

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020 AT 9:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE KENNY HALE AND NORMAN VOYLES. DEB VERLEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT; DAN BASTIN, AUDITOR; JOSH MESSMER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND JIM WISCO, COUNTY ATTORNEY, WERE ALSO PRESENT. RYAN GOODWIN WAS ABSENT.

PLEDGE.

PRAYER (*Kenny Hale*).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Kenny Hale stated that the Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session this morning regarding litigation and will follow the recommendation of the attorney.

LOCUTION SYSTEMS

Scott Hamilton, Morgan County 911 Dispatch Director, was present to request approval of an agreement to provide locution services for the Dispatch Center. The price for this service is \$101,800 and has been budgeted. Kenny Hale stated that with the interstate construction, this should help. Mr. Hamilton stated that this will automatically trigger the Johnson County system. No action taken.

ARAMARK

Dave Rogers, Morgan County Jail Commander, stated that Aramark, the provider for inmate meals, has increased the price per meal. The inmate population has been dropping and is now at an average of 280. Per the contract with Aramark, this increases the cost of the meals, as the county is now in a lower tier. Mr. Rogers noted that this partnership has saved the county a lot of money as they have replaced several items of kitchen equipment at no cost to the county and requested approval of the contract amendment. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the new scale and the back pay for the meals since April. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 2-0.

ORDINANCE – VACATION POLICY – *1st Reading*

Josh Messmer stated that a question has arisen whether the county should extend the number of vacation days that can be carried over to the next year. Currently, an employee is allowed to carry over five days of unused vacation days to the next year. Mr. Messmer presented an ordinance that would allow employees a one-time exemption from the current policy to carry over vacation days. The proposed ordinance does not define the number of days. Kenny Hale stated that he felt this would be needed and did not have a problem as long as the time is used by the end of 2021. Norman Voyles stated that with everything going on with the pandemic, he felt this needed and employees should be accommodated. Mr. Hale stated that he would like a final date to use the vacation days. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the ordinance with a sunset date of December 31, 2021. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 2-0.

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

Donnie Warren stated that there are three SOGs that need addressed and/or updated: Hiring & Onboarding Employees; Performance Improvement plan; and Vacation Revision. Kenny Hale stated that he had not seen the revisions and had not had time to review them. This item will be on the next agenda.

TEMPORARY DRIVEWAY AGREEMENT

Tony Hinkle, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that this easement is on East Morgan Street from The Prince of Peace Church and goes to the golf course to provide access during the I-69 construction. Kenny Hale stated that he met with the parties and is good with the plan.

ULTIMATE TECHNOLOGIES AGREEMENT

Josh Messmer stated that Ultimate Technologies upgraded the sound equipment a year or so ago. With the pandemic, the county found a need to stream public meetings and they have been using a tablet to do this; however, the sound quality is poor and those who need to participate in the meeting are unable to hear what is happening. Mr. Messmer felt confident that this expense would be reimbursed through the CARES Act. Ultimate Technologies provided a quote to install a streaming system that would be compatible with the current sound system and recording system at a cost of \$30,997. This amount included sales tax so the actual amount would be lower. Kenny

Hale stated that it was a big dollar amount but this will help Commissioners, Council, Plan Commission, and BZA. No action taken. This item will be on the next agenda.

ROAD TRANSFER AGREEMENT

Tony Hinkle stated that he met with INDOT and provided feedback. They realized that their exhibits did not accurately convey their intent. The county did not want to take in any bridges and INDOT is opposed to that. They would maintain the approach slab only and everything but guardrail, snowplow, and a small portion of the overpass. Norman Voyles made a motion to stand by the Board’s original recommendation. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 2-0. Mr. Hinkle stated that he would set up a meeting with INDOT.

JUSTICE CENTER EXPENSE TRACKING

Josh Messmer expenses for the Justice Center are \$130,000 more than what was assumed they would spend. Kenny Hale stated that they are over the \$900,000 that was the amount of the lease, but they know going in that the average of the two appraisals was \$139,589 over. The move in date will be the end of June.

COVID EXPENSES

Expenses to date total \$112,000. A letter requesting an additional \$50,000 will be discussed at the Council meeting Wednesday.

APPOINTMENT – *Sewer Board*

Kenny Hale noted that Diane Huerkamp has resigned as an appointment to the Morgan County Regional Sewer District. There are no suggested candidates for this position at this time.

WAVERLY PARK RENTAL

Amy Perry has requested the rental of the Old Town Waverly Park town square gazebo for a graduation party on June 27, 2020. Attendance is expected to be under the state guidelines for COVID restrictions. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 2-0.

CLAIMS

Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the May 15 and May 29, 2020 Payroll claims of \$630,167.60 and \$641,091.28; PERF \$57,040.94 and \$57,303.05; FICA \$45,619.70 and \$48,742.99; and monthly claims of \$1,413,220.55 with one hold of \$9,500 pending documentation. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 2-0.

COMP TIME DONATION – *Highway Department*

Marvin “Sport” Whaley, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, was present to request that employees be allowed to donate time to an employee that was injured in a vehicle accident. Norman Voyles made a motion to allow the donation. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 2-0.

RECOGNITION – *Keith Rhoades*

Norman Voyles quoted President Calvin Coolidge “Wherever despotism abounds, the sources of public information are the first to be brought under its control. Where ever the cause of liberty is making its way, one of its highest accomplishments is the guarantee of the freedom of the press.” In recognition and appreciation of 25 years of service to the county and its residents reporting the good, the bad and the ugly, with the Reporter Times and WCBK, the Morgan County Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020 recognizes Mr. Keith Rhoades. Stephen Crane, Interim Executive Editor at the Herald Times, also spoke in recognition of Mr. Rhoades.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Ryan Goodwin

Kenny Hale

Attest:

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

Norman Voyles