hale made a motion to recognize the receipt of performance bonds from Pyatt Builders as listed for Allison Estates. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Mr. Messmer stated that the reason why they do this is so that in the future, it's in the minutes that the bonds were provided. Bryan Collier noted that he has received several phone calls about bringing in private drives that are subpar with potholes. This will help citizens to understand that some roads aren't paved or chip and sealed because they haven't been brought up to standards and not accepted into the county road system; they are private drives. Motion carried 3-0.

## **LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

Josh Messmer stated that this agreement is for the Plan Commission, but is on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The Plan Commission administers a public nuisance ordinance on behalf of the Commissioners and recently had to go to court to proceed with enforcement. Jim Wisco is not able to represent the Board on this issue and worked to find a local attorney to represent the Plan Commission. Don Adams made a motion to approve the agreement with the Ksenak Law Firm and to appoint Bryan Collier as signatory. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

*Morgan County Regional Sewer District* – Don Adams stated that Ryan Goodwin resigned from the board and introduced Mary Herold as a candidate to fill that position. Ms. Herold stated that she has lived in Morgan County since 1999, after finishing an MBA in finance and strategic management at the Wharton School of Business, she worked at Eli Lily, served in the Peace Corp, served with USAD in Washington and served with the State Department in Martinique, Paris and Madagascar. Ms. Herold is passionate about poverty alleviation and public service. Don Adams made a motion to appoint Mary Herold to fill the remainder of the position. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

## **WSI AGREEMENT**

Scott Hamilton, Morgan County 911 Dispatch Director, was present to request approval of an agreement for the voice recording system at the Dispatch Center. Mr. Hamilton stated that there was an issue with the budget and the funding for this agreement will be discussed at the April Council meeting. The agreement includes all software updates and hardware refreshes. This system is used to maintain records, public records requests and helps with QA/QI for reviewing calls. The five-year cost could be \$70,000 if paid upfront or as much as \$149,000 if paid over time. Don Adams made a motion to approve the agreement pending approval of funding by the Council. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

## **TORT CLAIMS**

Kenny Hale made a motion to submit the Smith Perez tort claims to insurance. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0. Don Adams asked if it was obvious that the county has no involvement in the claim, do they still need to submit it to insurance. Jim Wisco stated that he would need to check with the insurance carrier.

## **COMMENT**

Loren Moore, Monrovia Town Council, stated that there was an issue with the recycle bins in Monrovia and asked if arrangements could be made for another location.

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTY**

Don Adams stated that there will be a “Coffee with the County” the first Saturday in March at Gather Around BBQ at 8:30. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Mr. Adams was enjoying the trail at Old Town Waverly Park and noted that there were several other people out enjoying the trail; it is getting a lot of use.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kenny Hale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

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Bryan Collier

Attest:

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Don Adams

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Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

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Kenny Hale