

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, December 15, 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:

Commissioner Mayle attended a Jail Board meeting Wednesday.

Commissioner Best attended an ABM meeting Wednesday as well.

All of the commissioners attended a senior citizen dinner on Thursday.

Commissioner Best attended an FCFC meeting Friday.

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**25-643-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the minutes of December 8, 2025.

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

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*John Telesz, Engineer; Patrick Kidd, Deputy Engineer*

## **Snow and Ice Management Strategy**

### **Financial & Resource Planning**

- **Budget Projection:** A budget adjustment is needed to account for the abundance of salt acquired during the summer, which was not initially included in the projection.
  - **Salt Supply:** There is a large supply of salt available for the upcoming winter season.
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*Alan Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance*

Able's Heating Cooling has ordered a new Fan Motor for the air handler on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor West side of the Courthouse. Unit is still under Warranty, but we will have to pay the Labor 12-3-25

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.

Had Nathan from Apperson's here to inspect all the sewage lines from the kitchen dishwasher to where it goes outside for cracks and decided to replace all 4" inside pipes. 11-25-25 Replacement is scheduled for 12-20-25

Started cleaning out the large storage room next to the Community Room. 12-4-25

Replaced all the CHU filters and Elevator Control Room Air Conditioner filter. 12-10-25

Removed the mower deck from the John Deere tractor and installed the loader and blade for snow removal. 12-12-25

Enviro Flow is scheduled to replace outside grease trap line and cleanout 12-15-25

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***Heidi Burns, JFS***

Contract with Community Action for \$75,000 for Home Delivery Meals for 2026

Mandated Share: December 2025 \$3,442.75

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**25-644-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the Closing of the Dispute Resolution account (#024) in the Probate Court budget. The Court requests that the balance in that account, \$9,125.40, be transferred to the Common Pleas Court's Special Projects (#027) balance. The funds are to be used for a digitizing project in Probate Court.

See Attachment A

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

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***Steve Redrup, EMA Director***

Attended table top exercise in Muskingum County, attended as an evaluator for their exercise

Attended multiple Teams meeting

Monitored weather with multiple briefing from the NWS

Continued work on HMP

Attended training on IPAWS in Hocking County

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

0At the end of November Sophia attended a Senior Fair Board meeting. November 20th and the 21st Sophia held older youth interviews for 3 youth interested in pursuing older youth opportunities in 2026. We had youth interested in Junior Fair Board (2) and serving as a youth ambassador on the 4-H committee and the sale committee (2). On November 24th Sophia held the holiday celebration for the Older Youth in Training and the Junior Leaders to reward a year of hard work. They had a pizza party and watched movies. Sophia also attended a 4-H committee meeting on this night. On December 5th Sophia was interviewed on WHIZ Live at Noon regarding how to become a volunteer for Morgan County 4-H. December 13th Sophia attended Market Steer Tag-in it went well. December 14th Sophia attended the Senior Fair Board meeting.

Sophia works on prepping QA, older youth programs and training for new volunteers and returning volunteers at this time.

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

#### 4-H Activities

- Camp Counselors and Counselor in-training 2026 applications reviewed, interviewed completed, and individuals selected to for the program.
- 11/24/25 4-H Advisory Committee meeting

#### FCS Activities

- Working on putting together the FCS calendar for 2026.
- Attended Morgan County Family and Children First Council 12/12/25.

#### Area Leader Activities

- One-on-one sessions with employees in Area 19 (Morgan, Muskingum, Perry, and Washington Counties) regularly. Continuing to work on Fall check-ins reviewing both performance and professional development goals for the year.
- Working on onboarding (2) new employees.
- In the hiring process for new Office staff in Washington County.
- Attend monthly two online monthly Area Leader meetings.

#### Other

- 11/19/25 Attended the regional conversation for OSU Extension in Zanesville, OH
- 12/10/25 Attended the OSU Service award luncheon and received 25-year pin.

### **Betsy Ellingsworth- FCS Extension Educators Coordinator 3**

Betsy attended the OSU Extension Regional Conversations meeting in Zanesville on November 19 with the Morgan County Extension office staff.

On December 16, she is concluding a 6 week “Taking Care of Me” Series at Morgan East Elementary which was taught to kindergarten, first and second grade students.

Betsy attended a Trauma Informed Approach Training in Columbus on December 3 & 4 with Alivia Mock and is now certified to instruct and offer this training to community partners in Morgan County.

She continues to partner with Morgan United Ministries to distribute recipes and healthy eating resources at the monthly food distributions in Malta, Stockport, and Chesterhill which she participated at on December 9.

At the senior center, Betsy is leading a Wits Workout program and led sessions there on November 20 and December 11.

On December 8, she and Pam Montgomery went to the JCEP Recognition Day in Columbus.

