

THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.

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

NORMAN VOYLES ASKED FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER.

NORMAN VOYLES CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

JUDICIAL UPDATE

Superior Court I Judge, Pete Foley, was present to update the Commissioners on the status of the Morgan County Judiciary. Judge Foley stated that there are new faces in the offices and a significant increase in caseloads. Judge Foley outlined the types of cases for each court; Superior II, Judge Brian Williams; Superior Court III, Judge Sara Dungan; Circuit Court, Judge Matt Hanson; and Magistrate Court, Magistrate Terry Iacoli. There was an 11% increase in case filings, 6,976 in 2017 compared to 6,268 in 2016. Judge Foley stated that each case is “weighted” by the state depending on the type of case. Each weighted case is then divided amongst the courts fairly evenly so one court is not overloaded more than another. Morgan County courts are operating at 98% of capacity. The state provided laptops for each elected judge and two more laptops were purchased for those times when judges are out of the office and another judge is filling in. MyCase is the public access portal so people can check on their cases. RSAP (Residential Substance Abuse Program) conducted within the jail, is a benefit to the citizens of the county and a collaborative effort between the sheriff, judges, attorneys, prosecutor, and probation/community corrections. Morgan County continues to have a higher use of methamphetamines than the rest of the state and the use of fentanyl is increasing dramatically. The courts are working with the prosecutor’s office and the jail to keep the daily average population of the jail at a manageable level. Rod Bray stated that while crimes are going up, the jail population is going down – this is a rare effect and it is due to a lot of hard work by the sheriff, judges, prosecutor’s office, and probation department.

GRANT APPLICATION – *Health Department*

Amanda Lopossa, Morgan County Health Department, was present to request approval of a \$36,735.97 grant to be used for the emergency preparedness coordinator salary, supplies, travel, and equipment. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the grant application. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

HOSPITAL BOARD APPOINTMENT

Norman Voyles stated that Dan Moore has resigned from the IU Health Morgan Hospital Board and the board would like the Morgan County Board of Commissioners to make an appointment to fill this position. Mr. Voyles stated that Carole Kinder has been suggested as an appointment. Ryan Goodwin stated that Ms. Kinder would make a great addition to the Hospital Board and made a motion to approve the appointment. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

TAKE HOME VEHICLE POLICY

Norman Voyles stated that a Take Home Vehicle Policy was discussed at the last meeting and it was suggested that there be an application process. Mr. Voyles added this language to the policy that was submitted at the previous meeting and developed an application in order to be issued a county-owned take home vehicle. Some of the questions included on the application include:

Is the employee’s job related to public safety? (For example; law enforcement, emergency medical, emergency management, probation officer, bioterrorism, or 911 dispatch?) Does the job involve leaving directly from home to a continually variable work location in which travel to a central location to obtain a county-owned vehicle would result significant amounts of unnecessary travel time and/or loss of productive hours? Does employee’s job involve any type of road or bridge maintenance? Does the job require the employee to be on call 24/7 on a recurring basis beyond normal duty hours and when called out require immediate travel from a residence to a location where specific tools, services, skills, equipment, or supplies are necessary to perform the job?

Mr. Voyles stated that based on the answers to the above questions, the Board of Commissioners would then vote to approve or deny a request for a take home vehicle. Ryan Goodwin suggested added an open comments field where the applicant would describe the use of the vehicle or could make a justification that may or may not fit the yes or no questions. Mr. Goodwin stated that the policy may need to be clearer regarding incidental personal use for law enforcement vehicles. Brian Goss stated that there is a policy in place regarding the use of sheriff department vehicles. Sheriff Downey stated that there is a Merit Board policy in place that supersedes county policy per state law. Rod Bray

suggested omitting the last two sentences and changing the language as follows: “Police vehicles are exempt from this policy and are subject to the policies and regulations of the Sheriff’s Merit Board.” Mr. Goodwin stated that since this is a new policy, there could be some things that they will have to work out; they will have to be open-minded to changes, but this is a more transparent process related to take home vehicles and this is a good and big step in the right direction. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to adopt the policy and application with the changes as presented. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH SOP AMENDMENTS

Scott Hamilton, Morgan County Public Safety Dispatch Director, was present to request approval of several SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures). Brian Goss made a motion to approve SOPs as follows: Section 104, Public Safety Dispatcher; Section 313, Dispatch of Wreckers; Section 314, Active Shooter; Section 314, Vehicular Pursuit; Section 331, Lifeline Air Ambulance Auto Launch; and Section 332, Body Found. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Hamilton stated that there will be several more changes coming up. (*See “Dispatch Update” for more information.*)

