

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, March 21, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 8:30am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Tom Bragg, President
Adam Shriver, Vice-President
Richard Welsh, Member

22-122- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to approve the minutes of March 14, 2022.

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

. Mr. Bragg met with a Representative from AEP on Tuesday concerning the Lawn Waste Site.
-Also on Tuesday, Mr. Shriver met with Mrs. Wells as well as Mr. Vyenlak to discuss Opportunity Zone.

Al Eltringham, Reicker Maintenance

-Discussed replacing a few emergency lights. An air compressor is in the process of being purchased. Mr. Eltringham will probably begin mowing soon.

Trina Webb, Court of Common Pleas

-Requested commissioners to sign Probation Services grant papers.

Heidi Burns, JFS

-Basement issues with water leakage

- Issue in Heidi's office
- Issue in Lobby
- Women's bathroom by lunch room

-Milage rate increase

-Contract—Health Department for Home Based Service

-Children Services—tuition assistance program

-HOFNOD Sponsor

-Reminder of April 9th—Spring Family Fest

-Travel Request

- Heidi Burns & Keri Schaad to Leadership Conference in Sugarcreek on 3/30—4/1/22

- Heidi Burns to ECODA Meeting in Coshocton on 4/5/22

22-123- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to enter executive session at 9:17am pursuant to ORC 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

Mr. Shriver yea Mr. Bragg yea Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

22-124- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to exit executive session at 9:37am pursuant to ORC 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

Mr. Shriver yea Mr. Bragg yea Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Dog Report-filed

Chris Penrose; Lydia Flores, OSU Extension

Junior Fair Board is preparing for their first fundraiser of the year. The Mother's Day BINGO. Members gather supplies, prize basket items, and run the event held at the fairgrounds on Saturday, May 7th from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

We have added a total of four new adult volunteers for the Morgan County 4-H program this year. All of them will be assisting their 4-H clubs in project and resource management.

Saturday, March 12th, Ohio 4-H members, volunteers, and staff met at the Columbus Convention Center, since the pandemic, to celebrate and share county resources and knowledge. Lydia taught two sessions: one covered song leading for 4-H camps and the other discussed writing thank you notes.

March 7th, Pam, Megan, and Lydia finished up their in-person volunteer training programs. For volunteers that were unable to attend, they have received instructions on how to complete their annual training requirements online. All training and enrollments are due by the April 1st deadline.

Livestock Quality Assurance training programs will begin in late April. This training is for all livestock exhibitors taking market animals to the Morgan County Fair. Each year, three of the ten Good Production Practices are selected as areas of focus. This year, livestock exhibitors will learn about being good environmental stewards, proper workplace safety, and animal handling and care.

The Morgan County Junior Leaders are preparing for their first Cloverbud STEM Day event that will take place Monday, April 18th from 10 a.m. to Noon at the fairgrounds. The Junior Leaders have selected "the month of April" as their theme which includes activities involving rabbits, earth day, April fools, and spring. This event is open to all 4-H Cloverbud members and cost \$5. Space is limited due to the small number of activity leaders.

Farewell from Lydia. With a heavy heart, I want to share that, I will be transitioning into a new position to serve as the Marion County 4-H Extension Educator. I want to express my sincerest thanks for your passion, dedication, and continuous support of the Morgan County 4-H program and welcoming me into your community with open arms. You all have helped my personal and professional development throughout the past few years, especially during the global pandemic.

During my time in Morgan County, I learned that our families are very busy with children in sports, church, or jobs that wait times for project judging and skillathons were quite long for busy schedules, so we found a way to help accommodate those schedules with project judging appointment times for them to select a time that worked for them, and we sorted families by last name so that siblings could complete skillathons at the same time. I also learned that our older youth are strong and caring leaders. The Morgan County Junior Leaders were able to provide a way to include our Cloverbud members with an educational event known as the Cloverbud STEM Days. It has been an amazing experience to watch these teens teach younger members about science concepts and grow into confident leaders. Lastly, I learned that our volunteers and families wanted more ways to stay connected and updated with the 4-H program, so we built the 4-H blog site to share immediate information about upcoming events and reminders.

I'm thrilled and blessed to have spent the time with the youth and volunteers of the Morgan County 4-H program, and Morgan County with its beautiful views, local support, and friendly community will always hold a special place in my heart.

The process for hiring a new 4-H Extension Educator has begun, and I trust that the staff in the office will be able to continue to support the Morgan County 4-H program until someone new joins the team. I do challenge you all to continue to make the best better for the youth, volunteers, and community and welcome the next 4-H educator with open arms. Again, thank you so much for shaping me into who I am today.

I have notified the Kate Love Simpson Library board about my job transition, and I suggested that the partnership with OSU Extension is a valued arrangement for both parties. Therefore, I recommended to Tara that Amy Kirkbride, our office associate, to serve on the board.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Update, Chris Penrose

I am pleased to announce that we have several excellent programs planned in the next month. First, the Morgan County Cattleman's will meet on Monday, April 4th, 7 p.m. at the Morgan H.S. Vo-Ag room. Dr. Tim McDermott will have a talk on two new ticks that are causing issues for cattle in our area. Dr. John Groah will provide updates on new products and issues facing our cattle as well. I will finish the evening with an interesting update on two research projects my colleagues and I have worked on the past five years on winter grazing and mowing to control weeds. Very interesting results. Next, OSU Extension is collaborating with Central State Extension and Rural Action to provide two Bee Keeping programs. The first will be Tuesday, April 5th, 6 p.m. at the Morgan H.S. Vo-Ag room on Getting Starting Beekeeping. The next will be on Saturday, April 23rd, 1 p.m. at the Chesterhill Produce Auction and we will look at operating bee hives and discuss challenges and skills needed. The final program I want to

announce will be and fun and inspirational. The Morgan County Master Gardeners, Kate Love Simpson Library and the Twin City Opera House are sponsoring an event presented by Julie Zickefoose. Her topic will be “Personal Habitat: Creating a Haven for Wildlife and Yourself”. She will take us through time and space as she has developed her gardens for maximum diversity and enjoyment. This promises to be a wonderful evening on Monday, April 25th, 6 p.m. at the Twin City Opera House. Call the Extension office at 740-962-4854 for reservations to this and the bee keeping meetings.