She attended the FCFC meeting with Pam Montgomery on December 12 and gave a presentation to all those in attendance about the various programs she can offer to our community.

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

In November, Jordan gave his monthly TV interview on WHIZ News, discussing upcoming events, pasture/hay field renovations, and Thanksgiving fun facts. He also attended OSU Extension Regional Conversation. Jordan also held a Beef Quality Assurance on the 20th, to recertify and certify anyone who attended. In December, Jordan attended the Morgan SWCD corn club banquet for the awards, and what was seen this year during the yield checks for the corn club contest. The first Cattleman’s meeting of winter was held on the 8th, with the main topic being to bring your own questions. Jordan has also continued to participate in various meetings, including the bi-weekly corn call meeting, bi-weekly between-the-rows meetings, monthly beef team meetings, and monthly forage team meetings, to share updates about crops, forages, livestock, and conditions in Morgan County with his coworkers around the state. He has also been writing weekly for the Herald, posting weekly blog posts on the Morgan County ANR Blog, and sending monthly email newsletters.

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

November

4H – Alivia attended the 2025 Annual Quality Assurance recertification training and the 2025 4H professionals Inservice conference in Columbus.

ANR – Alivia attended a Dairy Calf education zoom on 11/12 and a farmer and farmland tax webinar on 11/14. Alivia attended the 2025 annual Master Gardener Coordinator conference on 11/21 in Columbus.

FCS – Alivia attended the OSU Regional Conversations on 11/19/2025 in Zanesville. Alivia

December

4H - Alivia will volunteer with Sophia at Tabor Ridge Christian School during their secret shopper Christmas program on 12/16/2025. Alivia will attend the 4H area 19 & 20 Meeting in Bell Valley on 12/17/2025.

ANR - Alivia attended a planning meeting with Morgan County Soil and Water on 12/10/2025. Alivia attended an Ohio Farm to School Network meeting on 12/11/2025.

FCS - Alivia attended a two-day certification training in Columbus to gain a certification in Trauma Informed Care.

The Ohio State University will be closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1. We look forward to spending time with our family and friends and observing the university's winter academic recess.

Thanks to our community partners, volunteers, and 4-H members for a great 2025. We look forward to connecting with in early 2026!

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*John Wilt, 911 Coordinator*

## **Grant Status and Purchasing Constraints**

- Grant funds cannot be used retroactively; equipment must be purchased after the grant award to be eligible.
- Current purchasing is on hold pending the grant decision to align with grant requirements.
- Agency contact indicated recommendations were submitted to a supervisor; a decision is expected sometime in December.
- Risk noted: If the grant does not come through, proceeding without grant support may be necessary, but timing must avoid pre-award purchases.

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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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***Shannon Wells, Development Office***

A lease amendment signature is requested for Buckeye Southeast Transit Caldwell location with Ben Schafer realty.

The budget request for the solid waste district recycling driver for 2026 is \$61,900. The increase is due to employee needing insurance and working a 40-hour work week.

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***Amber Wilson, Senior Citizens Director***

Council meeting is Tuesday the 23rd at 9:30 AM.

Christmas holiday dinner served 89 seniors.

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***Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator***

No Report

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

**25-645-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the following transfers:

| <b>Amount</b> | <b>To</b>                           | <b>From</b>                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| \$2,000.00    | 001-0601-5304.01 Equipment Vehicles | 001-0601-5303.00 Supplies             |
| \$2,000.00    | 001-0601-5304.01 Equipment Vehicles | 001-0601-5306.00 Contract Services    |
| \$2,000.00    | 001-0601-5304.01 Equipment Vehicles | 001-0601-5304.00 Equipment & Uniforms |

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

**25-646-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to request the following transfers:

\$300.00 from 001-0601-5309.00 Other Expenses

To 001-0601-5304.00 Equipment & Uniforms

We are using a local vendor to embroider logos and names on poles, this money transfer will pay the vendor and allow equipment & uniforms close the year positivity

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

**25-647 -** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to transfer the following:

\$2.48 from contract services line item 001-0301-5306.00 board salaries line item 001-0103-5101 for year-end payroll.

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

**25-648-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to transfer the following:

\$395.00 from 001-0207-5367.00 (PERS) to 001-0207-5321.00 (other fees)

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

**25-649-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to transfer \$20,000.00 from K2 Salaries 004-0004-5102.00 into K11 Garage Labors 004-0004-5102.01 to cover shortage for the last pay of the year.

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

**25-650-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve all transfers. See Attachment B

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

**25-651-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to request a supplemental appropriation to account number 001-0601-5367.00 in the amount of \$4,176.26. These funds are necessary to cover the last pay period in the PERS account. Your consideration and approval of this supplementary request is needed to complete 2025 fiscal year.