AT&T AGREEMENT

Norman Voyles stated that the AT&T agreement for the Prime phone lines comes up for renewal every three years. The cost is the same as last year, \$490 per line per month. Brian Goss made a motion to approve the agreement for another three years. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCE – 1st Reading

Ryan Goodwin stated that he was approached by a handful of residents on Bethel Road about the increased truck traffic on Bethel Road and lack of signage on the turns, particularly north of Crosby Road. Larry Smith, Morgan County Highway Engineer, performed a traffic study and set out traffic counters. Mr. Smith recommended more traffic patrols in the area, better signage with additional turn signs and speed advisory plaques, the types of vehicles using Keller Hill and Bethel Road should be limited, and that the speed limit north of Crosby Road should be reduced to 40 MPH. Mr. Goodwin presented an ordinance to reduce the speed limit to 40 MPH and suggested looking at limiting the vehicle weight as a separate matter. Norman Voyles stated that a lot of drivers will go 10 miles over the speed limit before being issued a ticket and that 35 MPH would be more appropriate. Mr. Goodwin stated that he did not disagree, but the advisory plaques could reduce the speed even further. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the Ordinance Modifying the Speed Limit on Bethel Road, waive the second reading provided there is a unanimous vote, and instruct the Highway Engineer to place appropriate speed advisory plaques and additional signage in the curves as outlined by the Engineer’s report. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 2-1. Norman Voyles was opposed.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Norman Voyles noted that the Redevelopment Commission submitted the 2017 Annual Report to the Board of Commissioners.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 2018 SERVICES AGREEMENT

Norman Voyles noted that the Economic Development Corporation submitted an agreement for services for 2018. The amount is the same as last year at \$75,000 billing in quarterly installments. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the 2018 contract with the Economic Development Corporation as presented. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES – 4/2/18

Brian Goss made a motion to approve the April 2, 2018 minutes. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Norman Voyles stated that the Ditch and Property Taxes Fund (1000-133-4350) is \$3,553.60 short in order to pay ditch and property tax on county owned parcels. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the additional appropriation letter to appear before the next Council meeting. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

INCIDENT CLAIM

Brian Goss made a motion to send the Box Incident Claim to the insurance company. Ryan Goodwin asked if the claimant had been referred to the mailbox replacement policy. Deb Verley stated that they had. Brian Goss made a motion to submit the claim to the insurance company. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

TORT CLAIM

Ryan Goodwin made a motion to submit the Barber tort claim to the insurance company. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

REQUESTS TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE

Aaron Molin requested the use of the Courthouse Square for the Giants Live Strongman Competition from 10 am to 6 pm on June 9th. Brian Goss made a motion to approve the use of the Courthouse Square by the Core Fitness Club. Motion seconded by Ryan Goodwin. Motion carried 3-0.

The class of '74 has requested the use of the Courthouse Square for the "Anything on Wheels" car show on Memorial Day, May 28th. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

John Badger, Artie Fest, requested the use of the Courthouse Square from July 12 at noon through July 15th at 1 am. The 12th will be for set-up and the 15th will be for clean-up. Mr. Badger stated that the City of Martinsville has approved closing the streets for the event for the next five years and he would like to reserve the Courthouse Square for the next five years. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the request for 2018 and to approve July 11 through July 14, 2019. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

EMS UPDATE

Donnie Warren, Morgan County EMS Director, sent out a quarterly report earlier and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Warren stated that they have been busier than they thought they would be and would fall pretty close to the 3,500 to 4,000 range. At the end of the quarterly report, it mentions ROSC (return to spontaneous circulation) which crews work very hard towards during a cardiac arrest. They have seen a 39% success rate and the national average is 12%. Mr. Warren stated that this is a credit to the staff, Commissioners, and Council that have allowed the equipment and technology they need in order to make it successful.

IU Lifeline submitted an invoice for \$108,000, but this seemed high, so they compared this to run reports and had no record for some of the runs. IU revised the invoice and resubmitted it for \$87,600.

They are working on the lease agreements with the fire departments. Jackson Township offered a one-year lease. Mr. Warren stated that if they make a lot of improvements and invest money in the building, he would not be comfortable with only a one-year lease. Mr. Warren asked if the Board of Commissioners would reach out to Mr. Witt, the Township Trustee, and ask about a purchase price for the facility. Mr. Warren is keeping an eye out for possible real estate purchases for other locations, especially around Paragon; they have had 72 runs so far this year from the Paragon station.

Mr. Warren asked if the Board had moved forward with a non-compete ordinance for private services within the county or if the county EMS service would be responding into all areas of the county that are being taxed for the service. Rod Bray stated that things have not moved forward with the non-compete ordinance. Mr. Warren has been working with White River Township on a mutual aid agreement.