In the past month, I have provided pesticide recertification and fertilizer recertification programs to producers in the county and a spring gardening program. The Master Gardener training continues to progress with the final two classes the next two Thursday’s.

I also have provided a soils presentation to Ag Educators in Ohio, spoke at the Ohio New and Small Farm Conference in Mansfield, and the Appalachian Grazing Conference in Morgantown WV.

Finally, I continue to write weekly articles in the Morgan County Herald, statewide ag publications and a county newsletter.

John Sampson, Transit

-Discussed an individual who has an issue with paying for transit rides for children they are currently fostering after sporting events.

Mark Howdyshell, Prosecutor

-Discussed meeting throughout the past week as well as sat in on Mrs. Well’s report.

Calvin Dixon, TMA Construction

-Discussed land issues as well as delinquent taxes.

Shannon Wells, Development Office

Shannon Wells continues to work on funding for the roadway project on North State Route 60 to install a center turn lane beginning near the Advanced Auto location and ending near Miba Sinter. The project is estimated at \$1,600,000. Tom Poorman, Ohio Southeast (Ohio SE) has submitted a funding request to JobsOhio for the remaining gap of \$569,000 and they are very interested in supporting the project. They would like to see a local contribution and have requested the board of commissioners consider making a financial investment towards the project.

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) sent a letter that the grant request for a waterline extension project on SR60 has been selected for further consideration. Environmental

coordination letters and single audit update on status of rectifying deficiencies are some of the items required to be submitted by March 25, 2022.

Shannon Wells and Tom Poorman, Ohio SE have been working with the Central Services Manager at Miba Bearings on a training grant through JobsOhio. Miba Bearings is working to align their staff credentialing with the National Institute of Metal Working Skills (NIMS).

A meeting of the Tax Incentive Review Committee will be held on March 21, 2022 at 2:00pm to discuss current tax abatement agreements in the county.

Community Ambulance has requested a meeting with the Economic Development Office and the County Commissioners for Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 10:00am to discuss ambulance needs in Morgan County.

A meeting with Kate Perani, Rise Ohio is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2022 to discuss the application process for Opportunity Appalachia. Rise Ohio is a project offered to provide technical assistance for opportunity zone areas in the Buckeye Hills region.

-The commissioners attended a Tax Incentive meeting in the Development Office.

22-125- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to allow Atlantic Emergency Solutions to assume the tax abatement given to Finley Fire Equipment for 2022 and 2023 as recommended by the Morgan County Enterprise Zone board.

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

22-126- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to amend the Morgan County Bed Tax administration and collection:

- a.) Morgan County CVB will be the registration agent and may retain the registration fee.
- b.) Morgan County Auditor will remain the tax collection agent.
- c.) Section 21-2A.10, 21-2A.20, 21-2A.30, and 21-2A.40 in its entirety.

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

Jeff Babcock, It Administrator

-No Report

Transfers, Then & Nows, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

22-127- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to provide supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$40,578.00 to line item #001-0301-5306.00 (contract expenses) which is the appropriated funds from the SOS for the May 3,2022 Primary Election.

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

22-128-Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

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

22-129- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to recess the commissioners meeting until Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 10:00am.

Mr. Bragg absent, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

22-130- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to reconvene commissioner's meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 10:00am.

Mr. Bragg absent, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

Jeff Michaels, Lindsey Gates, Health Department; Traci Baker, Development Office; Jeff McInturf, Surveyor; Adam Shriver, Richard Welsh, Steve Hook, Gary Woodward, Elected Officials

-A meeting was held in the Commissioner's Office discuss regulations concerning operations as we as maintenance of home septic systems. Property from the year 2007 to current date is included in this law. According to Ohio Administrative Code 3701-29-08 (B) any person proposing a subdivision or new lot for review by the board of health shall submit an application and sufficient information to determine compliance with the requirements of this chapter. The Morgan County Health Department is required by the OAC to implement and maintain and Operations and Maintenance Program for all existing and newly installed sewage treatment systems.

In order to fulfill the requirements set forth in OAC 3701-29-08 and 3701-29-19, the Morgan County Board of Health passed a resolution in August of 2021.

22-131- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to recess the commissioners meeting until Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 11:00am.

Mr. Bragg absent, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

22-132- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to reconvene commissioner's meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 10:00am.

Mr. Bragg absent, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

Adam Shriver, Richard Welsh, Commissioners

-A meeting was held in the Development Office to discuss Morgan County Ambulance Service.

22-133- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to adjourn the Commissioner's Meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 12:00pm?

Mr. Bragg absent, Mr. Shriver yea, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

Tom Bragg, President

Adam Shriver, Vice-President

Richard Welsh, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

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