

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016 AT 9:30 A.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE NORMAN VOYLES, BRIAN GOSS, AND DON ADAMS. DAN BASTIN, AUDITOR; DEB VERLEY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT; AND ROD BRAY, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

PLEDGE

PRAYER (*Mike Ellis*)

NORMAN VOYLES CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

**GRANT EXTENSION** – *Hart Lake Dam Project*

Ross Holloway, Holloway Engineering, was present to request approval of a letter requesting a grant extension. Mr. Holloway stated that part of the Hart Lake Dam Project is to repair the leaking drawdown valve. The valve is at the bottom of a three feet square concrete shaft that is 16 feet deep. Because of the concrete that was poured around the valve, workers were unable to dismantle the valve and repair it or to remove the valve from the shaft so they entered the principal spillway and had to remove five feet thick concrete in order to get to the valve. This took extra time and other work had to come to a halt while this was being done. Mr. Holloway stated that there were enough funds to replace the valve, but asked that the Board approve a letter requesting a 90 day grant extension. This sets the expiration date for June 30, 2016. Don Adams made a motion to approve the extension and sign the letter. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

**BOARD OF FINANCE - RFP**

Julie Minton, Morgan County Treasurer, sent out RFPs requesting banking services. There were eight requests sent to financial institutes in Morgan County and six replied.

Rod Bray disclosed that he is on the Board of Directors for Home Bank and could have a conflict of interest.

The six banks that responded were: Citizens Bank, Regions Bank, Key Bank, Home Bank, BMO Harris, and First Merchants Bank. Ms. Minton handed out the proposals and a summary of the proposals including fees, required balance, interest rates, ability to accept property tax payments, location, and other services offered. Dan Bastin stated that each bank is able to meet the needs of the Auditor's Office and he did not have a preference other than the interest rate. First Merchants, with a branch in Mooresville and Morgantown, has the highest earnings potential. Don Adams asked how detrimental it would be not to have a local branch. Ms. Minton stated that they deposit checks daily with a remote deposit scanner. They would continue a relationship with a local bank with minimal or no fees for daily cash deposits. Ms. Minton stated that she is charged with garnering the best rate with the safest means and recommended First Merchants Bank. This would be for a two-year term and could be cancelled with 60-days' notice. Don Adams made a motion to approve First Merchant's for a banking relationship. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 4-0. (Rod Bray noted that the Morgan County Treasurer is part of the Board of Finance and has a vote.)

**VETERAN'S OFFICER**

Norman Voyles stated that the former veteran's service officer retired and Mike Ellis was appointed to this position the first of January. Mr. Ellis has researched the duties and requirements for this position and has realized that this is a bigger position than realized and submitted his resignation. The county is now without a veteran's service officer.

George Coffey, who works for another veteran's organization, stated that he cannot hold a dual position, but has looked into county service officers. Almost every county has at least one and some have three or four. It is based on the population of veterans in each county; Morgan County has just under 7,000. He has sent veterans to other counties for assistance because the officer in Morgan County was not available. The duties of a county veteran's service officer are to aid and assist all veterans in applying for benefits and whoever is appointed to the position needs to know how to apply for the benefits; some benefits are time sensitive. The budget for the Johnson County veteran's service officer is \$150,000 per year including staff. Mr. Coffey will put together information showing the budgets of the five surrounding counties and include salary information.

Mr. Voyles stated that a colleague of the former veteran's service officer came into the office on Friday and expressed interest in the county appointment. Brian Goss asked if he would be

available to meet with the Board. Mr. Voyles stated that he would see what could be arranged.

### **ROAD TRANSFER AGREEMENT** – *State Road 267*

Norman Voyles stated that this agreement regards INDOT transferring a portion of State Road 267 and paying \$77,652 to the county. The agreement does not transfer any of the real estate under the road. Don Adams stated that the agreement is to facilitate the Town of Mooresville's request to help prevent truck traffic through town. Mr. Adams would like a Memorandum of Understanding with Mooresville that they will accept the road from the county before approving the agreement. The Memorandum of Understanding should include an exemption for county highway trucks that must travel through Mooresville in order to reach specific areas of the county.

Rod Bray stated that the agreement gives the county one lump payment to pay for maintenance of the road and the county has the liability for the road but the state still maintains quite a bit of control. If the county changes the use of the road or restricts traffic, the county must notify the state. If the county does maintenance on the road the agreement stipulates that the county must e-verify the employees that work on the road. Mr. Bray will draft an MOU that transfers the road directly to the Town of Mooresville as soon as the county receives it. Don Adams made a motion to table the agreement until an agreement is reached with Mooresville. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

### **MICROVOTE AGREEMENT**

Stephanie Elliott, Morgan County Clerk, was present to request approval of the annual maintenance agreement with Microvote. The county has been using Microvote for approximately 10 years. The agreement includes any upgrades that are needed, 24 hour tech support, and state certification. The agreement is paid for through the Information and Technology Department budget. Brian Goss made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH** – *Longevity*

Scott Hamilton, Public Safety Dispatch Director, introduced Susan Oliver, who was present to answer any questions the Board has regarding the longevity request. Brian Goss asked several questions about employment dates. Ms. Oliver stated she worked at the Sheriff's Department from January 1996 until December of 1998 when she had to go on sick leave, then on short term disability and Family Medical Leave Act. At the end of the FMLA, in March of 1999, the Board of Commissioners extended her disability leave several times. She was medically released to come back to work the week of December 14, 1999; her leave had been extended to December 31. The Sheriff told her that he had replaced her and that she would need to appear at the Board of Commissioners' meeting. The Commissioners told her to come back in January. On December 31, 1999 she received a letter telling her she was terminated. She was called three weeks later and offered a part time position while someone was on sick leave. She started as a dispatcher on March 18, 2000 and has not had a break in employment since.

