

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Tuesday, August 18, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 8:30am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Cecil Mayle, President
Heidi Maxwell, Absent
Steve Best, Member

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

Commissioner Best attended a Health Department meeting Thursday. He also took a dog to the vet.

25-407- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve the minutes of August 11, 2025.

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

Al Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance

Carpet installation has been completed, except for the Development Office. 7-20-25

All mowing was completed on 8-13-25

Courthouse Clock has stopped working, checked breakers and switches. Jason Pierce checked the motors and one of the two motors isn't working, the has been removed and Jason is taking it to Zanesville to Nichols Electrical to see if it can be repaired. 7-8-25 Jason Pierce said that the rebuild of the clock motor will cost around \$1800. 7-23-25

Ables Heating Cooling has ordered a new drain pan for the first-floor West side air handler at the Courthouse. 8-12-25

Dog Pound air conditioning was down 8-11-25, Fox Heating and Cooling was called and the unit is up and operational. 8-15-25

Door and Access Issues

A conversation took place regarding the size of a newly installed door, questioning whether it would be large enough for accessing the area. Concerns were raised about the practical inability to get back into the space, though it was noted there might be enough room to open it up to check

for leaks or adjust carriage bolts. Mr. Eltringham also remarked that the walls could not be made wide enough for a larger door. It was also noted that normally access is from the other end of the restroom, where there is no way to get into the wall, which relates to the need for extended carriage bolts.

Restroom Construction and Modification Challenges

Discussion focused on significant modifications and challenges encountered during restroom construction, particularly concerning the placement and length of carriage bolts.

Heidi Burns, JFS Director

Travel Requests

- Aliah Encinias to Athens on 8/25 for CORE Training
- Joe Frazier to Marietta on 8/19 for OMJ Partner Meeting

SNAP

- Sugary Beverage Ban
- State level of admin share goes from 50% to 75% effective 10/1/26 - used to be Federal 50% and State 50%
- State level of benefit share based on error rates changes become effective 10/1/27; state was at 9% but coming down – counties have to focus on quality control
- Morgan County – 1,142 households; 2,112 individuals (1399 adults/713 children) \$350,409 average per month

Medicaid

- Work requirement addition for those on expansion benefits – some exemptions apply
 - 6-month eligibility checks
-

Federal policy changes impacting Medicaid, SNAP benefits, and their ramifications on local county operations and budgeting.

Federal Changes to Medicaid and SNAP Programs

Discussion focused on upcoming federal-level changes including a work requirement for Medicaid recipients aged 18 to 54 with medical family exemptions, and the implications of proposed SNAP modifications such as a sugary beverage ban.

County Operations, Budgeting, and Inventory Issues

Topics included discussions on travel request protocols for county staff, the management of limited general funds compared to other counties, and inventory issues such as outdated computer towers running Windows 10. There were references to internal debates regarding property tax contributions to maintain essential services like EMS, ambulance, and children's services, as well as remarks on census counts affected by regional jail populations in other counties.

Julie Gridley, Pound Keeper

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Strays: | Seven |
| Surrounded: | Zero |
| Adoptions: | One |
| Transfer of Ownership: | One |
| Dogs Fostered: | Four puppies |
| Donations: | \$300.00 donation to sponsor dogs Treats, toys and snacks |
| Volunteers: | Tata and Cindy came to walk, play with and provide snacks. Cindy brought all the dogs plain cheeseburgers on Wednesday. |

Sophia Wiseman, OSU Extension

Sophia Whisman- 4-H Extension Educator

At the end of July Sophia attended Junior Fair Board, Older Youth In Training/Junior Leader and 4-H Committee meetings. July 29th Sophia held her last wildlife program of her series with the MCBDD Summer camp. On July 31st Sophia held the last Cloverbud STEM Day of the year. Planned by the OYIT/JL. There were 11 cloverbuds in attendance and 5 older youth in attendance. The theme was 'A Day at The Farm'. On August 1st Sophia was on Live at Noon promoting our

upcoming county fair. On August 12th Sophia attended the Junior Fair Board workday. And attended to assist with royalty interviews. On August 14th Sophia attended a Sale Committee Meeting. On August 16th Sophia held the Livestock Skillathon to judge all animal projects in the county.

