

**THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017 AT 9:30 A.M.**

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

NORMAN VOYLES ASKED FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

NORMAN VOYLES CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

**EMA GRANT**

Mark Tumey, Deputy EMA Director, was present to request approval of a \$22,028.84 grant from the State of Indiana that provides 50% reimbursement of the 2016 salaries for the director and deputy director. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the grant. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

**QUOTES – Boom Mower, Gradal**

Larry Smith, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that there is only one supplier for Gradal, Southeastern Equipment. He filled out a credit application through TCF Equipment for the \$353,605 Gradal and this does not include the financing costs. Rod Bray stated that this purchase is through the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) which negotiates competitive prices on items when there is only one supplier. Public entities across the nation are able to use this service. Mr. Bray stated that the county would need to enter into an interlocal agreement with NJPA, but this requirement should not slow down the application process because there will be a lease agreement or purchase agreement that the Board will also need to approve. Brian Goss stated that this is one step closer to making the purchase and made a motion to approve signing the credit application. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

Brian Goss stated that the Highway Department is down to one boom mower and the steering is bad in it. They received quotes from Reynolds Farm Equipment \$248,579; MacAllister Machinery \$240,174; and Diamond Mowers \$263,634 for two boom mowers and two tractors. Mr. Goss stated that Diamond Mowers does not finance. Brian Goss made a motion to accept the quote from MacAllister for the Caterpillar tractors and boom mowers. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**SMITH'S DETECTION AGREEMENT**

Norman Voyles stated that the agreement to maintain and inspect the x-ray equipment in the Courthouse security area will expire in April. The renewal amount is the same as last year, \$4,257. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

**ANNUAL CONTRACT – Morgan County Fair**

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the 2017 annual agreement with the Morgan County Fair in the amount of \$75,000. The agreement states that the fair promotes community involvement for agriculture and 4-H, and the contracted amount pays premiums for the 4-H exhibits and educates the community. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

**BICENTENNIAL TORCH**

Norman Voyles stated that at the last meeting, they mentioned obtaining quotes to build a case for the bicentennial torch. Mr. Voyles obtained a quote for a display case built with wood to match the wood walls and glass and the price would not exceed \$300. Ryan Goodwin stated that a citizen contacted him and offered to contribute the cap and shirt that they wore as a torch bearer. Mr. Voyles stated that both items could fit inside the case with the torch. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the quote to build the case. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

**LANDFILL COSTS**

Kenny Hale, Morgan County Plan Commission Director, was present to update the Board on the costs of bringing the old landfill site off of State Road 252 into compliance. Mr. Hale stated that last year \$284,418.37 was spent and it will cost approximately \$143,150 for the two or three months of work that are left. Mr. Hale stated that there is enough fill dirt on the site, but he wasn't sure if there was enough topsoil to complete the project. Brian Goss made a motion to give approval for Mr. Hale to approach the County Council to request \$143,150 in additional funds from the Riverboat Fund to complete the project. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**REZONE REQUEST** – *Fenneman Ag & B3 to B3*

Kenny Hale stated that the Planning Commission granted a favorable recommendation for the rezone request from agricultural to B3 for a property off of Old State Road 37 N at the former location of Investment Auto and H. E. Henderson. Part of the property, where the office is located, is already zoned B3. Ryan Goodwin stated that the ordinance references two dates for a public hearing. Mr. Hale stated that the dates were incorrect and he would bring a corrected ordinance to the next Commissioners' meeting. Brian Goss made a motion to table the issue until the next meeting. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**MINUTES** – 3/6/17

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2017 meeting. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

**REQUESTS TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE**

Norman Voyles stated that the following groups have requested the use of the Courthouse Square:

Farmers' Market on Saturdays from May 6<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>  
Anything on Wheels Car Show, Memorial Day May 29<sup>th</sup>  
Stability First 5K, June 17<sup>th</sup>  
Humane Society Feline Frolic 5K April 8<sup>th</sup>

Brian Goss made a motion to approve the requests. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

**COURTHOUSE CANNONS**

Norman Voyles stated that a civil war reenactment group has asked permission to clean and refurbish the cannons that are on the Courthouse lawn; it will probably be sometime in the fall when they begin the project. There would be no cost to the county. Brian Goss made a motion to allow the civil war reenactment group to repair and clean up the cannons on the Courthouse lawn. Ryan Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**DISPATCH UPDATE**

Scott Hamilton, Morgan County Dispatch Director, reported that there have been 24,460 calls so far this year. There have been 4,442 911 calls and 20,018 non-emergency calls. There have been 7,145 CAD calls.