Brian Goss stated that if the leave was extended until the end of December, then the position should not have been filled. Norman Voyles stated that the longevity section of the Salary Ordinance that allows an employee to resume longevity following a break of less than three years was not in effect at the time this occurred, but felt that Ms. Oliver was not treated right and asked Rod Bray and Dan Bastin to work together with a Commissioner to come up with a way to resolve the issue. Mr. Bastin stated that longevity is in the Salary Ordinance, which is a Council ordinance, and felt that the Commissioners could not act on a Council ordinance. Mr. Bray stated that he would work with Mr. Bastin to present something to the Council. Mr. Goss stated that extending the sick leave should hold the position and by filling the position, the employee was not treated right.

### **ANNUAL CONTRACT** – *County Attorney*

Don Adams made a motion to approve the 2016 contract with Rod Bray as the county attorney. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

### **MINUTES**

Brian Goss made a motion to approve the January 19, 2016 minutes. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **CLAIMS**

Don Adams made a motion to approve the January 15 payroll of \$474,330.63 and January 29, 2016 payroll of \$450,347.34. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

Brian Goss made a motion to approve the January 15 PERF of \$41,437.00 and January 29, 2016 PERF of \$38,928.06. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

Don Adams made a motion to approve the January 15 FICA of \$34,446.81 and January 29, 2016 FICA of \$32,587.50. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

Brian Goss made a motion to approve the monthly claims of \$1,468,711.43. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

### **TORT CLAIMS**

Don Adams made a motion to submit the Smith and Villalpando tort claims to the insurance company. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

### **DISPATCH UPDATE**

Mr. Hamilton reported that there have been 1,886 911 calls and 8,626 non-emergency calls so far this year. There have been 869 CAD calls for the city and 1,729 for the county.

Mr. Hamilton stated that they are working on the annual 911 report to the state and it showed that approximately 10% of the calls were from landlines, 87% were wireless, and 3% were VoIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol). It is harder to get an address with the VoIP calls.

Don Adams thanked Mr. Hamilton for the response time report and asked that it be provided every other month.

### **SHERIFF UPDATE**

Sheriff Robert Downey stated that the inmate population is at 352 with 3 DOC inmates, 14 inmates on the work release program, and 21 jail corrections workers. They have opened up a therapeutic block and 200 inmates applied for it. There are only 30 openings.

There have been 883 law enforcement calls so far this year.

### **HIGHWAY UPDATE**

Jimmy Waggoner, Acting Highway Superintendent, stated that all the salt bins are full, substations are full of a salt/sand mixture, and they are ready for another round of winter. Crews are replenishing stockpiles, cutting brush, cold patching, and cutting trees.

### **ENGINEER UPDATE**

Larry Smith, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that the contractor is working on Bridge #35 on Old Morgantown Road. They cleared the site, removed the bridge, drove the pilings, and will be forming caps this week. The contractor has the deck pans in place for Bridge #56 on Teeters Road.

Mr. Smith received a letter from I-69 Development Partners requesting that Godsey Road and Liberty Church Road be closed for two to three weeks while they are constructing the Liberty Church interchange. The letter did not disclose a date for this closure. The detour route utilizes Paragon Road for Godsey and Liberty Loop for Liberty Church.

Mr. Smith is working with CPI Bridge to replace Bridge #24 on Hickey Road with a corrugated metal pipe arch with a 24' span. This is similar to a structure on Burnett Road. In the past, CPI has included the design work in the price of the structure, but they have changed policy and this is no longer the case. Mr. Smith requested approval of a \$13,000 agreement with VS Engineering for the field survey and design of the structure. Brian Goss made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Smith stated that there will also be soil borings on the site.

The highway department was able to obtain a 2006 semi-tractor with 8,000 miles for \$16,000 through federal surplus. The vehicle has been in Italy for several years. The county is not able to own the vehicle for 18 months.

### **COMMENTS**

Lindsay Beckman, Morgan County Economic Development, stated that Thursday is the first quarterly partner breakfast, March 15 there will be a job fair at the county fairgrounds, and March 16 is the annual luncheon meeting at SCREMC. Last week they held interviews for the EDC director position.

### **EMA**

Jeff Neal, Morgan County EMA Director, stated that he will go before the County Council this evening to request funding for ambulance service. He had earlier thought that they should establish a medic in a chase vehicle, but has since reconsidered and it could be more affordable to

have the medic on the ambulance. There is not a state law that mandates emergency medical services. Mr. Neal stated that ambulance service is something that is owed to the residents of Morgan County. There is no control over private firms providing this service and public safety should not be privatized.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Brian Goss made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Don Adams. Motion carried 3-0.

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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Don Adams