Sophia continues to prepare Fair Entry for our fair.

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

4-H activities for the past month include attending 4-H committee, horse committee and camp counselor meetings. Attending State Fair to watch Master Gardner Volunteers and help with clothing and food judging. Pam also assisted Sophia with the last Cloverbud STEM day on July 31st. Pam also took her fashion board members on a trip. Pam also has started the process to get the Junior Fair booths ready for club booths at the fair this year.

Area Leader activities over the past month include one-on-one meetings with staff members in Morgan, Muskingum, Perry, and Washington Counties. She is also working with new staff members to learn their responsibilities

Betsy Ellingsworth- SNAP-Ed Coordinator/Educator

Betsy is collaborating with the Farm to Family mobile food pantry to provide nutritional information weekly as participants receive their food.

She has launched the Senior Summer Seafood Adventures nutrition series at the Senior Center which takes place in July through August on Tuesdays at 11am.

There is a monthly series currently offered at JFS to help SNAP recipients with food budgeting and shopping, and it was last held on July 23.

Betsy completed nutrition programming at Kate Love Simpson Library at the Mom & Tot Storytime and at the Pre-School Storytime which was offered through July & August.

She is at the Morgan County Farmer's Market monthly to distribute recipes and nutritional resources to those who attend.

Betsy also finished programming each Tuesday at the Board of Developmental Disabilities' Summer Camp for children.

On July 25, she participated in the Morgan County Back to School Bash in Stockport at the Heck Harkins Community Center by distributing SNAP-Ed branded items such as erasers, pencils, and folders as well as nutritional handouts and magazines.

On July 28, Betsy went to state fair in Columbus to represent SNAP-Ed with cooking demonstrations and recipe distributions. It was a fabulous day as there were one on one conversations with so many people to encourage healthy eating.

Every Thursday in August from 3-4, Betsy is offering an adult summer salads/walking series at the library.

On August 8, she attended the FCFC meeting with Pam Montgomery.

Jordan Penrose- Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator

In July, Jordan had his monthly TV interview on WHIZ News and discussed upcoming events and Smooth Bedstraw. He also wrote an article for Farm and Dairy, “August is for seeding, so get your plan started now!” During the Southeastern Ohio Hay Day, Jordan talked about the reduced cost forage analysis that was being offered, and about problem weeds that we are seeing in Hayfields. Jordan also went to the State Fair and worked with the beef team at the Cattlemen's Steak Barn. On the 28th, the 23rd annual Morgan County Ag & Livestock Field was at Ethan and Tori Vanhorn’s Farm. In August, he worked with a team to test all the forage samples collected around the state for the reduced cost forage analysis. Jordan has also continued work on his Mechanical Control of Johnsongrass research project and is now taking measurements once a month, and mowing twice a month, following the same treatments as last year that were set up for the project. He has continued insect trapping in corn fields on five different farms that have partnered with him to monitor corn earworm and western bean cutworm. Jordan has also continued to participate in various meetings, such as the weekly corn call meeting, bi-weekly between-the-rows meetings, 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

In the month of July Alivia attended a round table discussion with Ohio southeast, attended the Extension Advisory Committee meeting, and gave a speech at Malta/McConnelsville Rotary for FCS programing. In the month of August Alivia attended the office staff meeting

In the month of July Alivia spent two days at 4H camp and provided nutritional education for one day by making smoothies with the smoothie bike with the campers. Alivia also attended the

4H Committee meeting. Alivia assisted with the final Cloverbud Stem Day as well. In the month of August Alivia has assisted with preparing for 4H Skillathon and worked the Skillathon at the Morgan County Fairgrounds as well. Alivia is currently working on an informational 4H booth to be presented at the Morgan County Fair.

In the Month of July Alivia attended the Morgan County Farmers Market each week and coordinated with the Morgan County Master Gardeners. In the month of August Alivia has attended the Morgan County Farmers markets each week. Alivia has coordinated with the Morgan County Master Gardeners and will facilitate their monthly meeting at the end of the month. Alivia also assisted in checking LEP bug traps for Educator Penrose.

Shannon Wells, Development Office

The Morgan County Convention & Visitor's Bureau will meet on August 18, 2025 at 4:30pm.

