

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M.

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

PRAYER – Josh Messmer.

PLEDGE – Don Adams, in memory of his grandfather, Frank Adams, a WWI veteran, Martinsville Chief of Police and sheriff deputy.

BID AWARD

Josh Messmer stated that Tony Hinkle, Morgan County Highway Engineer, has reviewed the paving bids and Milestone is the low bidder. Mr. Hinkle will coordinate with Milestone to issue a notice to proceed. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the low bid of \$1,869,534.85 with Milestone. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Brian Foley, Morgan County Court Services Director, was present to request approval of two grant applications through the Indiana Department of Corrections. The CY 2022 Adult Community Corrections Grant is not to exceed \$750,000 and is used to provide a home detention electronic monitoring program, evidence-based client case management/supervision and staff. The CY 2022 Jail Treatment Grant is not to exceed \$225,000 and provides jail treatment, RSAP (Residential Substance Abuse Program) and a re-entry program for client transition back into the community. The third grant is through the Indiana Office of Court Services in partnership with Indiana Family and Social Services Administration is for a \$60,000 grant that will be used to address the opioid/substance use crisis across Indiana. Mr. Foley introduced Joni Bishop, who works to connect agencies with clients who are struggling with substance abuse disorders. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the three grants. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

REZONE REQUEST – N Letterman Road

Laura Parker, Morgan County Plan Commission Director, presented a request from Jennifer Sadler to rezone property located on N. Letterman Road from Ag to R1. They are doing a minor plat. The Plan Commission voted 7-0 to approve the request. Kenny Hale made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Plan Commission Board to rezone the property from Ag to R1. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

REZONE REQUEST – Centenary Road

Ms. Parker presented a request from Kevin and Tonia Smith to rezone property at the corner of SR 144 and Centenary Road from Ag to R1. The Plan Commission recommended 7-0 to approve the request for a three-lot minor plat. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

REZONE REQUEST – Union Street Paragon

Ms. Parker stated that this request was discussed at a previous meeting. The petitioner agreed to the written commitments and the Plan Commission recommended 7-0 to approve a rezone of property owned by BRL Properties, LLC from R4 to B3 with restrictions. Dale Coffee, representing the petitioner, Robert Lee, stated that they went back to the Plan Commission with commitments to consider. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the request with the written commitments. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

ROAD NAMES

Sandy Mosier, Morgan County Plan Commission, stated that rather than appear before the Board for each road name, it was suggested that a list of names be pre-approved and the Plan Commission would choose from this list when a road name is needed. Ms. Mosier submitted the following: Bay, Breckenridge, Briddlewood, Canary, Castle, Compass, Dakota, Driftwood, Fairway, Fiesta, Flamingo, Fleetwood, Galaxy, Hampton, Ironwood, Milford, Monoco, Musicland, Niagra, Olympia, Peachtree, Pebble Beech,(sic) Pierce, Queens, Ravine, Ross, Stella, Stege, Weber, Wren, Young, Yukon, Zander, Zinn. Kenny Hale stated that Bay sounded too close to Bray, and there could be some confusion. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the proposed road names as submitted, with the exception of Bay. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

KNOBSTONE TRAIL

Randall Pflueger, Outreach Coordinator for the Knobstone Hiking Trail Assn., stated that the association is focused on promoting the trail as a multi-county regional asset. The counties include Morgan, Brown, Monroe, Lawrence, Jackson, Washington, Scott, and Clark. To accomplish this, they talk to local governments, state legislators, regional entities, and the trails and conservation community. The trail is intended to be 160 miles long when completed, going from Clark State Forest to Martinsville and is approximately three quarters complete (with a few gaps). Morgan County currently has eight miles of the trail. It is then a 50 mile hike to the Maumee Scout Reservation. Mr. Pflueger stated that they are in support of any Morgan County trails infrastructure development and consider Old Town Waverly Park and the trail there as part of that development. Kenny Hale stated that the Knobstone has easements in Morgan County and they are working with Senator Bray and DNR to get the 10 miles to the Tecumseh trailhead. When finished, it will be the largest wooded trail in the state, 85 miles, beginning at Martinsville.

