

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020 AT 9:30 A.M.**

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

PLEDGE.

PRAYER (*Josh Messmer*).

**REZONE REQUEST – Green Township**

Caleb and Ali Bright requested that 37.228 acres at the intersection of Maple Grove and Wampler Roads in Green Township be rezoned from R-1 to Ag. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**REZONE REQUEST – Madison Township**

Holloway Engineering, on behalf of Barbara Fields, requested that 8.75 acres on Paddock Road in Madison Township be rezoned from Ag to R-1. Norman Voyles noted that this uses Triple Crown Lane as an exit and there have been issues with this road in the past. Laura Parker stated that the Plan Commission voted in favor of the rezone and the landowners signed easements to allow access. Ryan Goodwin stated that this is a valid issue. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 2-1. Norman Voyles was opposed.

**REZONE REQUEST – Gregg Township**

Holloway Engineering, on behalf of Wesley and Julie Fields, requested that 8.923 acres on State Road 142 in Gregg Township be rezoned from Ag to R-1. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSULTING SERVICES CONTRACT – Plan Commission**

Ryan Goodwin stated that the Plan Commission is working on a Unified Development Ordinance and TSWDG has provided an agreement for services in connection with this project. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTRACTUAL SERVICES**

Steve Lyday, Morgan County Health Preparedness Coordinator, was present to request approval of a contract with Maxim for personnel to staff the COVID-19 vaccination location. Mr. Lyday stated that it is unknown at this time how much vaccine they will get. They may run the clinic for only four hours a day, two days a week. Vaccines should arrive the week of January 11<sup>th</sup>. The Maxim agreement is for staff augmentation and is for one year. Jim Wisco stated that he had reviewed the agreement. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**DISPENSING PLAN**

Mr. Lyday handed out a document containing the dispensing plan for the COVID-19 vaccine and stated that it will be by appointment only. Once vaccinated, individuals will need to wait for 15 minutes to insure there are no immediate adverse reactions. There will be an ambulance on site.

**GRANT APPROVAL – Emergency Health Preparedness**

Mr. Lyday stated that there is an opportunity to apply for an \$80,000 grant to help with vaccine dispensing expenses and he has submitted a letter of intent. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the grant application. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**EMS EMPLOYEE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENTS**

Ryan Goodwin stated that two EMS employees recently completed coursework under the agreement that allows reimbursement for training. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve both of the employee reimbursement agreements. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

**PERSONNEL HANDBOOK – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Ryan Goodwin stated that this has been a work in progress for approximately 18 months. The county hired an outside firm to not only revamp the employee handbook, but to do a job

description and compensation study. One substantive change is the conversion to PTO (Paid Time Off) rather than vacation time and sick time. Kenny Hale thanked Josh Messmer and Daree Fry for all the work they've put into updating the handbook. Josh Messmer stated that he hasn't heard any feedback from any of the departments. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the Ordinance Adopting the Personnel Policies Handbook as presented. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 2-0-1. Norman Voyles abstained.

#### **TEMPORARY PROPERTY LEASE / RESOLUTION**

Josh Messmer stated that last week he met with Steve Lyday and Dr. Paul Broderick to discuss vaccinations. Operating out of the Sadler Room will not be sufficient. They met with Tony Schwab and the Schwab Family Trust has agreed to lease a 10,000 sq. ft. building (formerly Save-a-Lot) as a temporary vaccine clinic for six months with the option to renew for another six months. The cost for this is \$1,000 per month. The county would cover maintenance and utilities. Kenny Hale thanked the Schwab family and made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Lease Agreement for the Purpose of Administering COVID-19 Vaccinations. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the lease agreement. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **FARM LEASE CONTRACTS**

Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the farm lease contracts. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **ROAD NAMES**

Sandy Mosier, Morgan County Plan Commission, was present to request approval of two road names. Ms. Mosier stated that the state contacted her regarding naming an access road they are constructing for the Wyss property and a small road east of Henderson Ford Road. Ms. Mosier suggested Wysscraft Lane for the private new road to the Wyss property and Old Henderson Ford Road. There could be some confusion if the road is named Old Henderson Ford and the 1-69 sign says Henderson Ford Road exit; Jack Rabbit Lane is a suggested alternate name for this road. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve Wysscraft Lane for a new private road off of Henderson Ford Road. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

Kenny Hale made a motion to table Old Henderson Ford Road pending recommendation from the naming committee. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **ANNUAL MATERIAL BID**

Ryan Goodwin stated that the annual material bids were opened on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Typically, these bids are accepted based upon location and price at the time of the project. Kenny Hale made a motion to accept all material bids. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **C2IT AGREEMENT**

Dave Rogers, Morgan County Jail Commander, and Scott Hamilton, Morgan County 911 Dispatch Director, were present to request approval of an agreement for consulting services. Mr. Rogers stated that they have had a relationship with VIA for several years and they were purchased two years ago by another company. Since then, they have not received the same level of service and selected C2IT as a replacement. The price is about the same. This agreement will cover both the jail and dispatch center. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **LOCUTION CHANGE ORDER**

Scott Hamilton stated that this change order is to add radio transmitting ability to the system if there is an issue with the 800 MHz. The total for the change order is \$11,650. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the change order. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **ANNUAL EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENTS**

Norman Voyles made a motion to reappoint the following as annual employee appointments:

*Highway Superintendent:* Marvin "Sport" Whaley  
*Maintenance Director:* Michelle Cooley  
*County Engineer:* Anthony Hinkle  
*EMS Director:* Donnie Warren  
*Public Safety Dispatch Director:* Scott Hamilton  
*Weights and Measures:* Scotty Manley  
*HR Director:* Daree Fry  
*County Administrator:* Josh Messmer

*Veterans Service Officer:* Rick Baum

Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Kenny Hale stated that he felt the new commissioners should make the appointments, but did not want any of the employees stressing over jobs during the holidays. Ryan Goodwin stated that the new commissioners have the ability to make or change appointments in January. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **EVENT VARIANCE**

Norman Voyles stated that he talked to Plan Director, Laura Parker, regarding motocross events. This can be done by ordinance, and could be included with the new ordinance they are currently drafting, but it could be six months or more before it is complete. Jim Wisco stated that he has some thoughts on how the issue could be addressed and agreed there is a need. He could draft an ordinance for discussion at the next meeting. Kenny Hale mentioned that this could be addressed through the variance process with the BZA.

#### **MINUTES - 11/25/20, 12/7/20, 12/7/20 Joint Meeting**

Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the November 25, December 7, and December 7, 2020 joint minutes. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **TRANSFER LETTER**

Ryan Goodwin stated that this letter resolves negative balances in a couple of line items. Kenny Hale made a motion to approve the transfer letter to the Council. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **OWEN COUNTY SURVEY**

Rich Myers, Morgan County Sheriff, stated that he received a letter and survey from Own County Sheriff, Sam Hobbs. Owen County is expanding their jail and IC 36-1-8-19 requires that they consider the possibility of establishing a regional jail as part of the process. The survey is to gauge the interest of Morgan County in pursuing a project of this nature. Sheriff Myers stated that they went through this same process fairly recently when Johnson County built their new jail. At that time there was no interest and there is no interest this time either. Kenny Hale made a motion to indicate on the survey that there is no interest. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **LETTER OF APPRECIATION**

Ryan Goodwin stated that a long-time board member on the Harrison Township Fire District Board, Anthony Siefert, will no longer be serving on the board and Mr. Goodwin would like to send him a letter of appreciation for his service to the board. Norman Voyles made a motion to approve the letter. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **MEETING ROOM DEDICATION**

Kenny Hale stated that former Morgan County Assessor, Brenda Brittain, is currently in poor health. Mr. Hale would like to honor her elected service of 40 years to the county by dedicating the upstairs conference room in the Administration Building in her name. Kenny Hale made a motion to name the upstairs conference room the Brenda Brittain Meeting Room. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Sheriff Rich Myers and Jail Commander Dave Rogers thanked Ryan Goodwin for his service while in office and presented him with a plaque.

Sheriff Myers and Mr. Rogers thanked Mr. Voyles for his service over the years and the support that he has given them both personally and professionally and presented him with a plaque.

Bryan Collier stated that he has spent several years in county government and he has learned that to be successful at the county level requires the cooperation of both the Commissioners and Council. Mr. Collier stated that Mr. Goodwin has brought professionalism and helped bridge gaps and he expects great things of him in the future.

Mr. Collier thanked Norman Voyles for being good to the Collier family and Morgan County and having patience. Mr. Collier presented Mr. Voyles with a gift and stated that he was sure he would need his help in the future.

#### **SAGAMORE OF THE WABASH**

State Senator Rod Bray thanked Ryan Goodwin for his service and stated that he did not want to let the evening go by without saying a few remarks about the service that Norman Voyles has given the county over the last several years. Mr. Voyles has been on the Council from 1989 to

2000, and Commissioner from 2000 to 2020. Senator Bray stated that Mr. Voyles has been on the REMC Board for several years, Morgan County Fair Board, and the many times he has been at the livestock auction supporting the kids, and the Morgan County Farm Bureau. Mr. Bray stated that since he can remember, Mr. Voyles has been a fixture in the major institutions and pillars of the community. Senator Bray stated that many people felt they could not let the evening pass without giving some recognition of that and give a word or two of deep appreciation for everything he has done and the friendship that he has given over the years. When it comes to the length and significance of service and profound impact on the community, it turns out that the county is not the only entity that is appreciative of everything he has done. Governor Eric Holcomb is also deeply appreciative of everything he has done, to the point that he is giving Mr. Voyles a Sagamore of the Wabash.

Mr. Bray read the award as follows:

*“WHEREAS, the greatness of the Sons of Indiana derives, in part, from qualities possessed by the noble Chieftains of the Indian Tribes which once roamed its domain and WHEREAS, it has been the immemorial custom of the State of Indiana to attract to its support those who have exhibited such qualities, and*  
*WHEREAS, there has endeared himself to the Citizens of Indiana, one Norman Voyles, distinguished by his Humanity in Living, his Loyalty in Friendship, his Wisdom in Council, and his Inspiration in Leadership.*  
*NOW, THEREFORE, recognizing his greatness and desiring to avail myself of his counsel, I do hereby appoint him a Chieftain upon my Staff with the rank and title of ~SAGAMORE of the WABASH~*

After a standing ovation, Mr. Voyles thanked Senator Bray for presenting the award.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Norman Voyles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 3-0.

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Don Adams

Kenny Hale

Bryan Collier

Attest:

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor