

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, November 10, 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

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

25-558- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the minutes of November 3, 2025.

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

Alan Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance

Ables Heating Cooling has ordered a new drip pan for the first floor West side air handler at the Courthouse. 8-12-25 Scheduled for 11-13-25

Chevrolet Truck has a broken brake line for the rear brakes; we are going to replace it using the lift in the old transit garage.

2012 Dodge Grand Caravan has been delivered to the Morgan County Dog Pound. 11-5-25

Jason Pierce has replaced the flag pole light and the spot light for the monument at the Grove Park and also rewired the other lights. Need to order a new light post to replace the one that was destroyed last weekend. 11-6-25

Kaleb Shrivvers, Secretary of State

Secretary of State's Office Outreach & County Collaboration

Role and Services of the Secretary of State's Office

- Mr. Shrivvers is a representative from the Secretary of State's office.
- Core Responsibilities:

- Election Oversight: Counties run their own elections, while the state office sets security protocols and parameters that all counties must follow. The representative ensures compliance and provides assistance to the County Board of Elections (BOE).
- External Outreach: The office issues commendations recognizing local businesses for milestones such as grand openings or anniversaries.
- Secretary Staffing: The representative staffs the Secretary of State during county visits and helps arrange his local events.
- Secretary of State's Interests: He is a Green Beret and has a strong interest in military and defense-related events.

Morgan County Board of Elections (BOE) Performance

- Assessment: The Morgan County BOE is performing exceptionally well and consistently meets all requirements.
- Representative's Visits: The representative visits at least once a month and notes that the county's high performance rarely requires intervention.

Poll Worker Recruitment

- Challenge: Recruiting poll workers is difficult, especially for smaller, off-cycle elections that receive less public attention.
- Call to Action: Attendees were urged to help spread the word about the need for poll workers.
- Eligibility: Individuals can serve as poll workers as long as they are not on the ballot for that specific election.
- Recent Success: The BOE succeeded in recruiting for the most recent election, even having extra workers on standby.

Heidi Burns, JFS

Federal Shutdown

- Appears to be an end in sight!
- SNAP benefits for November are still on hold (have been back and forth since Friday)
- OWF benefits went out for November

Health Insurance -where are we?

Travel Request – Kari Schaad, Ginger Bowen, ManDee Houston, and Missy Fisher to OHPELRA training in Pickerington on 11/5/25

Mandated Share for November \$3,442.7

25-559- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to enter executive session with Heidi Burns at 9:00am pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

25-560- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to exit executive session with Heidi Burns at 9:19am pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

Steve Redrup, EMA

Working on the Hazard Mitigation Plan, the third meeting is set for November 18th at 4 pm at the EMA offices

Testing radios, received 4 new radios from Rapid Radio. Rapid Radio donated these to the EMA for use with the UAV program

Attended Teams meetings

Discussion with the State EMA over grants and the upcoming FY25 grants

Had a building issue with the sewer, the village maintenance crew resolved the issue quickly

Shannon Wells, Development Office

A demo project for 303 W. Riverside Drive will advertise Nov 5 and Nov 12 in the Morgan County Herald. The bid opening will be December 1, 2025 at 10am.

Jesse Roush from Washington County Port Authority would like to be added to the commissioner agenda on November 24 at 10am.

Shannon Wells and Commissioner Mayle attended a zoom meeting with representatives from Genesis and Community Ambulance Services on October 30, 2025.

Shannon Wells attended a zoom meeting with representatives from Morgan Local Schools on October 31, 2025 to discuss a partnership with Future Plans.

Grant deadlines approaching:

ODOD Demolition FY2026 – November 19, 2025 – eligible for \$230,000

ODOT Transit FY2026 – November 14, 2025

25-561-Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the following:

See Attachment A

Mr. Mayle yea, Mrs. Maxwell yea, Mr. Best yea Motion Carried
Meeting Notes

- Topic Title: Status of Current Demolition Funds and Grant Timeline
 - The county has an unspent demolition grant of \$410,000 expiring December 31.
 - An extension will be requested; past extensions have been flexible.
 - First expense anticipated for certified gas station by the river (recently advertised).

 - Topic Title: Policy Shift Toward Private Property Demolition

 - Historically, demos prioritized public properties; limited private demos due to lack of process.

