

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of the Morgan County Commissioners met in their offices on Monday, August 24, 2009 with the following members present:

Dean Cain, President
Don Reynolds, Vice-President
Mike Reed, Member

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The minutes of the August 17, 2009 meeting were read and approved.

09-401 Motion by Mr. Dean Cain and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to approve the minutes from August 17, 2009.

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- yea. Motion Carried

A request was submitted by Embarq Telephone. to place a pole for aerial cable alongside County Road 2, located in Windsor Township, Morgan County, Ohio. Construction of this project will begin on or about August 27th, 2009 and will be completed by August 28th, 2009. Permission granted upon approval by the Morgan County Engineer.

Commissioners are in receipt of a letter submitted by Central Ohio Coal Company requesting a Phase III bond release for 276.8 acres affected by the aforementioned coal mine and reclamation permit, located in Section Nos. 6, 7, 18, 19, 20 and 30, Manchester Township, and Section Nos. 1, 12, 13, 24 and 25 in Bristol Township, Morgan County, Ohio.

Kelly Caldwell, S.P.O.T., questioned Commissioners on obtaining one kennel license this year for foster dogs. This license would not be used for their personal dogs. Commissioner Cain stated they would need to speak with the Prosecutor Mark Howdyshell, but they did not see any problems with it. S.P.O.T. will have a booth at the Morgan County Fair.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden, reported traveling 146.4 miles responding to dog calls. Mrs. Thompson stated 3 dogs were picked up, 2 dogs were euthanized, and S.P.O.T took 4 dogs. Becky informed Commissioners that S.P.O.T donated a scanner for the Dog Warden's use. Ms. Caldwell elaborated and stated the scanner was donated from Bayer Animal Health to S.P.O.T for the County Dog Warden. Commissioners thanked S.P.O.T. for everything they have done and money they have saved the County. Kelly noted on September 5th, at the Spay/Neuter Clinic, dog owners can microchip their pets for a charge consisting of \$15.00 per dog.

Mike Totman, Court Administrator and Chief Probations Officer, had a discussion with the Commissioners concerning the Southeastern Ohio Regional Joint Jail.

Pam Montgomery, OSU Extension, updated Commissioners on 4-H, Family and Consumer Science, Ag and Natural Resources. Mrs. Montgomery stated President Gordon Gee will be visiting Morgan County. The 4-H Theatre Arts Group, Extension staff and 4-H members is going to meet Mr. Gee at the Opera House. RECYCLE Day, sponsored by the Junior Leaders and the Food Board was held on Saturday, August

22nd. Seven different clubs participated and they collected a total of 7417 lbs of recyclables. Skilathons were held August 20th for horses and August 22nd for livestock. The Extension Office is preparing for the Morgan County Fair. The Extension staff will be at the Fair on September 8th. The following upcoming Family and Consumer Science programs will be offered: Behavior Management of Children on August 27th, 6:30pm-8:30pm; Helping Children Cope with Divorce on September 15th, 6:30pm-8:30pm. Mrs. Montgomery informed Commissioners over 90 attended the Ag and Livestock Day. Chris Penrose and Extension staff want to give a special thanks to Bob and Mary Jean Dietz for being hosts and for all they did to make it a success. Plans are being finalized for two Grazing Council meetings this fall. The Farm Science Review will be held on September 22-24. Tickets are available at the Extension office for \$5.00. A discussion was held concerning OSU's carryover.

Martha Sullivan, Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner's Office, spoke with Commissioners concerning House Bill 260. Martha informed Commissioners this bill will save money for the state and make the elections more concise. Martha stated the special elections for each year would be incorporated into the primary or general elections. Special elections would only occur if there was a vacancy in an office and this could be done by mail. House Bill 260 minimizes the overuse and undercounting of provisional ballots by amending the "change of address" and provisional ballot rules. Martha informed Commissioners Secretary Brunner launched an online resource "Better Lives, Better Ohio." This online resource helps Ohioans better understand the challenges facing our state as well as identify our state's areas of success. County-by-county information can be found within "Better Lives, Better Ohio" such as: natural resources, economic factors, health statistics, crime, census data and citizen involvement at the Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner's website: www.sos.state.oh.us

Vicki Quesinberry, Director, Job and Family Services, submitted meeting requests for Vicki Quesinberry to "Canton District Directors" meeting, on September 1st, in Coshocton County; Jody Murray and Heidi Burns to Columbus on September 1st, for updates on funding for children services. Ms. Quesinberry submitted the September 2009 Mandated Share in the amount of \$5,772.43. A discussion was held concerning a possible lay-off within Children Services.

