

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, March 17, 2025.  
The meeting was called to order at 8:30am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Cecil Mayle, President  
Heidi Maxwell, Vice-President  
Steve Best, Member

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The commissioners did the following over the past week:

All three commissioners attended a CIC meeting on Monday.

Commissioner Mayle attended a COG (Council of Government) on Tuesday.

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**25-169-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the minutes of March 10, 2025.

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

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***Al Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance***

Bragg's started installing new carpet and as of Friday 12-27-24 the conference rooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors and the Treasurer's office are completed. They are moving to the Recorder's office 12-30-24 Commissioner's finished 1-2-25 Recorders Office is finished 1-10-25 Now working on the extension Office 1-8-25. Carpet will be replaced in the Auditors office 2-1-25 Auditors office Carpet replacement has been completed 2-2-25. Engineer is next to be done and they should start in March.

Advanced Heating and Cooling checked all 3 exhaust fans, 1 EF5 motor is locked up and will need to be replaced as well as EF6. EF7 was repaired by replacing the contactor transformer and pulling the fan cover away from the fan blades. (It's believed that ice fell from the main roof onto it bending the cover. 3-4-25

Advanced Heating and Cooling has sent Quote to replace 2 each exhaust fans (Signed and sent back 3-10-25) and the replacement Compressor for RTU3. 3-6-25

Bought latch covers to secure the Courthouse Front Door and Side Door next to the Sheriff's Office 3-12-25

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***Heidi Burns, JFS***

Title XX Hearing on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am

Metal Detector installed in the basement

Quarterly newsletter

Next Monday 3/24—Heidi will be in Columbus

Travel/Meeting Requests

- Heidi Burns, Missy Fisher, Joe Frazier to Cambridge in June for East Central Fiscal Training
- Joe Frazier to Lewis Center on September 17—19<sup>th</sup> for Ohio Workforce Training Conference

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***Julie Gridley, Pound Keeper***

We had two dogs adopted this week and two returned. We currently have four dogs.

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***Sophia Wiseman, OSU Extension***

**Sophia Whisman- 4-H Extension Educator**

Late February Sophia attended Sale Committee, Older Youth In Training and Junior Leader meetings. In March Sophia is wrapping up the volunteer course recommended by the state to help her manage our county volunteers. This month so far, she has attended a Sale Committee meeting. Sophia is continuing to prep for QA and is finishing up prep for Skillathon. Volunteer trainings for the year has officially finished and enrollment is kicking off!

**Pam Montgomery-4-H/FCS Extension Educator and Area Leader**

In the past month she has been working with 4-H Camp Counselors to complete the annual required training. 4-H Fashion board held their second meeting March 3rd and members learned about the importance of threading a machine correctly and practiced working on machines. At the state level Pam organized and presented two sessions at the Ohio 4-H conference one problem solving in a group or committee and one the statewide 4-H Master Clothing Educator Volunteer program.

Pam Montgomery attends the monthly Morgan County Family and Children First Council meetings and serves as the current chair of the council.

In the Family and Consumer Sciences program area Pam held the first Successful Co-Parenting class of the year and is looking forward to the upcoming Active Parenting classes, and basic household budgeting classes for 2025. She is still working with her co-presenter to set a schedule for Matter of Balance to be offered later in the year.

As the Area Leader for Morgan, Muskingum, Perry, and Washington Counties she continues to have one-on-one meetings with the staff members she is supervising in the counties, attends staff meetings, and Extension Advisory Committee meetings when requested. She also attends 2 monthly Area Leader Zoom meetings. She is just beginning the process and annual Performance Reviews with all the staff members in Morgan, Muskingum, Perry, and Washington Counties. She is excited to be onboarding Alivia Mock in Morgan County and is looking forward to the hiring process for an Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator in Washington County.

### **Betsy Ellingsworth- SNAP-Ed Coordinator/Educator**

Betsy Ellingsworth started back with the Morgan County Extension Office on March 3, 2025 and is so happy to serve our community again, after 9 months of doing SNAP-Ed programming in Perry County.

Betsy is making community connections and has been reaching out to all current as well as potential partners to complete the FY26 documents that are due later this month.

She is collaborating with the foodbank in Malta and offered recipes for recipients of food commodity boxes to aid them with how to use the items they received on March 12.

She has started a “Spring has Sprung” nutrition series at the Senior Center which will take place every Tuesday at 11am.

She will be offering a weekly nutrition series at Allwell Behavioral Health to those who attend a group meeting.

There is a monthly series currently being offered at JFS to help SNAP recipients with food budgeting and shopping.

Later this month, Betsy will be at Morgan South Elementary for programming with the 2nd grade students there.

She attended a CHIP meeting with other community partners at the Morgan County Health Department on March 3 and attended the FCFC meeting on March 14.

### **Jordan Penrose- Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator**

In February, Jordan took part in putting on and assisting with many different events/programs. On the week of February 17<sup>th</sup>, Jordan helped with Washington and Muskingum County Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertifications. Jordan also did a talk for the M&M Rotary about springtime. He was invited to Washington County Ag Night and talked about Improving Pasture and Hayfields. Jordan Also went to the Champaign County cow-calf school and taught with the Shelby County Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, on Improving Pasture and Hayfields. In March, Jordan taught at the Muskingum AG Breakfast on Improving Pasture and Hayfields. Jordan also helped with the Licking County Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertifications. He also has continued work on a hay storage project at Jackson. Jordan also had two farmers from the community take him around, and visit different farms, and meet numerous people. Jordan has also participated in various meetings, such as the bi-weekly corn call meeting, monthly beef team meeting, and monthly forage team meeting, to share updates about crops, forages, livestock, and drought conditions in Morgan County with his coworkers around the state.

### **Alivia Mock- Extension Educator Coordinator**

Alivia Mock has now joined our team as a Extension Educator Coordinator. She will be here to help out 4-H, FCS and ANR Program areas. She has worked in child welfare for the past 10 years. We are excited to have her on our team!

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***Shannon Wells, Development Office***

Shannon Wells met with Jon Hensler from ODOT Jobs & Commence on March 10, 2025 regarding grant funds for road improvements. The county engineer is reorganizing the TID (Transportation Improvement District) committee for Morgan County to approve and apply for road improvements. The TID committee will meet on March 24, 2025 at 3pm.

Shannon Wells met with OhioSE at Miba Sinter on March 12, 2025 for a business update.

The Economic Development Administration has provided the approval to the county to proceed with advertising.

Shannon Wells met with Zach McPherson, New Business Manager from Columbia Gas on March 13, 2025 to discuss a gas expansion request in Morgan County.

Shannon Wells participated in the ARC webinar on Friday, March 14, 2025. The grant application will be due April 30, 2025.

**25-170-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve entering into a contract with Newberry Excavating for \$ 15,890.00 for the Home Sewage Treatment System Program Contract 23-6C for the replacement of one septic system. This resolution will be contingent upon funding.

The following addresses will be provided services:

492 N. Riverview Rd Malta, OH 43758 (Replacement) – NPDES System

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

**492 N. Riverview Rd.**

**Septic Installation**

**Malta, Ohio 43758**

**Total**

<b>Champion Services</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>D&amp; I Drilling</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Beagle Hill Services LLC</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Fouss Septic Systems</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>John's Excavating</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>King's Future Builders</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>LM Excavating</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Fleming's Excavating &amp; Utilities</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Muskingum Site Services</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Newberry Excavating</b>	<b>\$15,890.00</b>	-	<b>\$15,890.00</b>
<b>Zemba</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Masterson Complete</b>	-		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Shriver Septic &amp;Excavation</b>	-	-	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Singree Construction</b>	-	-	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Wilkins Excavating</b>	-	-	<b>\$0.00</b>

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***Becky Thompson, Dog Warden***

-Submitted report

-Full report can be found online at:

[https://www.morgancounty-oh.gov/dog\\_warden\\_reports.html](https://www.morgancounty-oh.gov/dog_warden_reports.html)

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***Mary Pat Hanson, Concern Citizen***

**Stone Memorial**

Discussion about the stone memorial, its design, and features. It is similar to the Gulf War

memorial, five feet tall, with a flag etched on it. The committee involved includes Mr. Stout, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Bragg.

### **Military Service Medallions**

Envelopes for all military services will be represented by medallions. Jim Miller is responsible for providing the stone to keep everything visible.

### **Funding and Security**

Discussion on raising funds, with a target of \$25,000. Concerns about vandalism and security were raised.

### **Electric Part and Pad Model**

Jason Pierce is suggested as the best person to consult regarding the electric part and pad model, which are not yet completed.

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Further discussion is needed on the completion of the pad model and electric part, with Jason Pierce as a key contact. This issue requires immediate attention to ensure project timelines are met.

Clarification is required on the specifics of raising \$25,000. The team needs to establish a clear plan and identify responsible parties to secure the necessary funding.

Ensuring the security of the memorial to prevent vandalism is a critical concern. A detailed strategy must be developed to address potential risks and implement protective measures.

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***John Telesz, Engineer; Steve Hook, Deputy Engineer***

### **Fuel Bidding and Pricing**

The discussion focused on the re-bidding process for fuel, including diesel, gas, and unbranded options. Various pricing options were considered, with a focus on potential savings through system upgrades.

**25-171-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to untangle the fuel bids.

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

**25-172-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to accept the county Engineer's presented to us. See Attachment A

## **Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

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### **Spraying for Townships**

The challenges of spraying for townships were discussed, including complaints from residents and coordination issues.

### **Funding and Project Coordination**

The meeting touched on efforts to secure funding for road paving projects and the importance of multi-jurisdictional cooperation.

There is optimism about securing funding for the project.

### **H&H Study**

An H&H study is being conducted to assess current conditions and changes.

### **Old Iron Bridge Inspection**

Plans are in place to inspect the old iron bridge, though the exact timing is uncertain.

### **Community Improvement District**

Discussion on the ownership and leasing arrangements of properties within the community improvement district.

### **Future Development Plans**

Consideration of purchasing land for future development, particularly in relation to sewer and utility needs.

### **Floodplain Meeting**

A floodplain meeting is suggested to address ongoing issues, but no immediate plans are made.

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## ***John Wilt, EMA; 911***

### **Communication Issues with Firehouse**

There are ongoing communication issues with the firehouse, including echo problems and call transfer issues. Tickets were submitted on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

### **Automated Call Handling**

An automated call from an Apple phone regarding an auto accident on 669 highlighted a training issue with outgoing BTMF tones. Test calls with the sheriff's office are planned to resolve this.

**Sheriff's Office Call Issue**

Position one at the sheriff's office mistakenly identifies calls as TDD calls, causing operational issues. This is a service-affecting problem that needs prioritization.

**Transit Building Garage Door**

The garage door at the transit building has a burnt-out board, and similar issues exist with the back door. Renovations are planned, so repairs are on hold.

**Meeting with Architect**

A meeting with an architect is scheduled to discuss renovations for a 9-1-1 center, leveraging his experience with similar projects.

**Mitigation Plan Funding Issues**

Mitigation planning is on hold due to state funding issues. The contractor is concerned about DEI and climate change funding requirements.

**Position Resignation Discussion**

Discussion on the resignation from a part-time position, with a 30-day period suggested for applications and evaluations.

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**25-173-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to appoint Lisa King to Southeast Child Abuse Prevention Council.

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

**25-174-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to appoint Johnna Denbow to Southeast Child Abuse Prevention Council.

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

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***Amber Wallace, Senior Center***

**Monthly Meeting and Meal**

The monthly meeting and meal are usually held on every Monday, but next month they will go to Deanos, so attendees should not come that day.

**Farmer's Market Coupon Program**

Buckeye Hills and the Ohio Department of Aging will continue using paper for the farmer's market coupon program due to lack of internet access. Applications will be available in April.

No digital coupons will be given, It will be paper coupons only.

### **Community Action Invoice**

Community Action has not sent an invoice for the meals despite being informed about the funding on February 24th. They need to provide an invoice detailing the number of meals the money will cover.

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### ***Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator***

The IT Director met with representatives from Dell about moving the County's e-mail to Microsoft 365. Dell clarified a number questions about the features available in the Microsoft 365 Business Basic plan and provided a quote for service. Dell would charge Morgan County about \$5.30 per month per e-mail account. The IT Director will discuss this quote with all elected officials and department heads as well as a date to start the migration.

The IT Director went to the Caldwell office of Public Transit to set up a new phone and look at other IT issues. It was discovered that the phone was not set up in Spectrum's Ring Central portal, troubleshooting with Spectrum is ongoing with this issue. The office document scanner was fixed and some malware was removed from one of the computers as well. Transit discussed the upcoming renovation of the office building and their plans for the expanded space.

There was a power and Internet outage on Sunday, 16 March 2025. At opening of business on Monday, many firewall computers were offline and had to be reset. There did not appear to be any permanently damaged equipment following the outage.

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

**25-175-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the following:

#### Acct. Changes

#### Revenue Accts.

The Engineers Office would like to make the following name changes to two remaining revenue accounts.

004-0004-4001.00 Taxes—Licenses K-1 to be changed to R1 License Plates

004-0004-4002.00 Gas Tax K-2 changed to R2 Gas Tax

004-0004-4014.00 ODOT-MRG CR #4/VAR 1.38/VAR TO R 14 Escrow Projects

The Engineers Office would also like to make the following account **INACTIVE** due to confusion with License Plates and Permissive Tax.

Please make 004-0004-4013.00 County Permissive M.V. Tax inactive.

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

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**25-176-**Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve payment of bills. \*See attached\*

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

**25-177-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to adjourn the commissioners meeting March, 17, 2025 at 4:00pm.

**Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried**

**Cecil Mayle, President**

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**Heidi Maxwell, Vice-President**

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**Steven Best, Member**

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**Sheila Welch, Clerk**

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Attachment A:

March 13, 2025

Morgan County Commissioners  
155 E Main Street, Rm. 216  
McConnelsville Ohio, 43787

Re: Fuel Bid Results to County Highway Garage

Only one vender (Greuey's Fuel and Farm Supply, LLC), submitted a bid for supplying Regular Unleaded Gasoline and Ultra-Low-Sulfur #2 Diesel Fuel under three option rates. Those options are:

- 1.) Delivery to the County Highway Department only.
- 2.) Delivery to all other tanks.
- 3.) Providing fuel pump service for individual vehicles.

