

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, December 12, 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

22-489- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to approve the minutes of December 5, 2022.

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

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

-Wednesday, December 7, 2022 Mr. Shriver attended a Senior Meal at the Reicker Building.

Thursday, December 8, 2022 Mr. Shriver met with the Director of Senior Citizens to discuss the levy.

Friday, December 9, 2022 Mr. Shriver attended a Regional Advisory Council meeting in Marietta. He also called Petroleum Plus to discuss the Gas Pump at Greuey's.

Friday, Mr. Welsh attended a Family and Children First meeting.

Friday, December 9, Mr. Welsh attended Family and Children First Council.

Alan Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance

-Discussed events over the past week.

Trista Nelson, Kenny White, Jeff Drake, Lori Ralph Griffin; Soil and Water

-See attached report

Mark Howdyshell, Prosecutor

-Discussed the proper way in which to communicate to the 911 director of the recent resolution made by the commissioners.

-The fire on 669 was discussed as well. It was brought to the attention of some officials there could be environmental liability. Prosecutor is aware of the situation.

Alan Eltringham, Pound Keeper

-Submitted report-filed

Heidi Burns, JFS

-Submitted bills

-Rent

22-490- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to enter executive session at 8:59am pursuant to ORC 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

22-491- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to exit executive session at 9:13am pursuant to ORC 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

22-492- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to enter into a lease agreement with Washington-Morgan Community Action for the Riecker kitchen space.

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

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Dog report-filed

Commissioners left at 11:30am for a Solid Waste meeting in Caldwell. They returned at 2:15pm.

Shannon Wells, Development Office

-The SR266/377 waterline extension project will be published for bid December 14th in the Morgan County Herald. Bid will be opened January 9th, 2023.

-Mrs. Wells attended a virtual session with Heritage Ohio on December 7th, 2022 for Morgan County Villages to learn more about Main Street program.

-Mrs. Wells attended the Burr Oak extension meeting on December 7th, 2022 in the Reicker building community room.

Mrs. Wells attended the Morgan Meigsville water board meeting on December 8th, 2022.

A project will be reviewed this week with the Village of Malta council meeting on Thursday, December, 15th, 2022 at 6:00pm.

Shelby Wahl, Senior Director

-Building renovations basically completed with the exception of some minor details.

-All fruit from FFA/farm bureau was delivered within two days.

-Senior Holiday dinner was a success.

-Levy options for 2023.

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

-Reported on activities over the past week.

Transfers, Then & Nows, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

22-493-Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to transfer funds between the following accounts:

From:	To:	Amount:
015-0015-5304.00 (L-3 Equipment)	015-0015-5368.00 (L-12A Medicare)	\$ 72.00
015-0015-5369.00 (L-12 Work. Comp.)	015-0015-5307.00 (L-9 Travel)	\$ 200.00
015-0015-5369.00 (L-12 Work. Comp.)	015-0015-5369.00 (L-12A Medicare)	\$ 50.00
015-0015-5348.00 (L-7 Education)	015-0015-5367.00 (L-11 Public Retire.)	\$ 750.00
015-0015-5348.00 (L-7 Education)	015-0015-5102.00 (L-1 Salaries)	\$2,250.00

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

22-494- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Shriver to transfer the following:

From:	To:	Amount:
050-0050-5301.00 (SCPA Foster Care/ESSA	050-00505303.00 (SCPA-Misc.)	\$60,000.00

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

22-495- Motion by Mr. Shriver and seconded by Mr. Welsh to request a supplemental appropriation of \$4,500.00 into line item 015-0015-5102.00 (Salaries).

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

22-496-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

22-497- Motion by Mr. Welsh and seconded by Mr. Bragg to adjourn the commissioners meeting December 12, 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



2022 Commissioners Meeting

2023 Goals

- Our main goal is to have 2 full time employees **with** insurance benefits: At this time, we currently have one 40 hour a week and one 35 hour a week employees with no insurance benefits.
- Continue to put conservation on the land
- Continue to provide a district office for the citizens of Morgan County to visit for their NRCS and SWCD needs.
- Provide educational outreach field days to our Morgan County Schools and the community.
- Replace/upgrade rental equipment/ District Truck. We currently have a 1997 Chevrolet truck.
- Office upgrades (Bathroom, office furniture, etc.)
- Continued maintenance on the SWCD office building.

Daily Operations

- **NRCS Program Assistance:** The office provides space for a NRCS employee so that producers may sign up in the county for federal programs, such as EQIP, resulting in federal dollars being implemented into the county. Our District Technician assists Dee Wiseman, NRCS, in the field and within the office.
- **EQIP:** see attached sheet- Zanesville Service Center- NRCS
- **Cover Crop Program:** Provides assistance in obtaining a cost-share rate for sewing cover crops to improve soil health. Morgan County producers have shown increased interest in this program. In 2022, 1,189 acres were approved to be planted.
- **Muskingum Watershed Livestock Exclusion & Stream Protection Fencing:** We continue to assist producers in getting cost-share funding from this program.
- **CAUV:** We are currently working on our relationship with the new Morgan County Auditor to continue our assistance with CAUV applications. In 2022 we did 25 CAUV site visits for new applications.
- **Equipment Rental:** We currently keep a Brillion Seeder, No-Till Drill and a John Deere 825 Gator with sprayer available for our producers to rent throughout the year to plant their crops and spray their fields. This service comes in handy to the producers within the county who don't have the funds to purchase their own equipment. Maintenance and upkeep on the equipment is all done by the office, sometimes it can become costly.
- **RCPP Renewal:** Due to the success of the spotted knapweed project the Morgan SWCD and partners came together to discuss renewal of the project. Morgan SWCD brought



ODOT staff members from Morgan, Muskingum, Noble and Guernsey counties together to gain support for the project renewal. The renewal application total was 3.1 million over the next 5 years. We should know by the first part of 2023 if the project was approved.

- **Partnerships:** Due to our successful partnerships with OSU Extension throughout 2022, the OSU and SWCD staff are planning outreach educational activities for 2023.
- **Newsletter:** The office does a bi-monthly newsletter that goes out to over 800 landowners that provides them with information on upcoming programs and events.
- **Plat Book Sales:** The latest (2022) version of the Morgan County Plat Book is available for sale at the SWCD Office.
- **Geotex Filter Fabric Sales:** We continue to keep a supply of filter fabric available for purchase. This is a popular item for those within the county and in the surrounding counties.

Education and Outreach

Conservation education helps people of all ages understand and appreciate our county's natural resources, and learn how to conserve those resources for future generations. Our educational programs target both adults and children through the following:

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| *4 th Grade Field Day | *Annual Tree Sale |
| *Annual ATV Farm Tour | *Annual Fish Sale |
| *District Newsletters | *Pond Clinic |
| *Morgan County Cattlemen's Meeting | *Educational Articles |
| *Morgan County Fair Booth | *Find Kenny Contest |
| *Chore Time Rodeo | *Poster Contest |
| *Annual Meeting | *Bus Tour |

Support

- **Affiliate Membership:** The community continues to support our Affiliate Membership program. In 2022 our office received \$5,059.00 in donations from 45 local producers, proving the importance of our footprint within the community.
- **Annual Meeting Auction:** At our yearly annual meeting, producers donate and bid on auction items to help offset the cost of the annual meeting and support the upkeep of our office. This year the auction totaled \$1,000.00.

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