

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, August 19, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Cecil Mayle, President
Adam Shriver, Vice-President
Richard Welsh, Member

24-414- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to approve the minutes of August 12, 2024.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

-No report for the week.

Al Eltringham, Reicker Maintenance; Brayn Sharkey, Courthouse Maintenance

-Mowing will be rescheduled for Thursday each week.

-Scott from G&M Construction was at the Courthouse and repairing the falling plaster in the offices on the second-floor east side, 4 offices in total. 4-4-24, As of 4-19-24 (still not finished)

-Preparing the old Cub Cadet mower and Snow blower to be declared excess to put on Gov Deals. 8-1-24

-Jason Pierce looked at the motor switches for the Courthouse Clock. Both motor switches need replaced and rewired. He is also writing a quote to replace all 4 breaker boxes at the Courthouse and LED lighting to replace old T-12 bulbs for second floor and the Court Room. 5-28-24

-New (2 Cubic Yard) dumpster should be in place at the Dog Pound by next weekend 8-2-24
Talked to John about the dumpster and he said Becky refused it? 8-9-24

-Maintenance Van is down and needs to be taken to shop to be looked at. Engine is sounding bad.
8-1-24 Van dropped off at the Transit Garage 8-6-24 Exhaust gasket blown out and new has been ordered 8-7-24

-Advance H/C repaired RTU 3 condenser coil and found that K-11 compressor 1 has a shorted-out thermostat winding. The compressor will need to be replaced, Advanced will be sending a quote within a week. 8-6-24.

-Kone Elevator Company to be on site Monday 8-19-20 to do the Pressure Release test.

Allen Eltringham, Reicker Maintenance

Discussed the recent elevator inspection, the issues with the hydraulic pressure test, and the need for a service contract with Kone to ensure regular maintenance and avoid emergency costs.

Discussed the benefits of setting up a service contract with Kone, including scheduling flexibility and cost savings. They also mentioned past confusion with Oracle and Kone.

Discussion on how often maintenance should be performed, with suggestions ranging from monthly to annually. Every six months for rail maintenance, with an annual comprehensive check.

Cheryl Brink, Treasurer

-A article was submitted to the commissioners for proof before going to the paper. The Treasurer's Office will now be offering E-Bills. To learn more about this process, please contact the Treasurer's Office or visit the website at www.morgancountytreasurer.org

Cindy Tuttle, Judy Ray, Jerry Matheney; BOE

Discussed the request for raises for BOE personnel.

Discussed a contract with ES&S that provided 5 free years of service, which has now ended, requiring payment. They expressed frustration with the company for not providing advance notice.

Steve Hook, Engineer; John Telez, Deputy Engineer

Discussed the need to revisit floodplain management regulations and their implementation. They mentioned previous conversations with a contractor, and the need to ensure that the current regulations are still appropriate. They also discussed the importance of understanding the financial implications and ensuring proper communication with contractors.

Discussed the financial implications of floodplain management, including the costs associated with staff time and resources. They mentioned the need to ensure that the budget is sufficient to cover these expenses.

A future meeting will be scheduled to revisit and discuss floodplain management regulations in detail.

Efforts will be made to improve communication with contractors to avoid misunderstandings.

Discussion on the importance of following floodplain regulations to ensure eligibility for FEMA funding and flood insurance. Emphasis on the need for contractors to be aware of and comply with these regulations.

Discussion on the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) inspections and the importance of maintaining proper documentation to pass these inspections

Discussion on the preliminary plans and funding for a bridge project. The need to address critical areas that restrict traffic and emergency access was talked about.

An effort should be made to communicate regulations to contractors to avoid non-compliance issues.

A public meeting with all contractors to explain regulations and procedures was suggested.

Correct documentation and compliance with regulations are essential to pass ODNR inspections.

Further discussions and planning are needed to address the critical areas and secure funding for the bridge project.

Heidi Burns, Job and Family Services

Mrs. Burns thanked the commissioners for reaching out to individuals during PRC Involvement.

Mystie Long, Pound Keeper

Decided to keep an employee on a probationary period due to her improved performance.

Discussed an incident where a foster dog bit a child and proposed changing fostering rules to exclude homes with small children. discussed the protocol for handling dogs that have bitten someone, including quarantine and potential euthanasia.

The commissioners raised concerns about the county's liability and costs associated with euthanizing dogs that have bitten someone.