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

**25-652-** Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve the following Correcting Supplemental Appropriation for Fund 038. Add \$2,000.00 to 038-0038-5301.00 Recorders Equipment Fund. This is to make a correction to the original Appropriations done at the beginning of the year.

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

**25-653-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to approve all supplemental appropriations. See Attachment C

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

**25-654-** 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**

**25-655-** Motion by Mrs. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Best to adjourn the commissioners meeting on Monday, December 15, 2025 at 4:00pm.

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

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**Cecil Mayle, President**

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**Heidi Maxwell, Vice-President**

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**Steven Best, Member**

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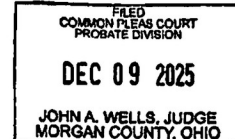
**Sheila Welch, Clerk**

Approved on: May 26, 2026

Attachment A:



**MORGAN COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**  
**JUDGE JOHN A. WELLS**  
19 East Main Street  
McConnelsville, OH 43756  
Common Pleas Division: 740-962-3371  
Probate & Juvenile Division: 740-962-2861



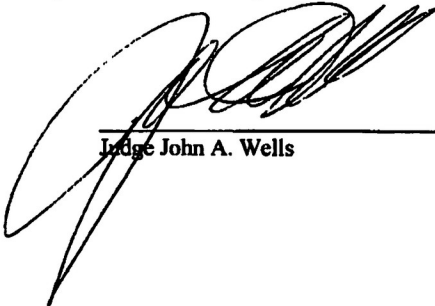
**PROBATE COURT OF MORGAN COUNTY, OHIO**

**Local Rule Terminating the Dispute Resolution Fund**

This Court, pursuant to R.C. 2101.163 and by rule dated August 15, 2019 ordered the collection of an additional fifteen-dollar fee on the filing of each action or proceeding to fund the resolution of disputes and ordered the creation of a "Dispute Resolution Fund".

Effective December 31, 2025, the rule requiring the collection of this additional fee to fund the resolution of disputes is rescinded. The county treasurer may terminate the Dispute Resolution Fund after December 31, 2025.

Pursuant to R.C. 2101.163(c), the Court declares the entire balance of the Dispute Resolution Fund to be surplus. Said surplus funds shall be expended to scan and digitize the records of the probate court.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge John A. Wells

**Morgan County  
Statement of Cash Position**

From: 1/1/2025 to 12/31/2025

Funds: 024 to 024

Include Inactive Accounts: No

| Fund                | Description           | Beginning Balance | Net Revenue YTD   | Net Expense YTD | Increases, Other YTD | Decreases, Other YTD | Unexpended Balance | Encumbrance YTD | Ending Balance    |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 024                 | DISPUTE RESOLUTION FU | \$7,775.40        | \$1,350.00        | \$0.00          | \$0.00               | \$0.00               | \$9,125.40         | \$0.00          | \$9,125.40        |
| <b>Grand Total:</b> |                       | <b>\$7,775.40</b> | <b>\$1,350.00</b> | <b>\$0.00</b>   | <b>\$0.00</b>        | <b>\$0.00</b>        | <b>\$9,125.40</b>  | <b>\$0.00</b>   | <b>\$9,125.40</b> |

Attachment B:



## Morgan County Sheriff's Office

James R. Fisher, Sheriff  
Morgan County Sheriff's Office  
37 E. Main St.  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756  
Phone : 740-962-4044  
Fax : 740-962-4035  
sheriff.fisher@morgancountyohio.gov

December 12, 2025

Board of Morgan County Commissioners  
155 East Main Street  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756

**Subject: Budget Transfer Request**

Dear Commissioners,

Please approve the following transfers

\$2,000.00

From 001-0601-5304.01- Equipment Vehicles ✓

To 001-0601-5303.00- Supplies ✓

\$2,000.00

From 001-0601-5304.01- Equipment Vehicles ✓

To 001-0601-5306.00- Contract Services ✓

\$2,000.00

From 001-0601-5304.01- Equipment Vehicles ✓

To 001-0601-5304.00- Equipment & Uniforms ✓

Thank you for your continued support of the Morgan County Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Weaver".

Pamela Weaver  
Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant

Cmm 12/15/25  
HRM 12/15/25  
SCB 12/15/25

Posted  
12-15-2025  
JD



**Morgan County Sheriff's Office**

James R. Fisher, Sheriff  
Morgan County Sheriff's Office  
37 E. Main St.  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756  
Phone : 740-962-4044  
Fax : 740-962-4035  
sheriff.fisher@morgancountyohio.gov

December 11, 2025

Board of Morgan County Commissioners  
155 East Main Street  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756

**Subject: Budget Transfer Request**

Dear Commissioners,

Please approve the following transfer

\$300.00

From 001-0601-5309.00- Other Expenses ✓✓

To 001-0601-5304.00- Equipment & Uniforms ✓

We are using a local vendor to emborder logos and names on polos, this money transfer will pay the vendor and allow equipment & uniforms close the year positively.

