

**THE MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL MET ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025 AT 6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIM MERIDETH, TROY SPRINKLE, MELISSA GREENE, BRIAN CULP AND JOE CRONE. ALSO PRESENT WERE: LINDA PRUITT, MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; AND ANNE COWGUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY. VICKIE KIVETT AND CHIP KELLER WERE ABSENT.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER (*Dave Rogers*)

**Minutes**

Brian Culp made a motion to approve the August 6 and 7, 11 and 14, and September 9, 2025 minutes. Motion seconded by Troy Sprinkle. Motion carried 6-0. (Vickie Kivett was absent.)

**Clerk's Report/Treasurer's Report, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Commissary Report**

Kim Merideth acknowledged the receipt of the September Clerk's Report, September Treasurer's Report, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Commissary Report.

**Ordinance 2025-13 - PTO Policy Update**

Daree Fry, Morgan County HR Director, stated that this is the second reading of the PTO Policy. This policy was approved by the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Fry asked that the effective date of the changes be January 1, 2026 and that anyone who already has vacation time over 10 days on the record for 2026 be grandfathered in. Chip Keller stated that he was part of the committee and thought it was well thought through. They met several times with good representation from departments. Ms. Fry suggested starting with another chapter after January 1<sup>st</sup>. Chip Keller made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-13 An Ordinance to Amend the Morgan County Personnel Policy Handbook and to grandfather in those employees who already have a vacation scheduled over 10 days for 2026. Motion seconded by Brian Culp. Motion carried 6-0.

**Additional Appropriation:**

• *Monroe Twp EMS Station*

Linda Pruitt stated that this additional appropriation for the Monroe Township EMS Station Fund is to appropriate the payment from Raindrop LLC. As Raindrop makes payments, the funds are appropriated so they can be used to pay the expenses of constructing the station. Ms. Pruitt requested an additional appropriation of \$102,980.82 into Acct #4801.44050.00000.0000 (Monroe Twp EMS Fund). Troy Sprinkle made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Motion seconded by Brian Culp. Motion carried 6-0.

**2026 Salary Ordinance**

Ms. Pruitt stated that this ordinance was sent out to all the departments last week for review and a few minor adjustments were made. Kim Meredith asked if in the future, each department could sign off on the review. Kim Merideth made a motion to approve the 2026 Salary Ordinance as presented. Motion seconded by Melissa Greene. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Resolution 2026-11-3**

Ms. Pruitt stated that this resolution is for the Indiana Bond Bank fuel budgeting program that the county has done the past few years. It is a protection against rising prices in the fuel market. It is not intended to bring in revenue; however, in 2024 they received \$840. This has also been approved by the Commissioners. Brian Culp made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-11-3 A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Morgan County, Indiana, Authorizing the Participation of Said County in the Motor Fuel Budgeting Program of the Indiana Bond Bank for the 2026 Budget Year, the Execution of the Qualified Entity Reimbursement Agreement in Connection Therewith and Other Related Matters. Motion seconded by Chip Keller. Motion carried 6-0.

### **2026 Council Meeting Schedule**

Troy Sprinkle made a motion to approve the 2026 Council Meeting Schedule. Motion seconded by Melissa Greene. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Comments**

Austin McKee, Morgan County resident, stated that it has now been six months and he has not received the information he requested on his information request. Kim Merideth asked if he had a list of the items requested. Brian Culp stated that he and Don Adams have been having conversations regarding making the website easier to navigate.

Mr. McKee asked how many on the Council had reviewed an abatement from another area prior to voting last week. Chip Keller stated that he spoke with officials in Ohio. Mr. McKee stated that they are drastically different and in his opinion, money was left on the table.

Bryan Collier, Morgan County Commissioner and taxpayer, stated that based upon his conversation with officials in Fort Wayne, he thought they were in the ballpark. With what was originally offered, countered, and settled, they fared a lot better than how it started.

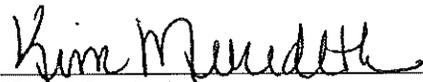
Mr. Collier stated that the Board of Commissioners voted this morning on BOT 4. It will be the last big BOT that he champions in a long time. Based on the preliminary figures of \$15.5 million, he will be requesting an additional appropriation at the next meeting for \$924,243 for the boilers in the Administration Building. The boilers will probably not make it until they can begin the remodel. They will also begin the preliminary drawings. They should be able to fund this project within the operating levy.

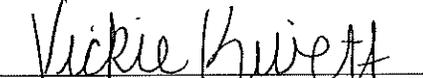
Kim Merideth asked about the new county administrator. Mr. Collier stated that he will start on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November and if he doesn't work out, Mr. Collier will blame Chip Keller. "Make sure that's in the minutes."

### **Adjournment**

Brian Culp made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Chip Keller. Motion carried 6-0.

MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL

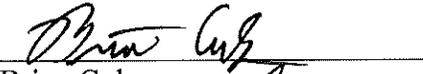
  
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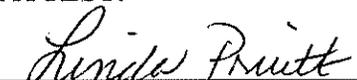
  
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Chip Keller

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Melissa Greene

  
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Brian Culp

  
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Joe Crone

ATTEST:

  
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Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor