

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of the Morgan County Commissioners met in their offices on Monday, February 22, 2010 with the following members present:

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

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The minutes of the February 16, 2010 meeting were read and approved.

10-98 Motion by Mr. Mike Reed and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to approve the minutes from February 16, 2010.

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

Shannon Wells, Morgan County Commissioners' Development Office, Thomas C. Jenkins Sr., Sheriff, and Rick Axline, ShremShock Architects Inc., met with Commissioners to talk about Phase I, Development Process, for a new jail. Mr. Axline educated the board of a variety of jails located in Ohio counties. Guidelines must be followed by the Bureau of Adult Detention and American Corrections Association. Phase I involves an Analysis of Needs Assessment; this identifies how many beds are necessary based on a wide range of factors, which include inmate population, felonies and misdemeanors, female and male inmate population. A Site Analysis needs to be accomplished. Morgan County has a nice site which is a giant hurdle, Rick declared. A Functional Program must be prepared; this identifies how the Sheriff will run the facility based on the design that will be acknowledged through the Needs Assessment. In addition to the Functional Program, an Architectural Program must also be completed. This identifies each space of square footage which is furthermore based on the Needs Assessment. The Architectural Program moreover provides a basis for cost. Mr. Axline laid out architectural designs of the Coshocton County's jail for review. Rick explained in detail each sheet and the importance of lines of sight. Sheriff Jenkins and Commissioners expressed their opinions and expectations, and inquired on an assortment of options.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden, reported traveling 136.2 miles responding to dog calls. Mrs. Thompson stated 4 dogs were picked up, 3 dogs were redeemed, and 1 dog was taken by S.P.O.T, and 1 dog was sold. Becky submitted a copy of a letter constructed by Chuck Grubb, commending her for her for the way she handled a beagle dog named Bandit.

Vicki Quesinberry, Director, Job and Family Services, submitted meeting request for Kim Reed and Tina Work to attend "Program Operator's meeting", in Caldwell, on February 24th. A copy of the IV-D Contract was submitted for Commissioner's file.

A letter of support was signed for the Morgan County Learning Center for the proposal to add the Learning Center as an off-site location at which Washington State Community College can offer certificate and associate degree programs.

A letter of support was signed for the Morgan County Learning Center for the Safety and Security Project.

Dave Bailey inquired on a resolution to affirm appointment for himself as the principal representative and Sheriff Thomas C. Jenkins, Sr. to be the alternate representative to Ohio Homeland Security Region Eight Interoperable Communications and Governance Committee.

10-99 Motion by Mr. Dean Cain and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to approve the following:

**A RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO
OHIO HOMELAND SECURITY REGION EIGHT INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Whereas, the Morgan County Ohio has been assigned to Region Eight of the Ohio Homeland Security Planning initiative, and;

Whereas, Ohio Homeland Security Region Eight has established the Ohio Homeland Security Region Eight Interoperable Communications and Governance Committee, and;

Whereas, a representative from each member county is to be appointed to the Ohio Homeland Security Region Eight Interoperable Communications and Governance Committee by the county Homeland Security Advisory Committee or its equivalent as recognized by the County Commissioners, and;

Whereas, the Morgan County Homeland Security Advisory Committee/Morgan County Interoperability Communications Committee has recommended David L. Bailey to be the principal representative and Sheriff Thomas C. Jenkins, Sr. to be the alternate representative to the Ohio Homeland Security Region Eight Interoperable Communications and Governance Committee.

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Morgan County Board of Commissioners do hereby affirm and ratify the appointment of David L. Bailey to be the principal representative and Sheriff Thomas C. Jenkins, Sr. to be the alternate representative to the Ohio Homeland Security Region Eight Interoperable Communications and Governance Committee.

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

A citizen questioned the levies and why property owners are always hit with taxes. He declared property owners are punished for owning property and inquired why it's not spread out to everyone in the county. Commissioner Cain confirmed landowners pay for a majority of the taxes. Commissioner Reed acknowledged that local governments have to operate that way; that's the only recourse they have is by asking the citizens for their support. Regardless if a registered voter is a property owner or not they still has the right to vote for a levy. All three Commissioners agree that property owners are constantly taxed and it should be spread out to everyone in the county.

Stevan Hook, Engineer, clued-up Commissioners on engine issues on one of the trucks at the Highway Department. Steve requested permission to purchase a used Broce RCT350 self propelled 9 foot up-front road sweeper from Southeastern Equipment.

