

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Tuesday, October 11, 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

\*Cecil Mayle observed the commissioner's office from at 8:30am until 1:00pm.

**22-397-** Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to approve the minutes of October 3, 2022.

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

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

-On Tuesday, Commissioner Shriver began working on the Desk Review and audit for the Office of Budget Management for CARES Act expenditures. Gathered information from the Auditor's office, Commissioner's office, Sheriff's Office, and Dept. of Jobs and Family Services. Then began the response letter.

He also attended a meeting at the EMA office to discuss the purchase of a CAD system for 911.

Commissioner Shriver Worked on a draft letter on behalf of the commissioners Wednesday.

He met with Sheriff to discuss 911 and desk review on CARES Act expenditures Thursday.

Friday, Commissioner Shriver Attended Buckeye Hills Regional Council meeting and Buckeye Hills Corporation meeting. Met with Shannon Wells to sign the EDA water grant. Also discussed several other projects being worked on.

He Spoke with Alan Eltringham, deputy pound keeper, about the number of dogs currently at the pound and the need for additional crates.

Monday, (Oct. 10) submitted the response to OMB on behalf of Morgan County for desk review/audit for CARES Act expenditures.

Commissioner Welsh accompanied Allen and Chris Adkins to the impound lot while they fixed the drainage issue.

***Randy Williams, Auditor***

-Discussed the disk audit that was prepared and submitted by Adam on behalf of the county. Mr. Williams will call the auditor to get clarification about an overpayment.

***John Wilt, EMA***

- Ohio Emergency Operations Center coordination calls Thursdays at 1300 hours
- Continue updating Morgan County Resource Guide.
- Continue purging and reorganizing files. Organizing certificates for NIMS, ICS training, etc.
- Various 9-1-1 meetings
- Received new dual fuel 10kw generator, cords and light set
- Delivered 4 6 packs of Citizen Aid kits to Sheriff McGrath.
- Monthly IPAWS Test
- Investigated possible gas leak near county line on SR60 N.

***Al Eltringham, Reicker Maintenance***

-Got the lights for the gazebo at the Grove. Will call Jason Pierce to install.

-Discussed the courthouse clock bell. They fixed and will repair permanently soon. Bryan painted parking lines at the courthouse parking lot also.

-Discussed the Senior Center project.

***Heidi Burns, JFS***

-Community Action—Amendment to Meals Contract

-Agency wide DISC training on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, agency will not open until 1:30pm that day.

-FCFC meeting reminder on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>---Heidi will not be there.

-Agency Personnel switches.

-Minimum wage increasing to \$10.10 effective January 1, 2023.

-Job Fair—around 30 applicants came through with 13 employers, Carpenter’s Union is trying to hire around 3,000 for the new intel plant.

-Mandated Share for October, 2022 \$3,363.17

***Steve Hook, Engineer; Shannon Wells, Development Office***

-A meeting was held to discuss the Reconnecting Communities Grant with Morgan County Engineer, Steve Hook, Morgan County Economic Development Director, Shannon Wells and the Morgan County Commissioners. This grant would provide funding to complete a planning study on the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

***Shannon Wells, Economic Development Director***

A virtual meeting was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 with project engineer Alan Brown, Verdantas to discuss the Burr Oak Regional Water Expansion from Bishopville towards Malta.

Mr. Brown was looking to see if grant assistance was available to help with the cost to run lines to connect to low-income households from the tap to their home. Burr Oak Regional Water will be offering free taps to customers that sign up within the allotted time period.

Morgan County Public Transit will be receiving two new modified mini vans delivered today. Commissioner signature to accept these vehicles as requested.

Shannon Wells and Traci Baker will be attending an ODOT financial policies and procedures training in Marietta at the ODOT office on Thursday, October 13, 2022 from 9-3pm.

***Broc Spears, Pound Keeper***

-Expressed the issue of the pound being overcrowded with surrendered dogs. Also discussed the holiday schedule.

***Becky Thompson, Dog Warden***

-Dog report-filed

-The commissioners discussed the number of surrendered dogs she is picking up. Also talked about the way the employees need to get along.

***Heidi Burns, JFS***

-Discussed an issue that occurred today regarding a child threatening to injure individuals.

-The commissioners had a conference call with Shannon Wells and ADR Engineering concerning the Memorial Bridge.

***Shelby Wahl, Office on Aging Director***

-Discussed the construction at our office still in progress and that our power is off and the building is closed but our landline phone is working. We are still providing services to our seniors in their homes. We discussed the upcoming Regional Advisory Council meeting at Buckeye Hills Regional Council on October 26 at 10AM. I am going early to meet with Jennifer Westfall at Buckeye Hills and Adam Shriver is planning to go and take the seniors who are interested in going. Commissioner Shriver brought up ARPA funding that could possibly be used for meals to shut-ins in need. No plans were made for that but it will continue to be discussed as an option. I am going to attend the I-Teams meeting October 19th at 8:30 with JFS. I am adjusting well with the staff here and getting acquainted as able with the seniors in the community since the office is closed.

*Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator*

-No report

**Transfers, Then & Nows, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications**

**22-398-**Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to grant permission to Heather Martin to bore under County Road 2, located in Township of Windsor Section No. 94, Morgan County, Ohio.

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

**22-399-** Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to grant permission to Brightspeed/Heather Martin to bore under County Road 49, located in Township of Marion Section No. 12, Morgan County, Ohio.

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

**22-400-** Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to approve the following:  
On January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, a resolution was made to increase the allowable indigent billing fee from \$40/hr out-of-court and \$50/hr in-court to \$75/hr in and out of court. It is a generous increase and it has benefitted our Court by broadening our pool of perspective attorneys. However, the increase in hourly fees did not come with an increase in Indigent Defense

appropriations and the funds have been depleted. The Court has handled an unusually high number of serious felony cases including drug offenses, murder, and sex offenses. Most of the sex offense cases that are still pending and all of them have required indigent counsel appointments. The Court expects that these cases will be disposed of in the next forty-five to sixty days and it foresees that the attorneys will be submitting extraordinary fees as these cases have been ongoing for better part of this year.

Therefore, the Court respectfully requests that an additional amount of \$30,000 be appropriated in the Court of Common Pleas Indigent Defense fund, account number 001-1501-5328.

*-Currently, looking into how funds will be established.*

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

**22-401-** Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to transfer \$10,000.00 from Sheriff's Equipment and Uniform 001-0601-5304.00 and put \$4000.00 into 001-0601-5303.01 Sheriff's Gasoline and put \$6000.00 into Sheriff's Contract/Services 001-0601-5306.00. Transfer from Sheriff Fees 001-0601-5320.00 into Sheriff's Other Expenses 001-0601-5305.00.

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

**22-402-**Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to approve payment of bills. \*See attached\*

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

**22-403-** Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Bragg to adjourn the commissioners meeting Monday, October 11, 2022.

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

**Tom Bragg, President**

**Adam Shriver, Vice-President**

**Richard Welsh, Member**

**Sheila Welch, Clerk**





\