Shannon Wells will attend a meeting of Heritage Ohio Village of McConnelsville on August 18, 2025 at 5:30pm.

25-408-Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded Mr. Best to approve entering into a contract with Sickels Concrete Products for \$705.00 for the Home Sewage Treatment System Program Contract 24-Repair 1 for the repair of one septic system. This resolution will be contingent upon funding.

The following addresses will be provided services:

10471 Dock 2 CR 111 Glouster, OH 45732 (Rushing) (Septic Repair)

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

25-409-Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve entering into a contract with Singree Construction for \$3,890.00 for the Home Sewage Treatment System Program Contract 24-6C for the repair of one septic system. This resolution will be contingent upon funding.

The following addresses will be provided services:

538 Downing Rd Stockport, OH 43787 (Mangus) (Repair)

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

25-410- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded Mr. Best to approve entering into a contract with Roxsol LLC for the soil report and design. The total cost for the design of the two systems will be \$1,400.00 This resolution will be contingent upon funding.

The following addresses will be provided services:

13536 Rose Farm Rd Crooksville, OH 43731 (Emory)

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

25-411 Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle -to approve entering into a contract with Singree Construction for \$14,408.67 for the Home Sewage Treatment System Program Contract 24-7C for the replacement of one septic system. This resolution will be contingent upon funding.

The following addresses will be provided services:

2776 E St. Rt. 60 NE McConnelsville, OH 43756 (Chippis) (Replacement)

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

Request for Additional Handicapped Parking

Individuals requested an additional handicapped parking space, stating that the current spots are always full, particularly on Mondays, which poses a challenge for handicapped individuals.

Concerns were raised about people falling and getting hurt due to lack of parking, and it was noted that JFS employees utilize a significant portion of the existing parking.

Inquiry on Dog Pound Grant Funding

The commissioners inquired about grant information for the dog pound that was supposed to be sent by a previous visitor. Mrs. Wells advised that the best approach to find funding is to network with other animal shelters and similar organizations across the country to learn how they are funded, as she is not familiar with grants for this specific purpose, noting that her funding is typically state or federal.

The issue is unresolved. The group is still seeking information on potential grants for the dog pound.

Sheriff Fisher

Vehicle Fleet Management and Technology

The discussion covers the acquisition of new vehicles for the upcoming year, with an expected delivery in January or February. The price is noted to be very close to this year's cost. A new

GPS-enabled tracking device will be installed in the six new 2025-2026 and 2021 cruisers to monitor mileage and oil changes, and to help keep track of the cars.

Steve Redrup, EMA Director; John Wilt, 911 Coordinator

Future of EMA and Old Transit Buildings

There is an ongoing discussion about the utilization of the EMA and old transit buildings. Options being considered include relocating all of Mr. Redrup's equipment from the EMA building to the old transit building, moving he and the 911 Coordinator there, and potentially selling the EMA building. Currently, utility bills are being assessed for each building and need to investigate the grant conditions tied to the EMA generator to avoid potential financial penalties.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Submitted report
-Full report can be found online at:
https://www.morgancounty-oh.gov/dog_warden_reports.html

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

The Auditor's office, County Recorder, IT Director, and County Maintenance surveyed the records that are currently stored in the Courthouse attic to determine which records need to be moved to the Riecker Building. The Auditor's office has two rooms as well as the attic hallway full of old documents. Records that were thought to belong to the County Recorder's office are actually for the Clerk of Courts' office. The Clerk of Courts and Common Pleas Court have four rooms full of records in the attic. The Record Retention Schedules of various County offices need to be reviewed.

The phone lines for County Court were ported from Brightspeed to Spectrum on August 20, 2025. The phone lines were not working properly on Brightspeed, with many calls not going through. The numbers were moved to the County's PRI line from Spectrum and seem to be working as they should now.

A new phone extension was run in the basement for the Courthouse Security Officer. The current security checkpoint in the Courthouse basement is expected to be temporary and will move to the first floor once ADA issues are addressed around the front door.

Work continues on the new Dell servers for CourtView in Common Pleas Court. Dell has officially passed our setup issue/questions off to their customer service department.

Transfers, Then & Now, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

25-412- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to transfer \$5,000.00 from 063-0063-5309.02 (State Examination) to 063-0063-5309.06 (Homemaker).

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

25-413--- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to transfer \$3,000.00 from 084-2024-5309.00 (other expense) to 084-2024-5306.00 (contracts).

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

25-414- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to request the following supplemental appropriations for fund 107 Washington Morgan Grants Program Income:

107-0107-5301.00 Washington Morgan Grants Program Income \$1,000.00

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

25-415- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to request a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$8,226.46 in our van maintenance account 028-0028-5305.00.

The request is to pay Brown's Body Shop for the hail damage done to our 2017 Dodge Caravan. See Attachment A

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

25-416- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell absent, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

25-417- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to recess the commissioners meeting on August 18, 2024.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell absent, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

25-418- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to reconvene the commissioners for a OTA meeting Monday evening.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell absent, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

25-419- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to reconvene the commissioners meeting on August 20, 2025 at 8:00am to tour the old transit building with the EMA and 911 Directors.

Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell absent, Mr. Welsh yea Motion Carried

25-420- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to adjourn the commissioner's meeting on August 20, 2025 at 10:00am.

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

Cecil Mayle, President

Heidi Maxwell, Vice-President

Steven Best, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

Attachment A:

Final Bill

RO Number: 24544

2017 DODG Grand Caravan SE 4D VAN 6-3.6L Flex Fuel Sequential MPI WHITE

| | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----------------|------------------------------------|---|---------|--------|-----------|
| 28 | E01 | Sublet | LT Door shell | 1 | 268.75T | Sublet | |
| 29 | E01 | | SIDE PANEL | | | | |
| 30 | E01 | Sublet | RT Side panel | 1 | 193.75T | Sublet | |
| 31 | E01 | Sublet | LT Side panel | 1 | 193.75T | Sublet | |
| 32 | S01 | Remove/Replace | RT Rear pillar trim clip graystone | 1 | 3.80T | OEM | |
| 33 | E01 | | LIFT GATE | | | | |
| 34 | E01 | Remove/Install | R&I liftgate assy | | | | 1.4T Body |
| 35 | E01 | | REAR LAMPS | | | | |
| 36 | E01 | Remove/Install | RT Tail lamp Grand Caravan | | | | 0.3T Body |
| 37 | E01 | Remove/Install | LT Tail lamp Grand Caravan | | | | 0.3T Body |
| 38 | E01 | | MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONS | | | | |
| 39 | E01 | Remove/Replace | Corrosion Protection | 1 | 10.00T | OEM | 0.2T Body |

| Estimate Totals | Discount \$ | Markup \$ | Rate \$ | Total Hours | Total \$ |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|-------------|-----------------|
| Parts | | | | | 1,186.56 |
| Sublet/Miscellaneous | | | | | 5,932.50 |
| Labor, Body | | | 60.00 | 9.8 | 588.00 |
| Labor, Refinish | | | 60.00 | 4.9 | 294.00 |
| Material, Paint | | | | | 225.40 |
| Subtotal | | | | | 8,226.46 |
| Sales Tax | | | | | 0.00 |
| Grand Total | | | | | 8,226.46 |
| Net Total | | | | | 8,226.46 |

| Estimate Version | Total \$ |
|------------------|----------|
| Original | 8,748.72 |
| Supplement S01 | (522.26) |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Insurance Total \$: | 0.00 |
| Received from Insurance \$: | 0.00 |
| Balance due from Insurance \$: | 0.00 |
| Customer Total \$: | 8,226.46 |
| Received from Customer \$: | 0.00 |
| Balance due from Customer \$: | 8,226.46 |

T = Taxable Item, RPD = Related Prior Damage, AA = Appearance Allowance, UPD = Unrelated Prior Damage, PDR = Paintless Dent Repair, A/M = Aftermarket, Rechr = Rechromed, Reman = Remanufactured, OEM = New Original Equipment Manufacturer, Recor = Re-cored, RECOND = Reconditioned, LKQ = Like Kind Quality or Used, Diag = Diagnostic, Elec = Electrical, Mech = Mechanical, Ref = Refinish, Struc = Structural

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