 - - Consider advertising a waiting list and prioritization criteria (safety hazards, case-by-case review).
 - Conclusion: General support to explore private demos with owner co-pay and potential public notice or case-by-case approach.

 - Topic Title: Becker Property Update and Potential Action

 - Need to ensure contractor is insured; may require bidding if prices are close or to comply with procurement rules.
-

Steve Fate, Medical Mutual

The Problem with Current Healthcare

The current healthcare system was described as unsustainable, with family premiums averaging \$25,000 and projected to exceed \$35,000 in five years. A key issue identified is the vertical integration of insurance companies, which own Pharmacy Benefit Managers and specialty pharmacies, creating a conflict of interest that drives up costs.

The Healthy Path Program: A Proposed Solution

The Healthy Path program, part of the Genesis Health System, was presented as a self-insured, level-funded community health plan designed to fix healthcare at the local level.

Key Features of Healthy Path:

- **Self-Insured, Level-Funded Model:** The company pays a fixed monthly premium equivalent. If claims are lower than projected, the surplus is returned to the company. If claims are higher, stop-loss insurance prevents additional cash calls. The plan also includes a 12–18-month contract with six months of run-out protection.
- **Cost-Containment Strategy:** The plan focuses on three areas:
 1. **Prescription Drugs:** It uses a transparent PBM (Capital Rx) that charges acquisition cost plus a small fee, eliminating "spread pricing" markups. It also sources high-cost specialty drugs (e.g., Humira) through manufacturer patient assistance programs, often for free, by excluding them from the formulary and helping members apply for scholarships.
 2. **Primary & Specialty Care:** It offers a **\$0 co-pay** for all primary care visits and specialty visits within the Genesis network to encourage preventative care and easy access to specialists.
 3. **Inpatient/Outpatient Costs:** It uses a tiered network. Members using Tier 1 providers (like Genesis and other local partners) receive a **\$0 deductible and \$0 co-pay**. Members retain the freedom to use other providers but will have a standard deductible. If necessary care is unavailable in Tier 1 (e.g., NICU), members still receive Tier 1 benefits.

- **Network and Access:** The plan includes the QCP Plus network for statewide coverage. For employees living far from Tier 1 facilities (e.g., Zanesville), the plan can be adjusted to grant them Tier 1 benefits for local providers based on their zip code. It was confirmed that Marietta is considered Tier 1.

Comparison of Renewal Options

- **Medical Mutual (Current Plan):** The renewal offer was a **15% increase** (approx. \$383,000). Despite service issues with the current billing representative, this was seen as a stable, known option.
- **Healthy Path:** The proposal came in at a **16.8% increase**. While higher upfront, it offered the potential for a surplus return if claims are low. Concerns were raised about the need to increase employee utilization of Tier 1 providers from one-third to two-thirds to achieve maximum savings.
- **UnitedHealthcare (UHC):** Offered a **10% increase**. This was viewed as an aggressive "buy the business" tactic, raising concerns about potential disruption and significant rate hikes in the second year.
- **Sidecar:** Offered a **5.8% increase**, but was deemed unfeasible due to its heavy reliance on mobile technology.
- **Key Concerns and Discussion Points**
 - **"Laserling":** A concern was raised about "laserling," where a reinsurance carrier excludes high-cost individuals from coverage. It was confirmed that the Healthy Path proposal did not include any lasers, but the risk remains a factor in self-funded plans.
 - **Employee Communication:** It was noted that implementing a new plan like Healthy Path would require significant communication and education for employees, especially during the first 60 days.
 - **Service Issues with Medical Mutual:** Frustration was expressed with the current billing contact at Medical Mutual, citing inconsistency and a lack of helpfulness compared to a previous representative.

Decision and Next Steps

The group decided to **sign the renewal paperwork for Medical Mutual** for the upcoming year. This provides stability while allowing more time to gather detailed information from Healthy

Path. A minor change to the Medical Mutual HSA plan was noted, with the deductible increasing from \$3,300 to \$3,400 to remain IRS compliant, resulting in a slight rate decrease.

Vincent Ferragonio, ABM

The County is hereby authorizing ABM to complete a Technical Audit of its facilities so that a co-authored financial and technical solution can be implemented. During the technical audit, the County will furnish to ABM upon its request, accurate and complete data concerning current costs, budgets, facilities requirements, future projected loads, facility operating requirements, etc. At the conclusion of the Technical Audit, ABM will deliver to the County a draft version of the implementation agreement, which shall include the proposed scope of work, fixed pricing, and guaranteed savings. Understanding the investment required to conduct this audit will be significant; by this letter, the County is indicating its intent to award ABM a contract to implement the technical solution if:

1. The project will be funded through use of utility cost savings, operations and maintenance cost savings, future capital cost avoidance, revenue generation, capital contributions, grants and rebates, savings attributable to refinancing of current debt, and any other savings or financial benefits agreed to by the parties.
2. ABM will co-develop all facility upgrades with County staff.
3. County may add/reduce scope once the final savings/costs are complete.
4. ABM will guarantee all energy and operational savings, and any shortfall will be reconciled annually over the term of the agreement.

ABM will be responsible for the complete installation of the solution.

If the County decides not to proceed with the project and the above requirements are met, they agree to pay to ABM for the cost of conducting the Technical Audit within 30 days from its decision not to move forward with a project. If ABM cannot meet the terms stated above, the County will be under no further obligations, financial or otherwise, to ABM. If the County executes a contract with ABM to proceed with the project, ABM will not charge for the audit.

This Letter of Intent is the entire agreement between ABM and the County with respect to the project and supersedes any prior oral understandings, written agreements, proposals, or other communications between ABM and the County. Any change or modification to this agreement will not be effective unless made in writing. This document represents the business intent of both parties and the persons signing below represent that they are authorized to sign on behalf of the County and ABM.

25-562- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to reappoint Amy Kirkbride as a trustee for the Library Board. Her current term expires December 31, 2025. Please extend her term to December 31, 2029.

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

Jeff Babcock, It Administrator

The IT Director worked with Equivant to configure the new servers in Common Pleas and County Courts for the upgrade to CourtView. There was some confusion regarding remote access to the servers. It was discovered that Equivant's internal notes contained incorrect information about the existing servers' IP addresses. The correct addressing information was sent to Equivant. Also, there was some confusion about the URLs that would be used for the existing and new servers and the different CourtView environments. The URL information was sent to Equivant and work is progressing.

The IT Director received quotes from Baracuda Networks for e-mail archiving and from Civic Plus for social media archiving. Baracuda Networks' e-mail archiving product, provided through Dell, would cost \$4593.60 per year. Civic Plus provided several quotes that were approximately \$20K for the first year with a recurring cost of \$18K per year for their social media archiving solution. Quotes are provided for the minutes.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Submitted report

-Full report can be found online at:

https://www.morgancounty-oh.gov/dog_warden_reports.html

25-563- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to release McVoyt Construction from their contract.

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

25-564- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to appoint Singree Construction in the amount of \$33,889.00.

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

Tracey Simmons, Vistors's Center

See Attachment B

Transfers, Then & Nows, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

25-565-Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

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

25-565- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to accept this request to transfer the following:

\$245.95 from contract services line item 001-0301-5306.00 to PEO salaries 001-0301-5103.00
\$7,500.00 from contract services line item 001-0301-5306.00 to employee salaries 001-0301-5102.00

445.88 from supplies line item 001-0301-5303.00

62.01 from equipment line item 001-0301-5304.00

\$50.00 from repairs line item 001-0301-5305.00

\$158.40 from travel line item 001-0301-5307.00

\$1,200.00 from expense line item 001-0301-5309,00

To: contract services line item 001-0301-5306.00

For a total of \$1,916.29 to be transferred to contract services.