Sophia Wiseman, OSU Extension

August 2024 OSU Extension Monthly report for Morgan Co. Commissioners

Sophia Whisman- 4-H Extension Educator

July 6th-10th Sophia assisted Pam Montgomery at 4-H Camp. Sophia provided nature programming and supervision as the dean of women and assistant camp director. July 17th Sophia held our still projects project judging. July 25th Sophia held Cloverbud Day Camp 18 kids attended, 1 Junior Leader and 4 Older Youth In Training and 2 camp counselors assisted the theme this year was “A Day At the Carnival” it was held at the fairgrounds. July 29th Sophia held makeup project judging for youth who could not attend the actual date. Sophia attended Junior Fair Board, Senior Fair Board, Older youth In Training/Junior Leaders and 4-H committee meetings this month.

August 5th royalty applications were due. We have 2 for Queen, 4 for Jr. Princess and 1 for Jr. Prince. August 12th Sophia visited the Muskingum County Fair to help with the Stock the Trailer event their Junior Fair Board does. August 13th Junior Fair Board had a workday cleaning up the fairgrounds preparing for the fair. Later that day Sophia also held royalty interviews for all who applied for royalty. August 17th Sophia held Skillathon, the project judging for all livestock projects. Pam assisted on this day. Sophia also attended this month Senior Fair Board, Older Youth In Training/junior Leaders and Sale Committee meetings.

Pam Montgomery-4-H/FCS Extension Educator and Area Leader

Pamela Montgomery reports the following related to her 4-H responsibilities. She developed the agendas for the 4-H Advisory committee and 4-H Horse Sub-Committee with assistance from

committee members and other staff members and attended the meeting on July 22nd. CARTEEN members meeting held on July 16th observed by older youth in-training. CARTEENS program held July 23rd 6 teen drivers and 5 parents participated in the program. She assisted with 4-H Project Judging and Skillathon. She held a 2024 4-H Camp Counselor wrap-up meeting, and she is beginning to work on 2025. She completed 10 Winning 4-H plans for 4-H members needing accommodations prior to project judging and Skillathon.

Family and Consumer Sciences upcoming programs Successful Co-Parenting August 19th 9:30 AM – 12 PM and Active Parenting for TEENS scheduled for six weeks in the months of October and November. Individuals can call the office at 740-962-4854 to register or learn more about the programs.

As Area Leader for Area 19 (Morgan, Muskingum, Perry, and Washington Counties) Pam attended 2 trainings through HR one on Staff Recruitment Process, and the other on Affirmative Action and EEO. She holds one-on-one meetings with staff members in all 4 counties, visits the counties, and attends staff meetings. Her recent visits included seeing staff at the Perry County Fair, Muskingum County Fair, and the Waterford Community Fair. She participated in interviews for Ameri CORP Public Health members and if individuals accept offers Morgan County will have two members from September 2024 through June 2025.

Kristina Moore- SNAP-Ed Coordinator/Educator

On July 16th Kristina completed the Head Start Summer Programming and tentatively scheduled Head Start programming for fall. Kristina led the McConnel Manor series Breakfast in a Mug. July 17th Kristina led Storytime programming at the Kate Love Simpson Library and attended the Community Health Coalition Meeting at the Health Department. July 19th saw the SNAP-Ed final programming series of the summer for Morgan County Board of DD summer camp. On the 23rd of July Kristina cared for the Community Garden. This garden harvest was one of about five (5) that have been placed at the JFS Community Garden table. On July 24th Kristina completed her portion of the summer Storytime programming at the Kate Love Simpson Library. Kristina had NFS training on July 25th, and on the July 26th helped with the Lutheran Social Services food

distribution and met with Tonya Lemon at Head Start to finalize fall Head Start programming. July 30th Kristina participated in the Morgan Behavioral Health Choices Learning about Feelings and Fitness Camp (LAFF). Healthy snack options and reducing sedentary behaviors were the topics. Kristina also cared for the Community Garden and was able again to share the harvest with the JFS Community Garden. On July 31st Kristina attended the SNAP-Ed Regional Conference.

August 6th Kristina led Breakfast in a Mug at McConnel Manor and watered and harvested another yield from the Community Garden that was placed at the JFS table. August 7th Kristina helped with the Morgan County United Ministries food distribution at Stockport and Chesterhill. August 8th through August 13th Kristina was on vacation. August 15th Kristina began her programming at the Senior Center with the current topic being about budgeting. To date approximately one hundred pounds of zucchini and growing amounts of bell peppers and tomatoes have been shared to the JFS table. Additionally, from March 25, 2024, to date SNAP-Ed has reached 214 direct and 1201 indirect persons within Morgan County.

Jordan Penrose- Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator

In July, Jordan Penrose provided his monthly TV interview on WHIZ news, talking about upcoming programs and ag topics like planting forages in August, and a regional update. The farmer's market has also been running very well, averaging 11 vendors each week. The farmers will continue with its weekly schedule, every Thursday from 11 am to 1 pm until the end of October. Jordan has also continued participating with four different farms as part of the LEP Monitoring Network, done by the Agronomic Crops Team. He has been tracking for corn earworm and western bean cutworm in corn fields. The western bean cutworm traps were completed at the end of July catching very low totals in the traps throughout the eight weeks that they were out.