Thank you for your continued support of the Morgan County Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully,

Pamela Weaver  
Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant

Cmm 12/15/25  
HRM 12/15/25  
SCB 12/13/25  
Posted 12-15-2025  
JD

MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

155 E. Main St. Rm. 157  
McConnelsville, OH 43756

Phone: (740) 962-3116 Fax: (740) 962-3099 Email: [morgan@OhioSoS.gov](mailto:morgan@OhioSoS.gov) [www.morgancountyboardofelections.com](http://www.morgancountyboardofelections.com)

Jerry Lou Matheney, Chairperson    Director, Tracie Wagoner    Deputy Director, Valerie Mayle  
James B. Wilson, Member    Judy Ray, Member    Cindy Tuttle, Member



December 15, 2025

To County Commissioners:

Please accept this request to transfer the following:

\$2.48 from "Contract Services" line item 001-0301-5306 to "Board Salaries" line item 001-0301-5 101 for year end payroll.

For a total of \$2.48 to be transferred to Board Salaries.

Respectfully,

*Tracie Wagoner*

Tracie Wagoner, Director  
Valerie Mayle, Deputy Director  
Morgan Co. BOE

*Cmm 12/15/25  
HRM 12/15/25  
SCB 12/15/25*

*Morgan County Court*

*Michael D. Lowe, Judge*

*37 E. Main Street*

*McConnelsville, OH 43756*

*Telephone (740) 962-4031*

*Fax (740) 962-2895*

December 10, 2025

Morgan County Commissioners  
155 E. Main Street  
McConnelsville, OH 43756

Dear Commissioners:

Please transfer the following:

\$395.00 from 001-0207-5367.00 (Pers) to 001-0207-5321.00 (other fees).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Kelly Williams*

Kelly Williams  
Clerk

cc: Jessica Junn

*Comm 12/15/25*  
*HLM 12/15/25*  
*KB 12/15/25*

*Posted 12.15.2025*  
*-JD*



Morgan County Office of the Engineer  
155 East Main Street Room 208  
McConnelsville, OH 43756

OFFICE(740)962-3171 OFFICE FAX(740)962-3703 GARAGE(740)962-2041 GARAGE FAX(740)962-2440

Attn: Morgan County Commissioners

12/15/2025

RE; Budget Adjustment

Commissioners,

I am requesting to transfer \$20,000 from K2 Salaries 004-0004-5102.00 into K11 Garage Labors 004-0004-5102.01 to cover shortage for the last pay of the year.

Handwritten signature of John Telesz in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

John Telesz, P.E., P.S.

Morgan County Engineer

Commissioner's Approved

Three handwritten signatures in black ink, each written over a horizontal line. The signatures appear to be "L. J. Maxwell", "Steve Best", and another illegible signature.

Attachment C:



**Morgan County Sheriff's Office**  
James R. Fisher, Sheriff

Morgan County Sheriff's Office  
37 E. Main St.  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756

Phone: 740-962-4044

sheriff.fisher@morgancountyohio.gov

Fax: 740-962-4035

December 10, 2025

Board of Morgan County Commissioners  
155 East Main Street  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756

**Subject: Request for Supplementary Appropriation**

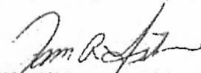
Dear Commissioners,

I respectfully request a supplementary appropriation to account number 001-0601-5367.00 in the amount of \$4,176.26. These funds are necessary to cover the last pay period in the PERS account.

Your consideration and approval of this supplementary request is needed to complete the 2025 fiscal year.

Thank you for your continued support of the Morgan County Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheriff James R. Fisher  
Morgan County Sheriff's Office

*Cmm 12/15/25*  
*HEM 12/15/25*  
*SCB 12/18/25*



RANDY WILLIAMS  
MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR

155 E. Main St. · Room 217  
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756  
740-962-4475



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Deputy Auditors:      Jenny Cordray      Jessica Junn      Courtney Morrow      Nathan Bowen      Madison Mummey

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12/8/2025

Dear Commissioners

Please approve the following Correcting Supplemental Appropriation for Fund 038

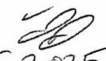
Add \$2,000.00 to 038-0038-5301.00 Recorders Equipment Fund

This is to make a correction to the original Appropriations done at the beginning of the year.

Thank you,

Jessica Junn  
Morgan County Deputy Auditor

Cmm 12/15/25  
HRM 12/15/25  
SCB 12/15/25

Posted   
12-15-2025

