

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022 AT 9:30 A.M.

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

PLEDGE

PRAYER – *Don Adams*

CLAIMS

Don Adams made a motion to approve the September 16 and 30, 2022 payroll claims of \$727,949.15 and \$699,661.69; PERF \$63,975.91 and \$62,287.80; FICA \$53,045.23, and \$52,913.11; and monthly claims of \$2,436,928.02. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Zach Klutz, Taft Law Firm, stated that they have been engaged to serve as bond counsel for Phase Two of the Justice Center Project. They are seeking approval of the Findings and Recommendations and will then pivot to the Council for approval, discussion and public hearings for financing of the bonds. The findings approve the need to move forward with the construction of the Justice Center and enter into a lease agreement with the Morgan County Indiana Building Corporation for purposes of leasing and funding the project. The maximum annual lease rental payments are not to exceed \$3,000,000 and the lease rental bonds are not to exceed \$33,000,000 pursuant to IC 36-1-10. The recommendations to the Council are to proceed with the public hearings and approve a bond ordinance for the financing. Don Adams made a motion to approve the Findings and Recommendations and move forward with the plan. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

Mr. Klutz noted that there will be two public hearing conducted by the Council; October 19th and October 25th. The Morgan County Indiana Building Corporation was formed last week and the Commissioners are the body designated to appoint the directors. Don Adams made a motion to ratify and affirm the appointment of Terry Brock, Eric Bolen and David Rogers as directors. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

GRANT APPLICATION – *Court Services*

Jeff Faudre, Morgan County Court Services, requested approval to apply for the 2023-2024 Juvenile Community Corrections Grant through the Indiana Department of Corrections. The amount is not to exceed \$150,000 and they are applying for \$92,000 through the State of Indiana. The rest will be supplemented by project income that the Probation Department collects. This funds the juvenile community corrections officer position that provides crisis intervention 24/7. They have partnered with Morgan County Substance Abuse Council to provide prevention services and estimate they will serve approximately 700 at-risk juveniles. Don Adams made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

GRANT APPLICATION – *Health Department*

Jeanne LaFary and Cyndy Wells, Morgan County Health Department, were present to request approval of a \$19,582 Arp Health Issues – Lead grant through the State of Indiana for a part time nurse to investigate, report, educate and follow up high blood lead levels in children. Don Adams made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

COMMISSIONERS' DEED

Josh Messmer stated that this deed is for an area of right of way that was sold to American Water for their water distribution system. This is the final document for this project. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the Commissioners' Deed as presented. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

COST ALLOCATION AGREEMENT

Dan Bastin stated that this is the county's ongoing indirect cost plan with Malcon Consulting. The county is reimbursed for the indirect costs of providing the Title IV-D programs. This is a three-year agreement and brings in money for the county. Don Adams made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

ENGAGEMENT LETTER

Josh Messmer stated that Morgan County Auditor, Dan Bastin, will end his term at the end of the year. In order to ensure that the county has a good budget process moving forward, and at the direction of the Council, they would like to engage Reedy Financial for help with long-term capital planning and revenue

and expense forecasting. Dan Bastin stated that he felt they would be very happy with the work this firm does and the reports they can provide. This would be an hourly contract until they are able to evaluate the county and it can be changed to a not to exceed fee on a monthly or annual basis. Don Adams made a motion to approve the Letter of Engagement. Bryan Collier seconded the motion and stated that the county is growing and there are a lot of capital projects. The county is obtaining professional services to make sure that they can fulfill the decisions they are making. Motion carried 2-0.

Mr. Collier stated that the county has been fortunate in having Dan Bastin as a taxpayer and Morgan County resident that happens to hold the position of Auditor. Mr. Collier wanted to give recognition and thanks to Mr. Bastin for the help he has provided over the years.

CHAPTER 34 UPDATE

Noting that Jim Wisco, County Attorney, was under the weather and not present, Don Adams made a motion to table this item. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

TORT CLAIMS

Don Adams made a motion to submit the Hudson and the Spinelli tort claims to the insurance company. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0

2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

Bryan Collier stated that he felt the Monday, July 3rd meeting should be moved to the 5th, but suggested that Mr. Hale also be present before voting on the schedule. Bryan Collier made a motion to table the 2023 Meeting Schedule. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0.

REQUEST TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE

The Fall Foliage Festival Board of Directors submitted a request to use the Courthouse Square for the Fall Foliage Festival beginning October 5th at 5 pm through October 9th. Don Adams made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

PTO DONATION

Daree Fry stated that there is an employee that has experienced a medical issue with a dependent and has used up all PTO time. Other office employees have asked to donate time to the employee. Don Adams made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

BICENTENNIAL

Don Adams wanted to thank everyone who was able to attend the Bicentennial event at Waverly. The Governor was in attendance for three hours. Mr. Adams thanked everyone who volunteered and were involved in the planning and execution of the event.

The Fall Foliage Festival begins Thursday.

CORONER UPDATE

Mike Ellis, Morgan County Coroner, gave a quarterly report as follows: 48 calls, 12 overdoses, 6 suicides, 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 drowning, 1 huffing, 26 medical, 1 pending autopsy/toxicology report.

Mr. Ellis handed out a one gram packet of sweetener and stated that if the packet were fentanyl, one packet would not only kill every person in the room, but is enough to kill 250 adult males. The Coroner's Office is seeing so many adverse effects from this drug. Law enforcement is fighting and people are trying their best to stop the influx of this drug, but it starts with education. People don't understand that a therapeutic dose starts at 75 micrograms. Hopefully education will make the number of deaths go down. Bryan Collier stated that many other drugs are being laced with fentanyl and it is a major concern not only to law enforcement, but to the whole community.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTY

Bryan Collier stated that after talking to the relatives of Abraham Lincoln, his family did not vacation at the log home in Martinsville and Paul Bunyan did not cut the logs – contrary to what might be found on Facebook. Mr. Collier has talked to former County Historian Joanne Stutgen, and the log structure that was recently revealed after removing bricks was likely erected between 1904 and 1916. Maps indicate that a stick-built structure was on the property prior to the log home. While not an historical structure; however, there is history there and plans have been made to remove the structure and rebuild it on property the county owns on State Road 252. The home will still be in the 46151 zip code.

ADJOURNMENT

Don Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 2-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Kenny Hale

Attest:

Bryan Collier

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

Don Adams