

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, November 24, 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:

Commissioner Best attended a Tourism meeting on Monday. He also attended a Health Department meeting Thursday.

Friday, Commissioner Maxwell attended an EODA meeting.

25-593- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the minutes of November 17, 2025.

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

25-594- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to award a project to Fox Heating & Cooling to install a mini split in the amount of \$7,000.00.

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

25-595- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the following resolution. See Attachment A

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

Alan Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance

Able's Heating Cooling has ordered a new circuit board for the air handler on the 2nd floor West side of the Courthouse 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.

Kitchen drain has been cleared of the blockage. The blockage was at the 45-degree elbow going from the building to the Grease Trap Tank. It was discovered that there is a 4” to 6” crack in the 4” cast iron drain line as it gets to the elbow. Apperson’s put a temporary collar on the cracked line until we can replace a 10’ section of the pipe. 11-20-25 Rotor rooter and Apperson’s worked together to unclog the Kitchen drain from the dishwasher to the grease trap. It was Jetted and the camera was ran through showing the blockage was gone 11-20-21

Kurt Johnson, Airport Authority

Document Signing Procedure

- Mr. Johnson outlined a set of documents requiring signatures from multiple parties, including an auditor and a prosecutor.
- There are three copies of the documents, but only one needs to be reviewed in full.
- He will sign his portion, then forward the documents to the remaining parties for their signatures and return.
- Completing this signing process is required before the pre-construction meeting can occur.

Airport Grant for Fuel Farm

- Mr. Johnson is pursuing a special grant through the State of Ohio ODOT Aviation.
- The grant provides an exception to the usual restriction on funding revenue-generating items (e.g., hangars, fuel farms).
- He has applied for funding to install a new fuel farm.
- The existing fuel system was not designed for aviation and needed modifications to meet specifications.

Proposed New Fuel System

- The objective is to install a compliant aviation tank with a card reader.
- This would enable true self-service, replacing the current setup that requires staff presence to unlock the tank.

- Current payment options are limited to cash, check, Venmo, and PayPal; credit cards are not accepted.
 - Adding a card reader is expected to increase usage and attract more business.
-
-

Adam Triplet, Veteran's Office

Current Situation & Justification for Raise

- **Current Compensation:** Board members currently receive \$300 per month.
- **Historical Compensation:**
 - The rate was increased to \$300 four years ago.
 - Prior to that, it was \$275 for 10 years.
 - This represents a total increase of only \$75 over the last 12+ years.
- **Proposed Compensation:** A raise is proposed to make the position more worthwhile. The speaker's proposal is for the board to review and approve, with flexibility to adjust the amount.
-

Comparative Analysis & Benchmarking

- **Noble County:** Veteran Service Commission members are paid \$550 per month.
- **Guernsey County:** Compensation is higher than Noble County's. They also require board members to come into the office one day a week on a rotating basis—a practice the speaker deems unnecessary for their office.
- **Health Department:** Efforts to obtain board member salaries for comparison were unsuccessful due to a public records release requirement.
- **General County Comparison:** Direct comparisons are difficult. Some counties pay their board members \$1,000–\$2,000 per month.

Implementation & Financials

- **Funding Source:** The proposed raise would be paid from the office’s existing budget line item
- **Implementation Precedent:** Four years ago, the assistant prosecuting attorney provided a legal opinion that, because these are appointed positions, a pay increase can take effect for all members simultaneously rather than waiting for individual reappointments over a five-year cycle.
- **Approval Process:** County commissioners must approve any change to board member compensation.

Office Growth & Staffing

- **Recent Improvements:** In 2025, the office offered health insurance to employees for the first time—a major step in attracting highly qualified candidates, rather than only those who don’t require benefits (e.g., the director had VA coverage when hired 12 years ago).
- **Future Plans:** The office aims to grow and is considering hiring another BSO (Benefit Service Officer) next year.

25-596- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to enter executive session with Prosecutor Welch at 11:37am pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

25-597- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to exit executive session with Prosecutor Welch at 12:08pm pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

Steve Redrup, EMA

- Attended the Southeast Sector EMA Meeting
- Held third meeting for the HMP
- Attended G400 training in Perry County, G300 and G400 are completed now
- Worked on the Case Commander, the mobile ICS system the EMA uses

- Working on developing new response boards for the EMA, looking at various models that are available and models being used by other local EMA agencies.

Shannon Wells, Development Office

A contract amendment is being requested by Monroe County Department of Job & Family Services for the non-emergency transportation. The amendment will extend the contract until December 31, 2025.

A contract change order has been submitted for Shriver Excavating on two septic repair projects. A deduct of \$400 for 695 E. Shrivvers Rd. Stockport and an add of \$1,140 for 2666 Stoney Point Rd. Malta.

A \$10,000 grant award from AEP has been received for a housing study.

A meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2025 at 1:30 to review the jail schematic design with DLZ.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Submitted report

-Full report can be found online at:

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

Garth Ruff; Bo Powell. Fairgrounds Update

Fair Performance and Statistics

- The 2025 fair was good, though not great. The 2025 tractor pull was rained out.
- 6,800 daily passes were sold.
- Season pass sales hit a record with nearly 1,000 sold; tickets ran out.
- The 4-H livestock sale set a new record by \$200,000, aided by high cattle prices.

Completed and Ongoing Infrastructure Projects

- **Department of Development Grant:** A grant secured by Jay Edwards before leaving office funded multiple improvements.

- **Poultry Area:** A new poultry show area was added; 60 more pens are planned for next year.
- **Horse Arena & Barns:**
 - The horse arena was renovated.
 - The first red horse barn had all underground posts replaced; a gutter was added to the backside.
 - The feeder calf barn received similar repairs, including new posts and a new gutter.
- **Racetrack Maintenance:** Dave Clemens completed projects around the racetrack. Trainers handle most maintenance; the fair provides gravel and equipment as needed.
- **Camping Area:** A major expansion near the horse arena reduced the camping waitlist from 30+ to about a dozen.
- **Property Survey:** A survey clarified property lines, resolving a longstanding issue and clearing the way for the boat ramp project.

Tracy Simmons, Visitor's Center

See Attachment B

25-600- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to move ARPA funds (fund 321) to the 911 in the amount of \$301,675.01.

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

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

The IT Director met with Cyber Ohio to discuss the results of the Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement grant that was submitted in September 2024. Morgan County did not receive their initial request due to the FEMA Economic Hardship Waiver being pulled. However, Cyber Ohio still wants to help Morgan County get some of the requested cybersecurity software. The IT Director has a follow up meeting scheduled with Cyber Ohio to discuss fund matching possibilities that will allow Morgan County to procure required cybersecurity software.

The IT Director attended the Zanesville – Muskingum Safety Council meeting on November 19, 2025. The topic of discussion was cameras and other security devices for businesses presented by Advanced Business Communications.

The IT Director met with GloFiber to discuss converting several County office locations from coax Internet to fiber.

Several new cell phones were procured for the Sheriff's office from AT&T/FirstNet. The IT Director set them up and added County e-mail to the phones.

There was a significant Cloudflare DNS outage on November 18, 2025 that took many services the County relies upon offline for most of the day; affected services included ChatGPT.

Transfers, Then & Now, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

25-601-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

25-602- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve a supplemental appropriation to account numbers 0920092-5102.00 in the amount of \$6,100.00 and 092-0092-5368.00 in the amount of \$50.00. These funds are necessary to cover the salary and Medicare payment of the safety officer that is at Morgan County High School, funds are reimbursed by Morgan Local Schools and deposited into the revenue account.

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

25-603- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve a supplemental appropriation to account number 001-0601-5367.00 in the amount of \$26,200.00. These funds are necessary to cover OPERS payment for employees at the Morgan County Sheriff's Office. Previous administration failed to budget the proper amount to support the 2025 fiscal year.

Your consideration and approval of the supplemental appropriation is needed to complete the 2025 fiscal year.

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

25-604 - Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the establishment of new revenue line for Fund 345 VOCA Grant, this is part of the ongoing cleanup of funds/account lines. 345-0345-4002.00 Receipts

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

25-605- Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to appropriate funds from: other expenses #030-0030-5309.00 into salary line item #030-0030-5102.00 in the amount of \$359.58

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

25-606- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to a transfer of \$213.04 from 200-0200-5301.00 into line 001-0602-4002.00 for 3rd Quarter 2025 Housing Trust Fund Admin Fees.

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

25-607-Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to adjourn the commissioners meeting on November 24, 2025 at 4:00pm.

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

Cecil Mayle, President

Heidi Maxwell, Vice-President

Steven Best, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk



November 21, 2025

***Morgan County
Commissioners***

155 East Main St., Room 216
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756
Phone: 740-962-3183
Fax: 740-962-2014

Cecil Mayle
Heidi Maxwell
Steve Best
Sheila Welch, Clerk

Resolution Authorizing Publication of Notice of Intent and Mailing of an RFP for Energy Conservation Measures (R.C. 307.041)

Resolution No.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MORGAN COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING (i) USE OF THE REQUEST-FOR-PROPOSALS METHOD UNDER R.C. 307.041, (ii) PUBLICATION OF THE STATUTORY NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST PROPOSALS, AND (iii) MAILING OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES.