Jordan also attended the National Association of County Agriculture Agents Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference (NACAA AM/PIC) in Dallas Texas. While at NACAA AM/PIC Jordan presented a poster on the annual beef and forage field night that takes place in

Jackson Ohio. The poster was submitted in the educational poster judged category, and Jordan was a national finalist.

Jordan has partnered with Morgan Soil and Water Conservation District to put on a couple of different programs in the past month. The first was the 22nd annual Ag and Livestock Field Day, which will be held on July 29th at Goshen Run Farms from 6-9 pm, there were over 140 people in attendance. The second program was Got Invasive Species on Your Farm, on August 12th which will be held at Bobby McInturf Farm from 6-8 pm, there were 40 people in attendance.

Jordan has participated in various meetings like the weekly corn call meeting to share updates about crops in Morgan County with his coworkers around the state. He also is a part of the beef and forage teams in which they share updates related to beef and forage, and the beef team worked a day up at the state fair at the steak barn. Jordan is also conducting different studies, one in the county on mechanical control of johnsongrass, and a couple of different studies at the Jackson Agriculture Research Station. With studies on hay growth and hay storage.

John Wilt, EMA; 911

Discuss the challenges of managing a building, potential restrictions, and the possibility of building a new facility. It was also consider the implications of leasing space and the potential for future property value appreciation.

Expressed concerns about the extent of control and interest that other entities might assert over the building, including the possibility of selling the property and dealing with federal and state agencies.

Discussed the potential for future renovations and the use of funds for different facilities. They consider the benefits of consolidating services into one building and the necessary upgrades.

Discussed issues with phone call routing, particularly with calls from certain exchanges going to voicemail instead of connecting properly. The commissioners mentioned that calls from 962 exchanges or house phones to a specific number were affected, while mobile calls were not.

A problem was mentioned with the Emergency Call Routing Function (ECRF) that was failing due to a bad gateway. This issue was identified on August 6th and resolved by August 16th.

There was a discussion about problems with transferring calls to the firehouse, leading to calls going to voicemail. It was noted that 911 calls were not affected by this issue.

Signed an agreement with Interaction Insight for recording equipment and discussed the timeline for equipment delivery and setup.

Shannon Wells, Development Office

Shannon Wells met with Tom Poorman and Brad Peoples from OhioSE last week via Zoom.

Brad is the new Project Manager for Morgan County that will be replacing Tom Poorman.

Shannon and Brad have a meeting scheduled with Miba Sinter on August 26, 2024 at 9:00am.

Shannon Wells attended the CIC meeting on August 13, 2024 at 4:00pm.

Shannon Wells met with Gabe Hayes from Wallace Pancher, a landscape architect group, to discuss services his company is providing in the county.

Commissioner Shriver and Shannon Wells attended a virtual meeting with MS Consultants to review findings of the county flood feasibility study for SR60 in McConnellsville.

Shannon Wells assisted Brian Garber from Chesterhill VFD on the one-time strategic investment fund grant application.

Commissioner Shriver and Shannon Wells met with Karen Hinkle, public transit office manager on August 15, 2024 to hear updates on public transit.

Shannon Wells and Treasurer, Cheryl Brink met with Monroe County Treasurer, Taylor Abbott to discuss Monroe County land bank.

There will be a ground breaking event for the new Appalachian Hills Visitors Center on Wednesday, September 4. This event will be by invitation only.

Shannon Wells and Tracy Simons will be attending a small community's seminar tomorrow at Buckeye Hills.

The commissioner held an Issue 1-County Sub-Committee Ohio Public Works meeting at 11:00 with the following members present: Shannon Wells, Development Office; Terry McGrath, Darel Kuntz, Tim Louis, Village of McConnelsville; Richard Welsh, Commissioner; Cecil Mayle, Commissioner, Adam Shriver, Commissioner John Telez, Deputy Engineer; Sheila Welch Commissioners' Clerk.

24-415- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to appoint their representative to be Commissioner Mayle.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-416- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to appoint their alternate representative as Commissioner Shriver.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

Ray McCommas, Kinder's Insurance

Discussed an incident involving deer, costing about \$4,500.

Mentioned an issue with a contract related to an outfitter, which was not properly put together.

They were looking to ensure proper wording and liability insurance in similar agreements.

Mr. McCommas asked about the land bank. The commissioners confirmed it is in the process.

Mr. McCommas mentioned other counties with similar programs and offered assistance.

It was also reported resolving an issue related to new doctors and nurses in the community. They clarified the scope of practice for administering vaccinations in non-emergency situations. The issue was resolved, and it was confirmed that the health department staff can administer vaccinations within their scope of practice.

