

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.**

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

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Kenny Hale*

**PRESENTATION** – *Morgan County Democratic Party*

Diana Jennings and Gale Featherston, Morgan County Democratic Party, presented a certificate to the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Jennings stated that they had planned to do this presentation for Earth Day, but with the recent storms, felt it would be better to present it this evening. Ms. Jennings stated that the party sees and appreciates what the Board does in providing recycling, Tox-Away Day, flood and drainage control, weed control and maintaining roads and bridges. They appreciate the attention to the health and safety of the citizens of Morgan County. They all live in the community and must work together. Ms. Featherstone read the certificate as follows: “This certificate is awarded this Earth Day, April 22, 2023 to Morgan County Commissioners and Morgan County employees from the Morgan County Democratic Party in appreciation for your tireless and ongoing attention to the environment, solid waste disposal, recycling and Tox-Away Day, health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of Morgan County, Indiana.”

Several other women of the Democratic Party were also present. Bryan Collier stated that he agreed that they all live in the community and need to work together.

**MINUTES** – 4/3/23

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

**AMENDMENT #3** – *Everside Health*

Daree Fry, HR Director, stated that Everside Health has introduced a program for mental health that they have started in some of their clinics. Employees would be able to make an appointment with a licensed clinical social worker or the clinic would be able to refer the employee. There is a \$3 per employee per month fee and the Group Insurance Board has approved the concept. The start date for this would be June 1<sup>st</sup>. Don Adams made a motion to approve the amendment. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

Josh Messmer stated that there are items that the Council will need to approve at their next meeting as part of this effort. As part of an effort to increase the county’s ability to invest money in CDs, the first step, which is permitted in IC 5-13-9-5, is to authorize the Treasurer to invest in CDs with any bank that has been approved by the State Treasurer. This resolution allows for that flexibility. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Investment of Public Funds Pursuant to IC 5-13-9-5. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Josh Messmer stated that this resolution creates a finance committee. The county recently started working with Reedy Financial to lay out capital improvement plans, stay on top of the budget and plan for the future. As part of this plan, they need to create a finance committee that would consist of two Council members, a Commissioner, County Auditor, County Treasurer, HR Director and County Administrator. Don Adams stated that he felt this would be necessary and the more diverse the county’s services become, a financial committee is paramount. Don Adams made a motion to approve the Resolution to Establish a Finance Committee to Monitor and Regularly Report the Status of County Finances. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**STATEMENT OF INTEREST EARNED**

Terry Clelland, Morgan County Treasurer, presented spreadsheets showing the interest earned from Home Bank and First Merchants Bank from January 1 through March 31, 2023. Home Bank was \$89,077.32 and First Merchants ending balance was \$527,177.56. Bryan Collier stated that they have negotiated with banks to obtain better rates in order to protect the taxpayers of Morgan County. Kenny Hale made a motion to accept the statement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **AGREEMENT FOR INVESTMENT ADVISORY SERVICES** – *Baker Tilly*

Josh Messmer stated that the Council will update the investment policy at their next meeting to allow maturity of CDs between two and five years. Currently, they are limited to less than two years. Monies come into the county and it sits idle until they deploy it and this agreement with Baker Tilly for investment services will help the county invest the money in short securities up to five years depending on asset needs to allow for a higher return on the investments. Baker Tilly's fee will be 12 basis points on base assets that are invested. The county attorney has reviewed the agreement. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **ORDINANCE 2023-10** - *ARPA*

Josh Messmer stated that the State Board of Accounts has asked that entities that received ARPA funds review internal controls. The Board of Commissioners approve expenditures from the fund and must sign any claims or contracts. The Auditor's office shall maintain copies of contracts and invoices. Reports submitted to the US Treasury are to be reviewed by the Auditor prior to submittal and a printed copy with the County Administrator's signature and County Auditor's signature shall be retained. Don Adams stated that they need to follow the rules and account for the funds. Don Adams made a motion to approve the Ordinance to Establish Procedures Related to the Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act Funds and to waive a second reading. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

### **ORDINANCE 2013-11** – *Mobile Home Processing Fee*

Terry Clelland stated that the Treasurer's Office has been getting several transfers that involve the same mobile homes over and over. Every transfer requires that taxes are paid current, current title, and completed forms. Sometimes several attempts are made in order to insure all requirements are met. This ordinance would allow the Treasurer's Office to collect a \$15 fee for each transfer. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Morgan County Treasurer to Collect a Processing Fee for Mobile Home Transfers and Moving Permits and to waive a second reading. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT AWARD** – *2023-1*

Grant Collinsworth, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, stated that the county applied for Community Crossings Matching Grant funding several months ago and were awarded \$999,870.12. The state will be sending a Docusign document via email. Mr. Collinsworth thanked Lisa Plummer and United Engineering for their work in obtaining the grant. The Board of Commissioners thanked Ms. Plummer and United. Mr. Collinsworth noted that this 50/50 grant will allow the Highway Department to double the amount of paving they do and they will put a list of roads to be paved on the county website.

### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF INDOT AGREEMENTS**

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Morgan County, Indiana Concerning Authorization for Execution of INDOT Agreements. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *Appointment*

Bryan Collier noted that they had an Executive Session on March 1, 2023 regarding hiring personnel. Keith Rhodes noted that the press release listed Summer Brown as the EMS Director of Operations and Brent Worth as EMS Director of Administration.

### **BUDGET SHORTFALL** – *Highway Dept.*

Grant Collinsworth stated that he and Josh Messmer have reviewed the budget and while not getting into the details, it looks like there might be a few shortfalls.

### **INCIDENT CLAIMS / TORT CLAIMS**

Kenny Hale made a motion to submit the Harker, Inlow and Eby Incident Claims and Staten and Vue tort claims to the insurance company. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Don Adams stated that he had a good time at the opening of the Wilbur School and appreciated all the hard work to make that happen. He also visited the Link Observatory and considers this a hidden asset in the county.

Kenny Hale stated that they are planning the Old Town Waverly Park Festival. The second Saturday of each month is the Blacksmith Association at Waverly Park and the 4-H blacksmith group will be meeting at Waverly.

Bryan Collier asked that everyone stay on the trails at Waverly Park until he could find time

between jobs to find all the mushrooms.

Dianna Jennings stated that the Morgan County Democratic Women were cleaning up around the Courthouse Square for Earth Day and distributing recycled bookmarks at the Morgan County Library.

**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