

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022 AT 6:30 P.M.

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

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Kenny Hale*

BOARD OF FINANCE

Terry Clelland, Morgan County Treasurer and Board of Finance Investment Officer, presented the Statement of Investment Policy and Register of Investments. Don Adams made a motion to approve the policy and investments. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

CONSIGNMENT CONNECTION

Josh Messmer stated that the county has several items that they need to get rid of and the Highway Department is willing to host an auction using Consignment Connection. Jim Wisco stated that he reviewed the agreement and it looked good. Consignment Connection will handle the publication requirements. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT

Tony Hinkle, Morgan County Highway Engineer, presented a 2022-1 Community Crossings Grant commitment letter for signatures. Mr. Hinkle stated that the grant application is due in 10 days. The roads listed on the letter will be paved in 2023. The total paving cost is estimated at a little over \$2 million and the grant will cover up to \$1 million. Bids will go out in June or July (for the 2023 paving) and the goal is to have all paving done by July 1st of the following year. Don Adams made a motion to approve the letter. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-1 RAINY DAY FUND – 1st Reading

Josh Messmer stated that the Rainy Day Ordinance was updated last year so that COVID related dollars were able to be used. The ordinance did not include language regarding bond proceeds. If the county would want to front monies for projects, this adds the language so that they would be able to do that. Don Adams made a motion to approve Ordinance #2022-1 Amendment to Morgan County Code of Ordinances 35.10 Rainy Day Fund. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES

Josh Messmer stated that Enterprise was used previously to sell a surplus vehicle. The State Board of Accounts is agreeable to this as long as the Board of Commissioners approves a resolution. There are three vehicles to dispose of, at least two of them have been sitting for awhile. Kenny Hale noted that the motor in the Dodge is almost new. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the Resolution Approving Disposition of Surplus Vehicles. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

BACKGROUND CHECKS DISCUSSION

Josh Messmer stated that except for certain offices, the county has not made a practice of performing general background checks. It would be a best practice to do background checks on all positions. The Personnel Policy Handbook gives the county flexibility to do background checks, but HR would like a directive that this is the direction the Board of Commissioners would like to go. Don Adams made a motion to proceed with background checks. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Ashley Duke, the Commissioner appointment to the Mooresville Public Library Board, submitted a Conflict of Interest Disclosure since the bank that she works with also offers financial assistance to the library. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the Conflict of Interest Statement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

ANNUAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Dan Bastin, Morgan County Auditor, was not present but had submitted the annual list of Receipts and Expenditures and total compensation paid to each employee for 2021 totaling \$205,608,921.43 in receipts \$193,083,047.30 in expenditures and \$18,725,354.21 in salaries and

wages. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the report. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 34 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jim Wisco stated that this has not been finalized. Bryan Collier made a motion to table the ordinance. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – *Memories Project*

Don Adams stated that a \$3,000 grant is being sought through Indiana Humanities for a program called the Morgan County Memories Project. This program will kick off Saturday, January 22 at the Morgan County Library. The Bicentennial Committee has written a letter of support and Mr. Adams felt that a letter of support from the Board of Commissioners would benefit the chance of receiving the grant. The grant would also provide funding for equipment that would benefit the Morgan County Museum and Historical Center. Don Adams made a motion to approve the letter of support. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

LETTER OF SUPPORT - *Comcast*

Jeremy Burton, Comcast, stated that Comcast would like to expand its gigabit network to rural parts of Morgan County that the state has deemed to be unserved or underserved through the NextLevel Connection grant and was present to request that the Board of Commissioners provide a letter of support. Comcast plans to expand connections to 1,180 businesses in Morgan County. Most of these are in the Morgantown and Mooresville area. The investment in the community would be \$3.3 million if they are successful in getting the grant and Comcast would expand fiber optic to 330 addresses at its own expense for a total of 1510 new addresses served. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the letter of support. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS

The Board members wanted to make sure that the public was aware that there is an application on the county website

(<https://morgancounty.in.gov/egov/apps/action/center.egov?view=form;page=1;id=29>) for citizens who want to serve on a board.

Economic Development Corporation Board – Don Adams made a motion to appoint Bryan Collier and reappoint Terry Brock. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

Redevelopment Commission – Don Adams made a motion to appoint Jeff Pipkin and reappoint Dr. Jake Allen. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

Convention Visitors & Tourism – Don Adams made a motion to reappoint Joe Tutterrow. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0. Kenny Hale stated that the commission is going to appoint two more members from the hotel/motel industry to their board.

ORDINANCE TO ADOPT EMERGENCY HEALTH PROCEDURES

Jim Wisco stated that this item came up in November and some tweaks were needed. He will email it and the Bulk User Agreement as soon as possible. Bryan Collier made a motion to table the Ordinance to Adopt Emergency Health Procedures and the Bulk User Agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

REQUEST FOR TIME OFF WITHOUT PAY

Kenny Hale stated that they recently amended the Personnel Policy Handbook to state that any time off without pay would need to be approved by the Board of Commissioners and department heads can no longer approve this. An employee submitted a letter requesting 18 hours of unpaid time off. Mr. Hale stated that he was hesitant to grant the request. Don Adams stated that he thought the employee was justified in making the request and made a motion to approve the request. Bryan Collier stated that he agreed with both Mr. Adams and Mr. Hale, but he was going to second the motion as the Personnel Policy change was recent and he was willing to have some leeway. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES – 12/14/21, 12/20/21, 12/29/21

Don Adams made a motion to approve the three sets of minutes for December. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

TRANSFER LETTERS

Kenny Hale stated that there are two transfer letters to clean up some balances for the end of 2021. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the two transfer letters. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION LETTERS

Josh Messmer stated the additional appropriation of \$10,800 from the Rainy Day Fund is for COVID testing kits. This should be a six-week supply. If the mandate does not go through, they will be able to use them for public safety personnel. Don Adams made a motion to submit the additional appropriation letter to the Council. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Messmer stated that the additional appropriation for \$1,030,000 for the BOT project. The Council has asked to further the design process so this amount will be pulled out separately and reimbursed from the bond amount at a later date. Bryan Collier made a motion to submit the additional appropriation letter to the Council. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTY

Don Adams stated that the Morgan County Library will kick off the Memory Project on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 1 pm and is a great way to preserve local history.

Kenny Hale noted that the Morgan County Museum and History Center donated a display case that is in the lobby of the Administration Building. They will be rotating displays in the case. There will be another display case at the Wilbur Community Center.

Mr. Hale stated that Old Town Waverly Park hosted the Indiana Blacksmith Association Hammer In on Saturday and it was a big honor. There were nine counties represented and it was well attended.

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:

Kenny Hale

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

Bryan Collier