

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018 AT 9:30 A.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE NORMAN VOYLES AND RYAN GOODWIN. DAN BASTIN, AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; AND ROD BRAY, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT. BRIAN GOSS WAS ABSENT.

NORMAN VOYLES ASKED FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER.

NORMAN VOYLES CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

Rod Bray stated that the agreement with Cohen & Malad, LLP and Boren, Oliver & Coffey, LLP regards filing a suit regarding the opioid crisis and the many expenses that have arisen as a result. Richard Shevitz, Cohen & Malad, and Steve Oliver, Boren, Oliver and Coffey, were present. Mr. Shevitz stated that almost everyone has some familiarity with the opioid crisis. In Morgan County, there were 160 prescriptions for opioids for every 100 county residents. The crisis stems from opioid manufacturers trying to make more money. In the past, opioids were only prescribed for end of life care and acute injuries. An expert Mr. Shevitz talked to informed him that a routine 30-day prescription, taken as prescribed and depending on metabolism, can cause addiction. One hundred seventy-five people per day are lost due to the opioid crisis. More than the deaths, people are not able to be employed, families are suffering addiction and welfare issues, there are health care costs, etc. Local governmental entities throughout the Midwest have brought a wave of litigation against these manufacturers and distributors. Cohen & Malad represent 12 counties in Indiana and several cities as well. The lawsuits have been consolidated by the court system in a federal court in Cleveland, Ohio. The judge has taken a position that he would like to see the litigation settled. The litigation is based on a contingent basis and the agreement is identical to agreement entered into with all other city and county clients in Indiana. Rod Bray stated that the agreement is a percentage agreement, the county would pay a percentage of any recovery to the law firm, but no other fees would be required from the county. Rod Bray asked if there would be any restrictions on how recovery funds could be used. Mr. Shevitz stated that it is an open field as to the use; education and healthcare are two items that have been mentioned. There is no forecast as to how long it could take to resolve the suit, and it could take a long time. The judge in Cleveland has invited the attorneys general to participate in the process even though they are not formal parties to the litigation. Ryan Goodwin stated that he was mixed on pursuing litigation and was not sure on what role it should play. Mr. Goodwin stated that one Commissioner was not present due to a death in the family, but he would like to continue the dialog with all Commissioners present. This item will be on the March 19<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**FARM LEASE CONTRACTS**

Norman Voyles stated that bids for the farm lease properties were opened at the last meeting. Three-year contracts have now been prepared as follows:

3695 S Lingle Rd	Cragen Farms LLC	\$400
3641 S Lingle Rd	Cragen Farms LLC	\$375
3823 S Lingle Rd	Cragen Farms LLC	\$320
4005 S Lingle Rd	Cragen Farms LLC	\$80

Mr. Voyles stated that no bid was received for the 4005 S Lingle property and he asked for bids from Sample and Cragen. Sample was not interested and Cragen submitted a bid of \$80. Mr. Voyles stated that this will save the county mowing costs for this property. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

7609 and 7805 SR 44	Goss Farms	\$480
2776 Dillman Rd	Goss Farms	\$400

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Leonard Rd (row crops)	Voyles Bros Grain	35%
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Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

4244 S Lingle Rd                      Brent Sample                      \$600

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

2920 Lower Patton Park              Pruitt Farms                      \$110

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Leonard Rd (hay only)              Voyles Farms Inc              40%

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

**GRANT APPLICATIONS** - *Sheriff*

Norman Voyles stated that the Sheriff's Department submitted two grant applications, one for \$4,599.98 from South Central REMC for the purchase of two treadmills, and \$20,000 from the Morgan County Substance Abuse Council for the PACE (Pro-Active Criminal Enforcement) Team regarding illegal narcotics en route to or traveling through Morgan County. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the grant applications with South Central REMC and Morgan County Substance Abuse Council. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

**APPOINTMENT**

Norman Voyles stated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council (IRTC) has Don Adams listed as the appointee for Morgan County. Mr. Adams is no longer Commissioner and Mr. Voyles proposed that Mr. Goodwin be appointed in his place. Norman Voyles made a motion to appoint Ryan Goodwin as a policy committee member to the IRTC. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 2-0.

