

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023 AT 9:30 A.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE BRYAN COLLIER, DON ADAMS, AND KENNY HALE. LINDA PRUITT, COUNTY AUDITOR AND DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT WERE ALSO PRESENT.

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Kenny Hale*

**MINUTES** – *11/20/23*

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**CLAIMS**

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the November 9 and 22, 2023 payroll claims of \$726,911.66 and \$778,938.95; PERF \$65,443.84, and \$69,203.66; FICA \$52,986.11 and \$56,759.02; and monthly claims of \$3,714,592.64. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**ANNUAL MATERIAL BIDS**

Justin Schneck, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that he had reviewed the Annual Material Bids that were submitted at the last meeting and all bids except for one met the bid specifications and was rejected. Mr. Schneck recommended that all bids be approved as presented. Vendors include Co Alliance, Milestone, Rogers Group, US Aggregate and E3 Bridge. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve bids as submitted. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**EMA SOPS**

Abby Worth, Morgan County EMA Director, submitted SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for EMA (Emergency Management Agency). Don Adams stated that he had not read the whole binder and made a motion to table the SOPs. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**GRANT APPLICATION** – *Health Department*

Steve Lyday, Morgan County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, requested approval of a \$5,000 grant application through the National Association of County and City Health. This grant will be used to rebuild the Medical Reserve Corp. Mr. Lyday stated that they learned several things through COVID. They currently have 10 active members and would like to have 20 more. They train civilians to respond in certain capacities during an emergency to help educate, vaccinate and even go door to door if needed in certain situations. Don Adams made a motion to approve the grant application. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**ORDINANCE #2023-26** – *Poll Worker Compensation*

Tammy Parker, Morgan County Clerk, was present to request approval of an ordinance to increase the meal allowance, training and pay for poll workers and vote center location rental. The Council has approved the increase in the budget for 2024. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the ordinance. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**TRASH REMOVAL QUOTES**

Bryan Collier stated that all the quotes were not received. Don Adams made a motion to table this item. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

Josh Messmer stated that the former county attorney was working on an issue with CenterPoint Energy. They have a long-term lease and would like to convert this to a permanent easement. Taft Stettinius & Hollister, LLP, who the county has worked with before, represents CenterPoint in other areas and provided the name of a firm, Withered Burns, that they have worked with before. Mr. Messmer requested approval of the engagement letter so the county can work with this firm in converting a lease to an easement. Don Adams made a motion to approve the engagement letter. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0. Kenny Hale stepped out of the room.

**LEASE TERMINATION**

Josh Messmer stated that this item would need to be tabled until the attorney could review it. Don Adams made a motion to table the lease termination. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

### **TORT CLAIM**

Don Adams made a motion to send the Hamilton tort claim to the insurance carrier. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

### **RECYCLING UPDATE**

Erick Kivett stated that he has been looking for an area to set up the recycling. He sent out letters to the owners of potential locations but has not received a response. Morgantown is the only open site. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of using an area at the Highway Department. It was agreed to work on the details and continue this at the next meeting, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **APPOINTMENT** – *Harrison Township Fire District Board*

Kenny Hale made a motion to appoint Lisa Raufeisen to the Harrison Township Fire Board. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **PROPOSED ROAD NAMES**

Josh Messmer stated that there have been a handful of people wanting to come before the Board of Commissioners to ask for specific road names. It has been the policy in the past not to do this due to the complexity and personal issues that arose among neighbors. Mr. Messmer asked that the Board clarify the policy. It was suggested that they not accept any more names that what is on the approved list unless it is a new subdivision. This would not put Sandy Mosier, Plan Commission, in the spot of referee between parties that may disagree with one another and feel passionate about what their road name ought to be. Ms. Mosier stated that consulting with each person who lives on a road before assigning a road name could take two to four months, when assigning one off the approved list could take a few hours and it's done. Kenny Hale stated that when they are trying to readdress an existing road, it is confusing if it must be done multiple times. The less impact the better. 911 is about eliminating confusion. An existing road with four or five houses that may or may not agree on a name should go by the road list. If a road name is assigned and the neighbors appeal to the Board of Commissioners to change the name, it causes confusion for first responders. The assigned road name is sent to the post office, address management, MSAG, 911, Assessor's Office, Auditor's Office and the property owner. Ms. Mosier stated that it is impossible to contact everyone who would want a vote to choose a road name and get it assigned in a timely manner. Bryan Collier stated that "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" would be an awesome street name. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Plan Commission submitting proposed road names to the Board of Commissioners for approval after vetting them, excluding new minor and major platted subdivisions. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **TRANSFER LETTER**

Kenny Hale made a motion to send the transfer letter of \$18,750.50 for the Morgan County Economic Development Corporation to the Council. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **ANNUAL NEPOTISIM CERTIFICATION**

Bryan Collier stated that per IC 36-1-20.2, and Morgan County Resolution 2012-6-4, all elected officials have submitted their annual certification concerning the hiring and supervision of relatives.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Josh Messmer stated that the Treasurer's Office has been sending these reports out, but there has not been a record that they exist and it would be useful for the Commissioners and Council to acknowledge the monthly report.

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

Don Adams stated that the annual Commissioners' Conference was held recently and Bryan Collier was elected as Vice President of the West Central District for the Indiana County Commissioners.

Saturday will be Santa in the Park at Old Town Waverly Park. Don Adams noted that he will be the only male voice for the carolers and asked for volunteers.

Kenny Hale stated that the City of Martinsville held the Bobby Helms Jingle Bell Rock Christmas Music Spectacular was yesterday and it was a great event.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

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Bryan Collier My Favorite

Attest:

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Don Adams

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Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

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Kenny Hale