10-100 Motion by Mr. Dean Cain and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to authorize Stevan Hook, Engineer, to purchase a used Broce RCT350 self propelled 9 foot up-front road sweeper from Southeastern Equipment.

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

Shannon Wells, Morgan County Commissioners' Development Office, informed Commissioners Transit's new 12 passenger van was delivered Friday. This van was 100% paid by stimulus dollars.

Marilyn Horner spoke on the behalf of the Fiscal Officers for Morgan County Township Trustees Association and inquired on the status of broadband being expanded throughout the county. Marilyn, Clerk for Union Township, explained a lot of the reporting for Fiscal Officers is done electronically. Commissioner Reed exclaimed he understood that Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley and Connect Ohio did not receive enough stimulus money for the project of providing county wide wi-fi. Commissioner Reed mentioned Par-Mar in Malta has free wi-fi. Commissioner Reed suggested someone needs to form a statewide citizen coalition to pressure the P.U.C.O. (Public Utilities Commissions of Ohio) into mandating all local telecommunications providers to offer high speed broadband to all of their customers. Commissioner Reed acknowledged his belief that some of the states surrounding Ohio have already done that.

Doug Matheney spoke with Commissioners and presented two resolutions for Commissioners approval.

10-101 Motion by Mr. Dean Cain and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to reiterate the same resolution from July 16, 2009, as follows:

A RESOLUTION supporting restoration of competition within the biotechnology industry and agriculture seed markets.

WHEREAS, the Morgan County Board of Commissioners supports competition and the freedom of choice within the agricultural seed market; and

WHEREAS, Morgan County farmers are more competitive in the global marketplace when given increased access to new biotechnology and seed products; and

WHEREAS, competitive biotechnology and seed markets benefit Morgan County farmers by creating additional choices and lowering input costs; and

WHEREAS, anti-competitive behavior in the biotechnology industry inhibits yield-increasing research and innovations; and

WHEREAS, further advancements in agricultural productivity are dependent on having a complete set of innovative and diverse technologies available on the open market; and

WHEREAS, lack of competition in the biotechnology industry and seed market leads to increased pricing for farmers; and

WHEREAS, increased pricing for farmers can be passed along to consumers everywhere in the form of higher food and commodity pricing;

Resolved, That the Morgan County Board of Commissioners

1. Morgan County farmers require and deserve a wide array of innovative technological options in order to meet the growing global demand for agriculture; and
2. Supports efforts to increase competition within the biotechnology industry and seed markets for the purpose of bringing greater choice and lower costs to Morgan County farmers.

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

10-102 Motion by Mr. Don Reynolds and seconded by Mr. Dean Cain to approve the following resolution, as presented by Doug Matheney:

Whereas, universal access to broadband is essential to the prosperity of American; and

Whereas, spurring broadband access and adoption in remote areas of the country will build a stronger foundation in which future generations can experience the benefits of broadband enabled technologies and will allow our country to reach its full potential

The Board of Commissioners, Morgan County, therefore resolves, to work with Broadband for America, and its members, to achieve its primary goals of:

Educating policymakers and stakeholders on key fundamentals of how the Internet and wireless networks work;

Leading the policy discussion and driving the debate on how we as a nation can achieve broadband everywhere; and

Work with President Obama, key agencies like the FCC and NTIA, and Congress to develop and promote policies that maximize access and adoption through increased investment in better and smarter wire line and wireless network technology.

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

10-103 Motion by Mr. Dean Cain and seconded by Mr. Don Reynolds to approve the following transfer of funds for Transit, as requested by Traci Baker, Morgan County Commissioners' Development Office:

Transfer \$25,000.00 from the 113-0113-5102.00 Salary Line Item and place into 113-0113-5102.02 Dispatcher Line Item.

Transfer \$1000.00 from the 113-0113-5368.00 Medicare Line Item and place into 113-0113-5368.02 Dispatcher Medicare Line Item.

Transfer \$3500.00 from the 113-0113-5367.00 PERS Line Item and place into 113-0113-5367.02 Dispatcher PERS Line Item.

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

10-104 Motion by Mr. Don Reynolds and seconded by Mr. Mike Reed to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 PM

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

Commissioners,

Mike Reed, President

Don Reynolds, Vice-President

Dean Cain, Member

Andrea Plummer, Clerk