**TORT CLAIM**

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to submit the Indiana Bell Telephone Company tort claim to the insurance company. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

**REQUEST TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE**

The Martinsville Noon Lions Club submitted a request to use the Courthouse Square on Saturday June 2, 2018 for the annual fish fry. Stability First requested the use of the Square for the second annual "Step into Stability" 5K run on June 16, 2018. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the requests. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

**CLAIMS**

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the February 9 and February 23, 2018 payroll claims of \$543,812.17 and \$561,949.88. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the February 9 and February 23, 2018 PERF claims of \$45,871.62 and \$47,712.63. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the February 9 and February 23, 2018 FICA claims of \$39,426.74 and \$40,814.07. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the monthly claims of \$1,524,973.26 with holds of \$192.08 and \$179.98 pending Council transfers. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

**VSO UPDATE**

Rick Baum, Morgan County Veterans' Service Officer, reported that he filed five county claims and 20 federal claims in February. There were 54 office interviews, 5 out of office interviews, and 270 phone calls (inbound and outbound). There are 16 pending claims and 29 DD214s recorded through the Recorder's Office. Mr. Baum stated that there will be a time when he will need an administrative assistant; when he is in an interview, he does not answer phone calls. Other activities included attending a district CVSO meeting and a Veterans Coordination Council meeting. The DAV would like to get volunteer drivers on board before obtaining a van. Mr. Baum has talked with the Community Foundation about holding funds for the van.

March is Brain Injury Awareness month, one out of three veterans suffers from PTSD or brain injury.

Ryan Goodwin stated that he was in a meeting last week with several Commissioners from other counties. Madison County has a full time administrative support person from the Department of Workforce Development. Workforce Development pays the wages, Worker's Compensation, etc. These are people who wants to increase their skills and build their resume. Mr. Goodwin will look into this further and report back.

#### **EMS UPDATE**

Donnie Warren, Morgan County EMS Director, stated that \$78,000 was collected for the month of February. He did not have the run totals yet.

#### **DISPATCH UPDATE**

Scott Hamilton, Morgan County Public Safety Dispatch Director, submitted a copy of the WENS agreement to the County Attorney for review. Mr. Hamilton will present the contract at the next meeting.

There have been 3,288 911 calls, 270 abandoned calls, 5,357 outbound administrative calls, 9,673 inbound administrative calls, and 5,689 CAD calls.

#### **ENGINEER UPDATE**

Larry Smith, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that he received a draft copy of the LPA consulting contract with United Consulting for the bridge inventory; the contract must be submitted to the state before the Board can approve it. In addition to running load ratings on bridges, a new state requirement for this inspection is a load rating for every type of vehicle that may cross the bridge. This translates into more costs. The previous inspection was \$270,000 - \$280,000; this inspection is \$432,540.73 and is an 80/20 project (80% of the funds will be reimbursed). The inspection will begin in August and the inspection is payable over the next four years. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to submit the contract to the state for approval. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Mr. Smith requested approval of an agreement with INDOT for Bridge #75. Mr. Smith stated that there was federal funding for construction of the bridge, but not for the preliminary engineering. The state has approved the agreement covering the PE of \$190,862. This is a federal project and 80% of eligible project cost will be covered. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

#### **COMMENT**

Heather Fox, a resident on Letterman Hill Road, stated that her husband has contacted the Board regarding a guardrail (*see 12/18/17*). Ms. Fox presented a photo and stated that there is no signage for the curve. Ms. Fox asked that the Board reconsider the request based on motorist and family safety. Ms. Fox stated that the area is prone to fog and stated that signage would help protect her family. Ryan Goodwin stated that the Commissioner for this district was not present, but Mr. Fox had contacted him. The placement of guardrail along a right of way is to protect motorists, not private property. The county employs road safety experts and the highway superintendent and highway engineer both concluded that guardrail is not needed in this area. Ms. Fox stated that they looked into placing large rocks along the area of concern, but it exceeds their budget limitations. Mr. Goodwin stated that the Board could re-evaluate the area for signage.

#### **MORGAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Mike Dellinger, Morgan County Economic Development Corporation, stated that there is a business in Martinsville that will be relocating due to the I-69 project. Because of this, they will be doing a re-zone application in Flagstaff Business Park in Mooresville. They will be able to stay in the county and keep the 30 employees and \$25 million in annual sales. Mr. Dellinger stated that it becomes more and more incumbent upon the political body to ask themselves if there is something they can do from a policy perspective to create opportunities for redevelopment or to re-establish businesses in Martinsville rather than having no place for them to go and losing them.

Mr. Dellinger stated that he submitted 17 tax abatement forms for the businesses in downtown Martinsville. With those 17 and the other three buildings that are being undertaken by Flaherty and Collins, there are currently 20 buildings that are being rehabilitated in downtown Martinsville.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Motion carried 2-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

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Norman Voyles

Attest:

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Brian Goss

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Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

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Ryan Goodwin