

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE DON ADAMS, BRYAN COLLIER, AND KENNY HALE. LINDA PRUITT, COUNTY AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND ANNE COWGUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

PLEDGE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

MINUTES

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the June 3, 2024 minutes. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT/CLERK'S REPORT

Bryan Collier made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer and Clerk reports as presented. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

2024 PAVING BID

Justin Schneck, Morgan County Highway Engineer, and Eddie Fisher, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, opened bids for the 2024 local paving program as follows: E & B Paving \$1,148,384.85; Milestone \$1,145,860.50; Howard Companies \$1,171,339.05; Midwest \$1,190,953.65. Mr. Schneck stated that they would review the bids and report back at the next meeting, July 1, 2024.

RESOLUTION 2024-6-17 – Martinsville Youth Center OCRA Grant

Donna Anderson, Kenna Consulting; Shelby Burkett, Martinsville Youth Center Executive Director; and Kathy Taylor, board member; were present to present a \$500,000 OCRA (Office of Community and Rural Affairs) grant application to expand 9,000 sq ft of the Youth Center to be used as a recreation and education center. This is a federal grant and only cities, counties and towns may apply for the funds. The county may apply on behalf of a non-profit organization, such as the Youth Center. The Youth Center is putting in \$68,000 in matching funds. There are several documents, in addition to the resolution, that need to be signed. Anne Cowgur stated that she has reviewed the resolution and did not have any concerns. Ms. Anderson noted that ERA requirements do not apply to the application. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-6-17 Authorizing Application Submission and Local Match Commitment. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the Letter of Support, grant application and disclosure. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

INTERA AGREEMENT

Josh Messmer stated that at the previous meeting, Jack Whitman with Intera presented steps for the next phase of the water study. Mr. Messmer presented an additional Scope of Work for this phase of monitoring, testing and adding the portal. This is a \$305,000 expense each year for the next three years. The hope is that the IFA (Indiana Finance Authority) will then take over funding of this. Don Adams stated that this is a very important project and they have also been working with Hamilton County and this is a plus. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the agreement as presented. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

WATER ADVOCACY PROPOSAL – Volt Strategies

Josh Messmer stated that Volt Strategies is an advocacy group that Hamilton County and Intera are working with regarding water policy. There will be a lot of water policy discussions coming up in the statehouse and because Morgan County and Hamilton County are gathering the data and science, feel that they should help craft that legislation. Bryan Collier stated that they take water for granted, but actions are taking place upstream that could change the dynamics. Mr. Collier would like Morgan County voices to be heard loud and clear at the state and protect the water and he is in favor of getting help in this endeavor. Bryan Collier made a motion to move forward with the proposal and ratify the contract when it is presented. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

EQUIPMENT LEASE – Highway Department

Eddie Fisher, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, stated that they would like to lease a new Mower Max side-mount boom mower for county roads. They replaced an old mower last year and it is working out well. Option Two would save approximately \$10,000. They have spent over

\$21,000 in repairs on the Challenger boom mower over the last two years. They have funds budgeted for this lease. This would be a five-year lease at \$59,019.50 per year with a five-week delivery. Anne Cowgur noted that the lease agreement would require a resolution, an e-verify statement and a non-appropriation clause. Josh Messmer stated that this purchase is through the cooperative purchasing program, Sourcewell. Ms. Cowgur will need to review the purchase agreement and they can get the required documents. Mr. Fisher just wanted to make sure that the Board was in agreement with the purchase before moving forward. Kenny Hale made a motion to move forward with Option 2 of the lease and a resolution for the purchase. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

WHITE RIVER GREENWAY TRAIL MASTER PLAN

Justin Schneck, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that the scoring committee met and scored five different consultants that submitted letters of interest for a White River Greenway Trail Master Plan. The consultants were: Banning, EGIS, HWC, Triad Associates and Kimley Horn. The plan is to extend the existing trail near Waverly Park to Cemetery Road. The committee selected HWC based in part on their plan for public outreach. If the Board approves the recommendation, HWC will present a contract for the next meeting. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the selection of HWC. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