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

25-566- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to transfer the following supplemental appropriation:

Please add \$251.58 to 345-2025-5309.00 other Expenses

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

25-567 - Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to transfer the following:

\$450.00 from 001-0207-5322.00 (credit card fees to

\$187.00 to 001-0207.00 (travel)

\$254.00 to 01-02075321.00 (other fees)

\$9.00 001-0207-5309.00 (other expense)

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

25-568- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to provide a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$2,401.02 to line item 001-0301-5306.00 (contract expenses) which is monies received for reimbursements 001-0301-4003.00

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

25-569- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to move \$419.33 that was paid from PO Number 25-00331 account 415-2627-5309.00 to PO Number 25-00073 account 415-0415-5309.00

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

25-570- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve a supplemental appropriation in fund 110 CDBG:

Demolition and Site Revitalization: 110-2024-5300.00 \$410,350.00

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

25-571- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to supplemental appropriations for fund 110 CDBG:

Brownfield—2: 110-2024-5001.00 \$400,000.00

HB2 Jail Grant: 110-2025-5001.00 \$250,000.00

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

25-572- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to recess the commissioners meeting on Monday, November 10, 2025 at 4:00pm.

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

25-573- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to reconvene the commissioners meeting Monday, November 10, 2025 at 4:00pm for a CIC meeting.

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

25-574- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to recess the commissioners meeting on Monday, November 10, 2025 at 5:45pm.

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

25-575- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to reconvene the commissioners meeting November 12, 2025 for Lunch & Learn meeting at 11:00am.

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

25-576- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to adjourn the commissioners meeting on November 12, 2025 for a Lunch & Learn meeting at 1:00pm.

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

Cecil Mayle, President

Heidi Maxwell, Vice-President

Steven Best, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

Resolution No: 25-561

A resolution authorizing the filing of (an) application(s) with the Ohio Department of Transportation by Morgan County Commissioners

for grants through the US DOT Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the State of Ohio, as authorized under Federal Transit Laws and State of Ohio laws executing a contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation upon project approval.

WHEREAS, the Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants for the US DOT Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds and the State of Ohio;

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision by it of the local share of the project costs in the program if applicable;

WHEREAS, it is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance the applicant gives an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY
Morgan County Commissioners

1. That Cecil Mayle, President
is authorized on behalf of Morgan County Commissioners
 - a. to execute and file
 - i. Proposals to aid in the financing of capital, operating, and planning assistance projects;
 - ii. Grant agreements with the Ohio Department of Transportation for aid in the financing of capital, operating, and planning assistance projects;
 - iii. An assurance or any other document required by the U.S. Department of Transportation effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
 - iv. Set forth affirmative disadvantage business policies in connection to any procurement made as part of the project.

2. That Cecil Mayle, President
is authorized to furnish such additional information as the Ohio Department of Transportation may require in connection with the proposal for the program of projects submitted to the Federal Transit Administration and the State of Ohio.

3. The undersigned duly qualified and acting Cecil Mayle, President
of the Morgan County Commissioners
certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution, adopted at a legally convened meeting of the
Morgan County Commissioners Held on 11/10/2025

Click here to enter text.

Sheila Welch 11-10-25
Signature of Recording Officer, Title Date

Attachment B:

**NOVEMBER 10, 2025
MORGAN COUNTY CVB**

Lunch & Learn

This Thursday, Nov. 13th, 11 AM to 1 PM at El' Palenque.

Small Business Workshop

Was rescheduled for Monday, November 17th, 10 AM to 2 PM at the Apex Event Center in Caldwell. Only 3 people, not associated with the event, registered for the initial date.

The Outdoor Recreation Council of Appalachia (ORCA), outside of their operational funding guaranteed through July of 2027, need \$770,000 of in-kind match over the 5-year period, January 2027-2032. This is approximately \$154,000 per year and would be approximately \$8,555 for each of the 18 counties in the region. They want those in the region to think about potential avenues. In-kind match can be salaries (or percentage of), contract services for marketing or business support in the region, etc.

The ladies from MCCA are painting Christmas windows again this year. We are working with them to paint 1 window at the visitor center and the windows on the front of the Riecker Building. It will cost \$500, which supports the MCCA. Our theme is Silent Night. We have created a QR code, that will be placed on the windows, to be scanned that plays Silent Night.

The pictures from the Heritage Day Gallery will be hung in the lobby soon. We're having a Morgan County Calendar made using photos that were submitted. I'll be ordering 100.

STR Legislation is working its way through. See attached for comparisons of HB 161 and Sub HB 109.

Our board meeting will be November 17th. We will start looking at the 2026 budget. I will have a follow-up meeting in January to finalize the budget before our annual meeting in February.