RESOLUTION – Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative

Josh Messmer stated that the REDI Grant is an opportunity from the state to leverage up to \$50 million that they received from the federal government. This leverage would come from public and private partnerships with the county. Mike Dellinger, Morgan County Economic Development Executive Director, stated that the state is dividing the grant into 10 \$50 million regions. Normally, the county is part of the 8-county “donut” around Marion County. Rather than using the typical regions, the state is looking to create new regional partnerships. Some of the Commissioners have participated in meetings with both Hendricks and Johnson Counties. Mr. Dellinger originally pushed for a Hendricks, Morgan, Boone, Putnam County region, but this did not go over very well with Hendricks County. The requirement is for a minimum of two counties and if it is just two counties, then they need to make a selling point – which would be that I69 Corridor, river greenway, and Knobstone Trail are all things that can be used to entice visitors to Morgan County and attract talent. If an entity joins one effort and then backs out, they cannot join another one. However, if they create a region that is funded and recognize that the region is larger than what was originally funded, it could be adapted. The resolution is due July 1st and informs the state that the counties are forming a partnership. Mr. Dellinger stated that this is a chance for the county to fund the projects that enhance the quality of life by having the state match the funding. Josh Messmer stated that the resolution is the first step; the application is not due until August 1st. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the resolution with Johnson County. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Dellinger stated that the Economic Development Commission focused on developing housing development for Mooresville, Martinsville and Monrovia. They are also looking at creating higher wage opportunities for the county.

RESOLUTION – Ambulance Disposition

Josh Messmer stated that EMS has an ambulance that they have been trying to remove from inventory. Other counties have used Enterprise Fleet Management to dispose of vehicles and have been pleased with the amounts they receive through this program. State Board of Accounts would not take issue with this process as long as the Board of Commissioners approves a resolution to use Enterprise for this purpose. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the Resolution Approving Disposition of EMS Vehicle. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Opioid Settlement Opt Out

Jim Wisco stated that opting out of the opioid settlement would allow them to opt back in by September 30th and allow them to renegotiate the terms of the settlement as determined in HB 1001. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the Resolution to Opt Out of Opioid Settlement Pursuant to IC 4-6-15-2. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

SOLID WASTE DISTRICT DISCUSSION

Don Adams stated that there are several different options of funding the Solid Waste Management District. Josh Messmer stated that this was brought up at the last Council meeting. One option presented was that the district be absorbed into a department of the Commissioners. Dan Bastin stated that the Morgan County Solid Waste Management District has never had a property tax levy; it had been funded from the assets that were turned over to the county when the county exited the joint solid waste district several years ago and a budget line item in the county General Fund. In the past couple of years, there was some interest by the Council in a separate property tax levy for the district. This would be accomplished through the Department of Local Government Finance. In the process of reviewing this process, Mr. Bastin came across an Indiana Code from 2017 stating that having a Solid Waste Management District is no longer mandatory and the county has the option to operate SWMD as a department of the county under the Commissioners rather than a separate district. There was interest at the last Council meeting in

pursuing this option as opposed to establishing a separate levy or continuing as usual. The process would begin with a resolution from the Board of Commissioners and there would be a public hearing. They would need to wait for 180 days and the county would have to adopt a plan. At the end of the process the assets of the SWMD would become the county's assets. Bryan Collier made a motion to move this to the July 19th agenda. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

AMERICAN WATER

Jim Wisco stated that he should have information for the next meeting.

FLEET MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

Josh Messmer stated that he is waiting GeoTabs to finish their auditing process and he hopes to have something for the next agenda.

MINUTES – 6/7/21

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the June 7, 2021 minutes. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTY

Don Adams stated that the golf outing for the museum was rained out and it will be held July 10th instead.

Vickie Kivett, Morgan County Council, stated that 90 people attended the ribbon cutting for the museum and they have had nothing but favorable comments. They have had a few groups through and are in need of women's military uniforms. They appreciate the funds the Board of Commissioners were able to contribute towards their first year of operations.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Don Adams

Attest:

Kenny Hale

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

Bryan Collier