Ryan Goodwin asked if the construction at the Morgan Street property would be complete by the end of the month. Mr. Warren stated that he has given the contractor a May 1st deadline. The problems that were identified should not have caused this long of a delay. They have acquired a list of additional contractors that can step in.

DISPATCH UPDATE

Scott Hamilton, Morgan County Public Safety Dispatch Director, stated that the SOP for the IU Lifeline Auto Launch was not the most recent. The SOP has been updated to include more locations and rearranged into geographic order. Lifeline suggested adding pre-programmed codes for the locations. Mr. Hamilton will send the updated version for approval at the next meeting.

There have been 6,109 911 calls, including abandoned calls, 25,669 administrative calls, and 9,709 CAD calls.

Mr. Hamilton stated that no action was taken on the request for a replacement vehicle at the Council meeting. Mr. Hamilton obtained an estimate before beginning repair work; one estimate is \$10,000 and another is \$12,500. Mr. Hamilton stated that he looked into used vehicles and located a \$14,000 2014 Ford Taurus with 77,000 miles; a \$17,000 2015 Ford Explorer with 71,000 miles; and a \$15,975 Ford Taurus with 77,000 miles. Mr. Hamilton stated that it does not make sense to him to put this kind of money into a car that would be traded in for \$2,300 and would like an opinion from the Board before proceeding with repairs. Norman Voyles stated that the Council did not want to take action until the Take Home Vehicle Policy was in place; now that it has been approved, Mr. Hamilton might want to approach the Council again.

SHERIFF/JAIL UPDATE

Sheriff Robert Downey reported that other counties are at capacity for jail space. In the past, other counties would keep an offender until their case was done in that county. Now if Morgan County has a hold on the offender, they are bringing them to Morgan County as soon as the court hearing is done in order to decrease their population. They will then come pick up the offender for the next hearing.

Morgan County does not do this because there is still room. There are currently 338 inmates, 1 DOC inmate, 6 on work release, and 24 on the jail corrections program. There have been 3,275 law enforcement calls for service.

HIGHWAY UPDATE

Marvin “Sport” Whaley, Morgan County Highway Superintendent, stated that if they had a roller to help in repairing some of the small asphalt patches, they would not have to hire them out and when highway crews do them, they are in better shape. Mr. Whaley obtained three quotes, one from Brandeis for \$31,500, one from Cat for \$26,070.32, and one from Rudd for \$29,900. Mr. Whaley requested approval of the quote from MacAllister for the Cat roller at \$26,070.32. Mr. Whaley stated that there is money in the budget for the purchase. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve the purchase of the roller from MacAllister Machinery as quoted. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Motion carried 3-0.

Crews hauled 55 loads of dirt to the site next to the jail. Mr. Whaley thought it would need more.

ENGINEER UPDATE

Larry Smith stated that he has been busy updating the fuel data of the pavement management system.

The deck has been poured for Bridge #103 and the approach rail is on. The road approach work should be complete by the next week and it will be ready for paving.

Mr. Smith is still very concerned about meeting the 50% requirement for the preventative maintenance in the MVH Fund. The only way he can conceive of doing this is to approach the Council to get the Wheel Tax transferred into Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) and out of Local Road and Street (LRS), and transfer most of the supplies (and possibly equipment) that are in the MVH to LRS. The large equipment is the distributor and they will probably have to pay for it prior to the transfer. Mr. Smith asked for approval from the Board to approach the Council at the May or June meeting. Mr. Smith stated that he sent a letter to the State Board of Accounts asking what categories are included in the 50% total and received the following: “. . . during the training, we were not certain what disbursements would be included in the 50% computation. It was determined that right of way operations would not be included. House Bill 1290 states that the computation would include construction, reconstruction, and preservation costs.” Right of way operations is anything outside the pavement, mowing, brush cutting, tree cutting, and drainage with the exception of culverts. Ryan Goodwin stated that getting water off the roadway is one of the most essential things they can do. Mr. Smith stated that it looks like the fringes amount to 50% of the salary base. Mr. Smith is considering using the FEMA formula to calculate the equipment rate. Ryan Goodwin made a motion to approve Mr. Smith’s request to approach the Council. Motion seconded by Brian Goss. Mr. Goodwin encouraged Mr. Smith to consult with Dan Bastin, Morgan County Auditor, before the Council meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

WATSON MEADOWS

The posted speed limit within the Watson Meadows subdivision is 35 MPH. The subdivision is dead-end cul-de-sacs and there is no other access than through the main entrance. Mr. Smith recommended that the speed limit be reduced to 20 MPH. This will be on the next agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Morgan County Board of Commissioners

Norman Voyles

Brian Goss

Attest:

Dan Bastin, Morgan Co. Auditor

Ryan Goodwin