REVISED ROADWAY CLASSIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Mr. Schneck stated that these letters are similar to the letters he presented at the previous meeting to upgrade the classification of the roads. These three roads are outside the MPO area: New Harmony Road from Henderson Ford to Perry Road, Henderson Ford Road from Centennial Road to I-69 and Maple Turn Road from Blue Bluff Road to Egbert Road. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the reclassification of the three roadways. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

VIALYTICS AGREEMENT

Mr. Schneck stated that the Vialytics program was presented at the previous meeting. Some of the length of the contract was changed to one year and the e-verify language was added. The price could increase if it is renewed for a second year. Bryan Collier noted that this is a program to analyze the roads and they are not paying \$30,000 for three cell phones. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Josh Messmer noted that the term was changed to one year instead of three to ensure that the program performed as expected; however, if the Board wanted a three-year term, they could change it back. Motion carried 3-0.

GRANT APPLICATIONS – *Health Department*

Tricia Runnigen, Morgan County Health Department Director, requested approval of a PHEP (\$25,000)/CRI (\$26,832) Grant. The PHEP (Public Health Emergency Preparedness) Base Grant covers the salary of the Assistant Public Health Preparedness Coordinator that serves as the Public Information Officer for emergency preparedness and response as needed. The CRI (Cities Readiness Initiative) Grant will be used to develop, test, maintain and purchase supplies and emergency response plans for public health response to radiological, biological, bio terrorism and medical counter measure dispensing events. Bryan Collier made a motion to approve the grant application. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

Ms. Runnigen requested approval of the \$330,000 COVID-19 LHD School Grant Workforce Development Grant. This grant focuses on building relationships with and supporting schools throughout Morgan County. School Liaisons will work with all public, private and parochial schools in Morgan County to hire a school liaison nurse, provide “Stop the Bleed” training to school staff, supply AEDs, assist in stocking hygiene pantries and basic needs items as well as emergency medications, vaccinations, mental health services, tobacco cessation initiatives, community gardens and other means to improve student health. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the grant. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

IRA DOCUMENT SCANNING PROPOSAL – *Health Department*

Ms. Runnigen presented a price estimate from IRA (Information Records Associates) to digitize soil site tests and septic inspections that date back to 1978. The estimate is \$15,296.56 but there are a few items to be determined. Ms. Runnigen stated that the inspectors will have i-pads so when they are out in the field, they will be able to look up information rather than coming back to the office to get paperwork. Anne Cowgur stated that the contract would need the e-verify and non-appropriation language. Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the price estimate as presented with the stipulation that the contract will contain Exhibit A containing the e-verify and non-appropriation language. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING – Health Department

Ms. Runnigen requested approval for two Memorandums of Understanding with the Morgan County Health Department. The first one is with Adult and Child Health, Inc. for the provision of mental health services in MSD of Martinsville, Mooresville and Monrovia schools and a social worker for the PASS program. This includes several positions that are funded through other grants and a portion will be funded through the Health Department. Attachment “B” of the agreement lists a budget of \$211,410.75. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

The second Memorandum of Understanding is for consulting services with Jeanne LaFary. Ms. LaFary will be helping the new administrative assistant with financial updates. The agreement is for \$35 per hour for approximately 142 hours. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the MOU. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 2-0-1. Bryan Collier stated that he and his family have a close relationship with Ms. LaFary and he abstained from the vote.

CENTERPOINT LEASE/EASEMENT

Anne Cowgur stated that CenterPoint is looking into obtaining appraisals for the purchase of an easement and this item will be removed from the agenda until CenterPoint is ready to bring it back up for discussion.