The results are as follows:

**OPTION #1 – Delivery to County Highway Garage**

**The diesel bids** are based upon the “UBD (Unbranded) Rack Average Price” at the Marietta terminal “Oil Price Information Service” (OPIS) for the date of February 25, 2025 for Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel with an average rack price of **\$2.5745 per gal., plus \$0.47 for State tax, plus delivery charges. Fuel will be delivered for \$3.229 per gal** to the customer's tank or designated location. This creates a **delivery cost of \$0.184 per gal., \$3.229 - \$3.045=\$0.184, a \$0.03 (19.5%) increase**

**The gasoline bids** are based upon the “Average Rack Price” at the Marietta terminal “Oil Price Information Service” (OPIS) for the date of February 25, 2025 for Ethanol (10%) gasoline with an average rack price of **\$1.814 per gal. Plus \$0.385 for state tax which equals \$2.199. Fuel will be delivered for \$2.353 per gal** to the customer's tank or designated location. This creates a **delivery cost of \$2.353 - \$2.199=\$0.154 per gal., an increase of \$0.024/gal.**

**Bid Results**

**County Highway Garage**

<u>Product</u>	<u>Greuey's Fuel Markup</u>		
	<u>2024-Prices</u>	<u>2025-Prices</u>	
Unleaded gasoline	\$0.130/gal.	\$0.154/gal.	<b>\$0.024 Increase – 18.5%</b>
Ultra Low-Sulfur #2	\$0.154/gal	\$0.184/gal.	<b>\$0.030 Increase – 19.5%</b>

**OPTION #2 – Delivery to Townships**

The diesel bids are based upon the “Average Rack Price” at the Marietta terminal “Oil Price Information Service” (OPIS) for the date of February 25, 2025 for Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel with an average **rack price of \$2.5745 per gal. Plus federal fuel tax . \$0.47/ gal. Fuel will be delivered for \$3.329 per gal** to the customer’s tank, designated location, or pump in Malta. **This creates a delivery cost of \$0.284 per gal., an increase of \$0.013/gal**

The gasoline bids are based upon the “Average Rack Price” at the Marietta terminal “Oil Price Information Service” (OPIS) for the date of February 25, 2025 for Ethanol (10%) gasoline with an average **rack price of \$1.814 per gal. Plus \$0.385 state fuel tax. Fuel will be delivered for \$2.403 per gal** to the customer’s tank or designated location. **This creates a delivery cost of \$0.204 per gal., an increase of \$0.02/gal.**

**Bid Results**

**Deliveries of less than 1,000 gals or fueling using Greuey’s Fueling Station**

<u>Product</u>	<u>Greuey’s Fuel Markup</u>	
	<u>2024 Prices</u>	<u>2025 Prices</u>
Unleaded gasoline	\$0.261/gal.	\$0.204/gal. <b>\$0.057 Decrease – 21.8%</b>
Ultra Low-Sulfur #2	\$0.274/gal.	\$0.284/gal. <b>\$0.01 Increase – 3.6%</b>

**OPTION #3 – Sales thru pump County’s pump at Greuey Fuel Station.**

The gasoline bids are based upon the “Average Rack Price” at the Marietta terminal “Oil Price Information Service” (OPIS) for the date of February 25, 2025 for Ethanol (10%) gasoline with an average **rack price of \$1.814 per gal. Plus state tax of \$0.385. Fuel will be delivered for \$2.494 per gal** to the County’s pump at Greuey’s Fueling station. **This creates a delivery cost of \$0.295 per gal.**

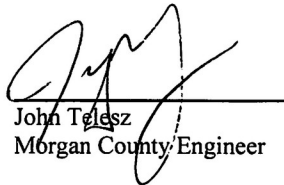
	<u>2024 Prices</u>	<u>2025 Prices</u>	
Unleaded gasoline	\$0.261/gal.	\$0.295/gal.	<b>\$0.0.034 Increase – 13.0%</b>

**Conclusions:**

1. The only way to decrease delivery costs would be install a system that could handle bulk deliveries, meaning we would need a tank system that could hold at least 8,000 gallons. In today's regulatory realities; it is most likely not economical. This would require a separate detailed study itself.
2. Therefore since we do not have the ability to receive tanker bulk deliveries of diesel fuel or gasoline; I see no reason to not accept this proposal.

**However, I think we should let each of the Townships individually decide if they are willing to accept this quote.**

Respectfully,

  
 John Telesz  
 Morgan County Engineer



