

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION  
ON MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE DON ADAMS, KENNY HALE AND BRYAN COLLIER. DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND DAN BASTIN, COUNTY AUDITOR WERE ALSO PRESENT.

PLEDGE – Donnie Warren in memory of his veteran grandfather, James Nesbit, a WWII POW.

PRAYER – Kenny Hale

**LEPC GRANT**

Becky Waymire and Steve Lyday were present to request approval of a \$6,000 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant that will be used for a tabletop planning exercise and a \$1,375 grant that will be used for registration fees for five LEPC rostered members to attend the Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana Conference to be held in October. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve both grants. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

**HIGHWAY ENGINEER HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Don Adams welcomed back Tony Hinkle, Morgan County Highway Engineer, who recently returned from a National Guard tour in Saudi Arabia. Mr. Adams introduced the new Morgan County Highway Superintendent, Grant Collinsworth.

**DEED OF DEDICATION**

Josh Messmer stated that he asked that Tony Hinkle review the documentation for the Deed of Dedication so this item should be ready for the next meeting. Some changes are pending and the lease is not ready for approval. Bryan Collier made a motion to table the Deed of Dedication. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**SPILLMAN AGREEMENT**

Mr. Messmer stated that Scott Hamilton was not able to attend the meeting and asked that this item be tabled. Bryan Collier made a motion to table the Spillman Agreement. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**HIRAM HASH AGREEMENT**

Mr. Messmer stated that this agreement was for equipment in the Election Office. The Clerk of Courts is the purchasing agent for this office and the agreement does not need approval from the Board of Commissioners. This item is for informational purposes only.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Don Adams stated that IC 35-44.1-1-4 states that a public servant is not prohibited from receiving compensation for services provided or expenses incurred as provided by law. Justin Yannotti, an EMS employee, provided a Conflict of Interest form for services that will be provided to train county employees in CPR. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the Conflict of Interest disclosure statement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0-1. Kenny Hale stated that Mr. Yannotti is dating his daughter and abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

Troy Sprinkle, a Morgan County Council Member, provided a Conflict of Interest form for services provided to enforce Vegetation Ordinance violations. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Conflict of Interest disclosure. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

**ARPA COMMITTEE**

Don Adams stated that as part of the plans for ARPA (America Rescue Plan Act) funds expenditures, it was decided at a previous meeting to form a seven member committee. Mr. Adams asked if there were any recommendations. Kenny Hale suggested Josh Messmer, Bryan Collier, Dan Bastin, and Craig Fenneman. There were no other suggestions. Kenny Hale suggested that this item be on the next agenda.

**PUBLIC NUISANCE**

Don Adams stated that Jim Wisco, County Attorney, was not present; but communicated that he thought this item would be ready for the next meeting. Kenny Hale made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

**ASSISTANT PARKS DIRECTOR**

Daree Fry stated that she received the job description for assistant park director and has submitted it to WIS. This position would report to the Board of Commissioners and the County Administrator. The Job Maintenance Committee has reviewed and approved the position, which would not start until January of 2022 if the funding is approved by the Council. The pay rate for this position was set at \$21.47 per hour and is a part time position. Bryan Collier stated that in February they started having

department head meetings every month and this position should be included in these meetings. Don Adams stated that there is a tremendous amount of work involved in keeping everything organized for the parks. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the job description. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

### **RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH APPRAISERS**

Jim Wisco handed out engagement letters from two appraisers. The fees are \$3,000 and \$3,100. Indiana Code requires two appraisals and the Board may not purchase property for an amount over the average of the two appraisals. Don Adams stated that the property being discussed concerns the Old Town Waverly Park. They have already passed a resolution concerning this process and the next step is to hire the appraisers. Bryan Collier made a motion to proceed with the acquisition process. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

### **ZOLL EQUIPMENT LEASE**

Josh Messmer stated that this lease is not ready for a vote, there are a few things to tweak. Donnie Warren, Morgan County EMS Director, stated that the contract is almost ready and Zoll is excited about the contract. The county will benefit greatly once it's in place. Other agencies will then be able to take advantage of the pricing. The agreement is approximately \$9,707 and is a 10-year contract. There is a 30% discount on disposable items. This will lock in pricing that is on the rise with supply and demand. Bryan Collier made a motion to table the lease agreement until the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

### **MINUTES – 8/2/21**

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the August 2, 2021 minutes. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

### **ROAD CLOSURE REQUEST**

The seventh annual Jim's Journey 5K Cancer Walk/Run/Ride will be September 25<sup>th</sup> and starts at Monrovia High School. They have requested the closure of Gordon Road and West Union Church Road. Mr. Adams noted that the Board has approved this for several years. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

### **REQUEST TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE**

Bethaney Latham was present to request the use of the Courthouse Square for a pet parade on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The proceeds will be divided among the different pet rescues in the county. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

Ms. Latham also requested the use of the Courthouse Square for the December 5<sup>th</sup> Christmas Tree Lighting and Bobby Helms Jingle Bell Rock Christmas Music Spectacular. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tina Turner, a Morgan County resident, submitted resolutions and ordinances that were passed in other counties regarding sanctuary county status. Ms. Turner asked that the county and Sheriff approve similar legislation banning vaccine mandates. Elizabeth Meyer asked for assurance against unconstitutional actions. After similar comments from Randy Brown and Tim Suber, the Board of Commissioners and Sheriff Myers stated that they all took an oath to uphold the constitution when they took office and would not need to pass an additional resolution or ordinance to re-enforce this. Jim Wisco stated that if the constitution is violated they could seek an appropriate remedy in court.

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

Don Adams noted that they held a successful county fair and encouraged residents to attend the Old Town Waverly Park Festival September 25 and 26.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

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Don Adams

Attest:

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Kenny Hale

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Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

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Bryan Collier