Janis McFerren, Mid-East Career Center, and Ann Combs, Secrest Auditorium, invited the Commissioners to attend the Public Safety Awareness Day: Honoring Our Local Heroes, on October 17th, at 7:00pm, at the Secrest Auditorium. This event covers a 6 county area. Awards will be given to an Emergency Medical Service worker, Firefighter and a Peace Officer for each county. Ms. McFerren and Ms. Combs stated they would like to see this be an annual event.

Shannon Wells, Morgan County Commissioners' Development Office, opened the cost estimates for a septic system project. Cost estimates were received from: Cy Copeland in the amount of \$5975.00, Bill McGrew in the amount of \$5700.00, and Terry Spears in the amount of \$5940.00. Mrs. Wells requested the cost estimates be tabled for review.

09-402 Motion by Mr. Mike Reed and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to table the cost estimates for a septic system project further review, as requested by Shannon Wells, Morgan County Commissioners' Development Office.

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- abstain. Motion Carried

Shannon Wells, Morgan County Commissioners' Development Office, discussed Transit contracting with a local entity and running out of parking space. A discussion was held concerning renting a larger facility for Transit. Mrs. Wells discussed the Ohio Department of Development not accepting the Pennsville Formula Project. ODD will not fund maintenance equipment. Mrs. Wells stated a replacement project is needed.

Commissioners suggested Mrs. Wells contact Pennsville and see if they have any other projects that could be considered.

Bob Sears, American Legion, discussed a past due rent bill for the space occupied by the Veterans Service Office. The Commissioners had a lease agreement with the American Legion for space which was utilized by the Veterans Service Office. Effective August 1st, 2009, the Veterans Service Office is paying for their rent. The County still owes the American Legion \$400 for the past due rent bill.

Jim Greer, Greer Insurance, discussed the current two options for the county's health insurance with Commissioners.

Gary Miller, Central Ohio Coal Company, David Hooper, Terry Kidd, Trustee for Meigsville Township, and Tom Archer, AEP, discussed County Road 11. The road is scheduled to open January 10th, 2009. Mr. Miller requested the road remain closed for the safety of the public and the miners for an additional 4 ½ years. Most of the area has been reclaimed but Central Ohio Coal still has an obligation to the State of Ohio. Mr. Miller stated he spoke with the Engineer concerning County Road 11. Extending the closure of this road does not take away from any ones private property, as stated by Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller provided an aerial photograph for review of County Road 11 and the surrounding areas. County Road 11 solely lies on Central Ohio Coal Company property. Central Ohio Coal Company is responsible for the road for a period of one year after it is turned back over to the county. Commissioner Reed stated he would like to see this settled. Mr. Kidd stated the Meigsville Township Trustees has no objection to extending the closure of County Road 11 nor does Tom Archer, AEP.

09-403 Motion by Mr. Mike Reed and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to table the request by Gary Miller, Central Ohio Coal Company, to extend the closure of County Road 11 for one week.

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- yea. Motion Carried

09-404 Motion by Mr. Mike Reed and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to approve a transfer of funds from Repairs line item #001-0301-5305.00 and place into Supplies line item #001-0301-5303.00, as requested by Miranda Mullen, Board of Elections.

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- yea. Motion Carried

09-405 Motion by Mr. Don Reynolds and seconded by Mr. Mike Reed to approve a supplemental appropriation in the 063-0063-5310.00 Miscellaneous Expense line item for \$2373.00, as requested by Terry McGrew, Health Department.

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- yea. Motion Carried

09-406 Motion by Mr. Mike Reed and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to approve the establishment of a new line item in the Help Me Grow fund 073-0073-5369.01 and Lice fund for Unemployment 075-0075-5369.01; also, approve a transfer of funds in the amount of \$700.00 from 075-0075-5303.00 Supplies and place into 075-0075-5369.01 Unemployment, as requested by Terry McGrew, Health Department.

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- yea. Motion Carried

09-407 Motion by Mr. Don Reynolds and seconded by Mr. Dean Cain to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 PM

Vote Don Reynolds- yea, Mike Reed- yea, Dean Cain- yea. Motion Carried

Commissioners,

Dean Cain, President

Don Reynolds, Vice-President

Mike Reed, Member

Andrea Plummer, Clerk