

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 AT 9:30 A.M.

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

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Kenny Hale*

CLAIMS

Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the August 1, 15 and 29, 2025 payroll claims of \$909,893.32, \$913,525.13 and \$907,774.43; PERF \$80,806.70, \$81,357.90 and \$80,386.09; FICA \$65,728.18, \$65,961.78 and \$68,637.17; and monthly claims of \$3,174,070.70. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCE 2025-8 – Park Board 2nd Reading

Anne Cowgur stated that there is a typo graphical change that needs to be made and it was discussed that the fifth member would be appointed by Assessor. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-8 with Section 2, number 3 stating the Assessor and Section 10 stating “Commissioners”. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

PARK BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Kenny Hale noted that the Board of Commissioners makes two appointments for the Park Board and the County Council makes two appointments. Bryan Collier suggested Darrell French (R) and Tricia Runningen (D) as appointments. Kenny Hale noted that both are very involved in the Parks. Don Adams suggested Joyce Gilley (D) but he had not spoken with her yet. No action taken.

EMA SOP

Abby Worth, Morgan County EMA Director, stated that this SOP is for the wireless emergency network alerting. There are courses that are required through FEMA in order to use the system. This SOP outlines how the messages are developed and who is authorized to send them. Don Adams made a motion to approve the SOP. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

REGROUP MOU AGREEMENT

Ms. Worth stated that EMA currently uses a platform called WENS to send iPAWS alerts as well as subscription-based alerts to the public. In 2026, they plan to transition to a different platform called Regroup. It is a more affordable option that also brings more layers and capabilities. There are five to seven users on the WENS account, such as water and utility companies and community-based groups. This MOU gives those authorized guidance so that if the system is misused, authorization can be withdrawn quickly. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the MOU. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

BRIDGE 29

Justin Schneck, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that they are completing design work for Bridge 29 and wrapping up the environmental document. They have moved utilities and purchased right of way. The project should go to bid in January through the INDOT process. Mr. Schneck requested approval of the plans. The construction period is planned for April 1 through October 31 and the engineer’s estimate for construction costs is \$1.2 million. Bryan Collier asked if bridges are being made wider as they are replaced since farm equipment seems to be getting bigger. Mr. Schneck stated that they are putting in a 28 ft cleared roadway width, which is larger than what they normally are now. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the proposed bridge plans. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

TAKE HOME VEHICLE APPLICATION

Brent Worth, Morgan County EMS Director, requested approval of a take home vehicle for the new EMS Chief of Operations, Eric Christensen. Mr. Christensen introduced himself and thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity. Don Adams made a motion to approve the application. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

TORT CLAIM

Bryan Collier made a motion to deny the tort claim for a \$40 sign that was on a tree that was cut down in the county right of way. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMENT

Don Adams stated that it is the season of festivals and wanted to mention that the Monrovia festival is next Saturday. Mr. Adams’ 100-year-old aunt will be the parade marshal.

The solar panels have been delivered for installation on the Judicial Campus. This will supplement the electric bill and the greener they can get, the better they will be. They will not be able to do this for the Historic Courthouse renovation project.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Don Adams

Attest:

Bryan A. Collier

Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

Kenny Hale