WHEREAS, R.C. 307.041 permits a county to implement energy conservation measures by requesting proposals from at least three vendors and, before mailing any request for proposals ("RFP"), requires publication of a notice of intent stating the County's intent to request proposals and the date the RFP will be mailed; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to explore energy conservation measures in County facilities and to solicit proposals from qualified energy services companies ("ESCOs") consistent with R.C. 307.041.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Morgan County, Ohio, that:

1. **Procurement Method.** The Board authorizes use of the procurement method set forth in R.C. 307.041 to request proposals from ESCOs for the implementation of energy conservation measures in County facilities.
2. **Notice of Intent.** The Board approves the **Notice of Intent to Request Proposals** substantially in the form presented to this meeting and authorizes the County Administrator (or designee) to publish the notice **once a week for two consecutive weeks** in a newspaper of general circulation in the County or as otherwise permitted by R.C. 7.16.
3. **Mailing of RFP.** The Board authorizes the County Administrator (or designee) to finalize and mail the RFP on the specified mailing date to (i) at least three vendors/installers of energy conservation measures and (ii) any installer that timely submits written notice of interest, all as required by R.C. 307.041.
4. **No Award by This Resolution.** This resolution **does not** award a contract. After receipt of proposals, the County will evaluate qualifications and proposals and may select the most qualified installer to prepare an energy conservation report as contemplated by R.C. 307.041. Any contract award will be brought back to this Board by separate resolution following receipt and review of the energy conservation report, and after the findings required by R.C. 307.041.

5. **Reservation of Rights.** The County expressly reserves the right to reject any or all proposals as permitted by R.C. 307.041.

6. **Effective Date.** This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: 11/24/25
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, MORGAN COUNTY, OHIO

Attest: Shailey Welch, Clerk

Sincerely,

Cecil Mayle, President

Cecil Mayle

Heidi Maxwell, Vice President

Heidi Maxwell

Steven C. Best, Member

Steven C. Best

Attachment B

DIRECTOR'S REPORT NOVEMBER 17, 2025

Heritage Day

We had 97 visitors into the visitor center during Heritage Day. Several of the photographers came in to see their photos. The photo gallery was a big success, and the photos will be up in the lobby soon.

I'm having a Morgan County Calendar created with photos from the gallery. I'll be getting 100 calendars for the 2026 year. It will have America 250 information as well as Morgan County fun facts.

America 250

The committee is going to focus on events that already occurs in the county and supporting them.

For separate events we'll be exploring is a Military and First Responder Car Show and a Holiday Lights Self Guided Tour. I have an email out to Andrea regarding the car show, and we'll be working out the details at a later meeting.

Heritage Ohio

Committee's have been working on work plans. The focus is to get established in the first year.

AMLER

I didn't apply for funding this year. I had a meeting with Adam from ODNR. This year there's only \$10 million (2024 \$20 Million) and more applications than last year. There are 2 other projects being submitted from Morgan County.

1 2 3

County Map

The county engineer is having a new county map created and I've been working with them to include tourism attractions and information on the map.

Rural Business Development Grant (RDBG)

We had the Morgan County Lunch & Learn. A few small businesses attended. I was told it was the best attended out of the 3 and ACEnet is looking forward to possibly holding a workshop in the county for our small businesses.

Visitor Center

Visitors

August – 69

September – 52

October – 160

Total – 281

YTD - 678

**Morgan County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Minute Notes
November 17, 2025**

Present: Clint Foreman, Steve Best, Brianna Mayle
Staff: Tracy Simons
Absent: Tyrell Curtis, Shannon Wells

Meeting called to order by Clint Foreman at 4:28 PM

Approval of the August 18, 2025, minutes: Motion to approve by Steve Best, motion second by Clint Foreman. All in favor, minutes approved.

Financial report:

Public account balance: \$153,089.84
Private account balance: \$2,300.24
Total balance: \$155,390.08
August total balance: \$135,846.08
2nd Q tax \$18,143.73

Director's Report: Attached

Marketing Budget Update:

Group went over the Facebook Insights, which are down. They were also down in November of 2024.

Our 6-month contract with iTrack for social media was up on October 1, 2025. We are month to month. Will need to make decision for a contract for 2026 at the January 2026 budget meeting. They have been doing a great job, and we've had no issues since Tracy has been approving posts before they are published.

New Business/Action Items

We received \$1,487.63 from the Village of McConnelsville for lodging tax. Board approved to donate \$1,000 to the McConnelsville Aspiring Community. Motion by Steve Best, second by Clint Foreman, all in favor.

ORCA is applying for an ARC ARISE grant and need \$770,000 of in-kind match, a commitment from January of 2027-2032. This would be for personal and contract services. They are asking each of the 18 counties in the region to participate. Motion to not participate in the in-kind match by Steve Best, Second by Clint Foreman, all in favor.

Ohio Travel Pavilion's contract for 2026 needs approval to move forward. They have added 4 new shows in Buffalo, Indianapolis, Equine Affair, and the Circleville Pumpkin Show. The 2026 contract amount is \$3,890, a difference of \$430.50 (corrected amount from \$420.50). Motion to approve Clint Foreman, Second Steve Best, all in favor.

Next meeting Monday, January 12, 2026, 4:30 PM. Location TBD.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn by Steve Best, seconded by Clint Foreman. Meeting Adjourned 5:00 PM