ORDINANCE 2024-10 CLERK FEE SCHEDULE

Josh Messmer stated that he met with the Clerk’s Office and he and Anne have a better understanding of what is needed. They will work with them to get a draft ordinance put together. Bryan Collier made a motion to table this item. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION 2024-6-17B – Deed of Dedication

Justin Schneck stated that this resolution will be a template that they use going forward to dedicate roadways in platted subdivisions to the county. Mr. Schneck will obtain the signature from the developer for Enclave Section 5 and bring the resolution back for the next meeting. Inspections have been completed. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the template accepting the Deed of Dedication and taking in the roads in the Enclave Section 5. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

TORT CLAIM

Bryan Collier made a motion to submit the Shirley tort claim regarding a dog bite in Pioneer Park to insurance. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS – Art Council

Don Adams stated that the Board of Commissioners established an Art Advisory Board for the new Judicial Campus comprised of a seven-member board. Five of the appointments are to be made by the Board of Commissioners and two by the Council. Mr. Adams suggested Jeanne McLeish, Mark Burkett and Steve Dodge as appointments. He has spoken with two of them and they are interested. Kenny Hale suggested Sally Hedges, Nancy Maxwell and Carla Marlin. Mr. Hale will contact them to see if they are interested. Mr. Adams would like to make appointments at the next meeting.

APEX LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Daree Fry, Morgan County HR Director, stated that they had a Morgan County Insurance Board meeting and voted on an Apex Learning Management System. This would provide several different types of training for various departments. It also provides a way to track the training and is an amendment to the original Apex TPA Agreement. There is a \$2,500 cost for the first year; most of the other programs Ms. Fry reviewed were more than this per month. Anne Cowgur stated that if the original agreement does not include the e-verify language, then they would need to add that. Since it would need to be renewed for a second year, it would not need the non-appropriation language. Kenny Hale made a motion to table the agreement. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

STEELE BENEFITS PLATFORM CHANGE

Ms. Fry stated that Steele Benefits is used to track insurance programs and they have a Selerix system sponsored by AFLAC that is used for open enrollment. The AFLAC platform no longer offers updates, so Ms. Fry would like to move to the Steele Benefits platform within Selerix. This would allow all the updates. In order to keep the costs down, Steele Benefits found Reliance to offer voluntary insurance programs to take the place of AFLAC. Employees are able to keep the AFLAC coverage or they can switch to Reliance. Reliance has more benefits for less cost for critical illness, hospitalization and accident. The county does not pay anything; this is a 100% employee paid volunteer coverage. Employees who currently have AFLAC would be able to switch in September and it would open to other employees in January. Kenny Hale made a motion

to approve the platform change. Motion seconded by Bryan Collier. Motion carried 3-0.

2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

Bryan Collier made a motion to accept the proposed meeting schedule for 2025. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

COMMENT

Terri White, representing the Morgan County Regional Sewer District Board, stated that she was disappointed that she wasn't on the agenda. On May 29th she sent an email to the Commissioners requesting an appointment to the Sewer Board but did not receive a response. On March 4th she submitted the same request. She has had conversations with two Commissioners regarding the appointments. Ms. White stated that she is aware that there are a lot of important moving parts and responsibilities for county government and the Regional Sewer District is also important and asked why there has not been an appointment to the board. Ms. White mentioned an email from 2021 asking that the Redevelopment Commission, Regional Sewer District Board Commissioners and Council be transparent and collaborate on what would happen with the sewer plant in Waverly. They have 17 customers and phase 2 would be a subdivision in Waverly Woods. They have heard rumors of selling the plant to Bartersville and a new lift station but no one is coming to the Sewer District meetings. Ms. White asked that Rod Perkins be appointed to the sewer board. Don Adams stated that the plant is in a state of flux and did not think it would be an appropriate time. Bryan Collier stated that they would get an appointment for the board.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTY

Anne Cowgur stated that she appreciated that Ms. White had a lot of things to discuss and it was important that the Board hear it, but they do have a rule of decorum that limits time to five minutes. If they don't enforce that rule, then they **can't** enforce that rule.

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:

Bryan A. Collier

Linda Pruitt, Morgan Co. Auditor

Kenny Hale