Mark Howdyshell, Prosecutor

Discussion on the jurisdiction and management of floodplain regulation, including whether the floodplain administrator should report directly to the commissioners or remain under the engineer's office. The prosecutor advised the commissioners the floodplain administrator should be separate from the engineer's office and work directly for the commissioners.

Discussion on Deputy Engineer John Telez's role as the new Engineer and his capacity to manage floodplain issues. He will likely hire someone to handle floodplain issues, and the commissioners should have control over this hire.

Clarification on the separation of floodplain issues from other county matters such as deed research and auditor tasks were also discussed. It was decided Floodplain issues should be distinctly managed, separate from other county matters.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

Discussed having different phone numbers and issues with full voicemail inboxes.

Discussion about a dog bite incident who is on the no adoption list due to previous issues.

Concerns about the risks involved in fostering dogs and the unpredictability of dog behavior.

A dog attack on a person, including the severity of the bite was talked about and the circumstances leading to the attack.

Submitted report

-Full report can be found online at:

https://www.morgancounty-oh.gov/dog_warden_reports.html

Dwyane Hostetler

The commissioners discussed the need to check the balance of the funds available before starting a new project. It was also mentioned that some checks needed to clear before they could confirm the available amount.

Amber Wilson, Senior Citizen Director

Mentioned preparations for the fair and that 105 people had signed up so far.

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

There was another outage for Brightspeed phone lines this week. Brightspeed lines were ringing busy when called from outside of Brightspeed's network and calls from a Brightspeed number to

another network would not go through. The problem appeared to be in the core routers at Brightspeed. Troubleshooting is ongoing by Brightspeed at the time of this meeting.

The new service provider for the Board of Elections (BOE), ServerSim, was in this week to install their remote access software on the computers in the BOE. After the remote access software was installed, ServerSim set up the remote backups for all the BOE servers and computers.

One of the old firewall computers was rebuilt for the EMA office to use with their badge printer. The computer had to use an older version of Windows, so it was rebuilt with Windows 2000. This was the newest version that did not require online registration with Microsoft. For security reasons, this computer needs to be kept offline and will only run the badge printer and related software.

The IT Director asked the Commissioners to purchase a package of 50 each 2032 button batteries from Amazon for \$9.99. The batteries are used in computers to keep the BIOS settings during power outages. A number of older computers in the County are having problems with expired BIOS batteries. The Commissioners approved the request.

Transfers, Then & Now, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

24-417- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to grant permission TO United Telephone Co. of Ohio/CenturyLink/Luman/Brightspeed to bore in ROW CR58, located in Township of Union, Morgan County, Ohio.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-418- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to approve the following:

Recently the commissioners approved two new fund accounts to record and separate 1st half versus 2nd real property and trailer taxes. The money collected for 2nd half was put into the original fund as the funds weren't approved prior to 2nd half collection. Please see the following transfers for money received for 2nd half taxes:

Please transfer 7,179,723.03 from 304-0304-5301.00 First Half Real Estate Expense to 0604-4001.00 Second Half Real Estate Revenue

Please transfer \$51,903.92 from 311-0311-5301.00 First Half Trailer Expense to 611-0611-4001.00 Second Half Trailer Revenue

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-419- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to supplemental appropriations for fund 085 Revolving Loan Fund:

Salary	085-0085-5102-00	\$ 5,000.00
Other Expense	085-0085-5309-00	\$20,000.00
PERS	085-0085-5367-00	\$ 750.00
Medicare	085-0085-5368-00	\$ 100.00
Septic Loan Disbursement	085-0085-5370-00	\$ 5,000.00
Septic Client %:	085-0085-5371-00	\$ 8,000.00

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-420- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to approve the following supplemental appropriations:

Supplementally Appropriate \$5,000.00 to line item 102-0102-5301.00 Broadband

Supplementally Appropriate \$500.00 to line item 001-0102-5307-00 Auditor Travel

Supplementally Appropriate \$10,000.00 to line item 001-0102-5306.00 Auditor Contracts

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-421 Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to request a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$6,766.00 for reimbursement for the SOS 2024 November Readiness grant funding to line item 001-0301-5306.00 contract services on the date of August 19, 2024.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-422- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to request the following supplemental appropriations for fund 105 rural housing Preservation

Expense (Rural Housing Preservation) 105-0105-5301-00 \$50,000.00

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-423- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to request the following supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$150,000.00 to be put in Engineer's K12 Materials Expense fund 004-0004-5330.00.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-424-Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

24-425- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to adjourn the commissioners meeting Monday, August 19, 2024 at 4:00pm.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mr. Shriver, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

Cecil Mayle, President

Adam Shriver, Vice-President

Richard Welsh, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