**SHERIFF/JAIL UPDATE**

Sheriff Robert Downey stated that the inmate population at the jail is 322. There are 4 DOC inmates, 7 inmates on the work release program, and 14 jail corrections workers. There have been 2,190 law enforcement calls so far this year.

The new oven that was approved a few weeks ago should be installed next week.

**HIGHWAY UPDATE**

Brian Goss stated that crews are cutting trees, and patching potholes. Mahalassville Road and Bain Road will be closed the week of March 27<sup>th</sup>. Crews will be replacing a structure on Cramertown and cutting down a hill and realigning the road on Bain. Unfortunately, they will be battling the weather during this time, but hope to open in time for the school buses to run after spring break.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

Norman Voyles asked if the Board wanted to take any action on the vacant superintendent position. Ryan Goodwin stated that they should meet together in executive session to discuss the applications that were received. Mr. Goodwin did not feel that the Board was in a position to make any recommendations. He would not be making any votes on any candidates until the three Commissioners have interviewed the most qualified applicants.

Brian Goss stated that he agreed with Mr. Goodwin, but felt that if there is a qualified candidate that is currently working at the highway department that has applied for the position, then they should promote from within. There is a qualified candidate that has been employed in the department for five or six years and is currently second in command. He was not in favor of hiring outside the county. Mr. Goodwin stated it was good business practice for the Board to jointly interview qualified candidates for a top position. Mr. Goodwin stated that there has been no interest in conducting interviews; if after the interview he felt that the person having served in the department was ready to move up, he would be elated to put his seal of approval on a candidate that has worked hard in the highway department. He would not participate in a process that is not consistent and fair; it is a disservice to the taxpayers.

Brian Goss stated that he has worked at and with the highway department for over 20 years, and while not wanted to go against Mr. Goodwin, he knows the candidate as an honest leader and if the department continued without a supervisor it would go downhill quick. This is an annual appointment and if it doesn't work out, they can start the process again. Mr. Goodwin stated that was a valid point, but they should have interviewed candidates. His opposition is not based on a person, it is based on the process. Mr. Goss stated he did not want to prolong the process and made a motion to hire Marvin Whaley as the highway superintendent appointment for the remainder of the year. Motion seconded by Norman Voyles. Ryan Goodwin stated that his "no" vote is not based on Mr. Whaley or his qualifications or lack of qualifications, it is based solely upon an unfair and inconsistent hiring process. Motion carried 2-1. Ryan Goodwin was opposed.

**ENGINEER UPDATE**

Larry Smith, Morgan County Highway Engineer, stated that crews are working on a structure on Hickey Road and will start putting up the steel plates and backfilling the middle of next week. This road will be closed for three to four weeks, depending on the weather.

The contractor is working on Structure #220 on Old State Road 144. The pilings are driven and they will pour the cap in the next few days. This project was bid two years ago but there were a lot of problems with utilities. This road is closed but there is access on Farmer's Lane.

The paving contractor has started putting base on some of the roads that were bid in December. There will still be funds available for additional paving and chip sealing. He will submit a report for each district.

Ryan Goodwin thanked Mr. Smith for all the help in answering questions about roads or projects and getting him information.

**COMMENT**

Gerry McGrath, a county resident, asked if the Board has utilized military or government surplus for equipment needs. Mr. Goss stated that he has in the past, but his certification has expired. Scott Hamilton stated that every once in a while heavy equipment is available, but it tends to be very heavily used; however, there are some good deals on pickups and lighter equipment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

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Norman Voyles

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Ryan Goodwin

Attest:

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Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

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Brian Goss