

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M.

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

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Josh Messmer*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Bryan Collier wished Council member Jason Maxwell a happy birthday and the Board wished Kenny Hale a happy birthday for tomorrow. Mr. Hale was unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

TREASURER’S REPORT/CLERK’S REPORT

The Board accepted the reports as presented.

GRANT APPLICATION – *Health Department*

Tricia Runningen and Michelle Dyer, Morgan County Health Department, were present to request approval of a grant application through the Indiana Department of Health for a \$162,017.73 Immunization Grant. The grant will be used to increase immunization rates. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the application. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

EEOP AND EEOP UTILIZATION REPORT

Daree Fry, Morgan County HR Director, stated that this Equal Employment Opportunity Plan and Utilization Report help the county comply with EEOC regulations. Data in the report is organized by race, national origin and sex. Recipients of the Safe Streets Act and VOCA funds (Victims of Crimes Act) must develop and submit a plan to the OCR (Office of Civil Rights) every two years. The last time the report was submitted was in December of 2021. The only changes on the report were census numbers. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the plan and report. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

ROADWAY RECLASSIFICATION

Justin Schneck, Morgan County Highway Engineer, submitted letters for approval to reclassify several roads. These roads were impacted by I-69 and have more traffic. The upgrading will allow the county to apply for federal funding and affects planning and zoning. There were several roads that were impacted, and Mr. Schneck, along with United Engineering determined that the following roads should be upgraded to Rural Major Collector: Egbert, New Harmony, Perry, Waverly, Whiteland and Henderson Ford. The requests will then be submitted to INDOT. made a motion to approve the amendment to the agreement and to authorize Don Adams to sign. Bryan Collier mentioned a road with two 90 degree turns and a “tickle belly” hill that now has more traffic and this reclassification is the first step in upgrading the roads. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the proposed reclassification of the listed roads. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

EGIS AGREEMENT

Josh Messmer stated that they have talked about locating property for an EMS station in the Paragon area and this agreement is to provide appraisal services for a potential property. The total cost is \$5,200. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the agreement as presented. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES

Josh Messmer stated that the Plan Commission enforces the public nuisance ordinance(s). Ksenak Law, on behalf of the county, recently won a lawsuit against an individual and this agreement is for essentially the same type of case. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the agreement for legal services with Ksenak Law Firm. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

REQUEST TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE

Bryan Collier noted that the request to use the Courthouse Square is for Artie Fest on July 26th and 27th. Don Adams noted that the insurance renewal for Artie Fest will occur immediately before the event and that they will supply a Certificate of Insurance once insurance is finalized. Bryan

Collier made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTY

Don Adams stated that the Commissioners and several others from the county recently attended Purdue Road School. There will also be several attending the West Central District AIC meeting. Mr. Adams thanked the Morgan County Correspondent for their reporting and good work.

Bryan Collier thanked the public for attending the meeting and stated that property tax bills would be mailed soon and asked that anyone thinking the county is wasting money, to show him where that is occurring. Mr. Collier also encouraged more people to attend the meetings and get involved.

ADJOURNMENT

Bryan Collier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Don Adams

Attest:

Bryan A. Collier

Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

Kenny Hale