

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, May 4, 2026.
The meeting was called to order at 8:30am with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

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

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

Tuesday, Commissioner Maxwell attended a Senior Citizens meeting.

She also attended a Buckeye Hills RAC on Aging meeting Wednesday. Commissioner Maxwell attended a CCAO meeting Thursday. Friday, she also attended another Buckeye Hills meeting. Commissioner Maxwell and Commissioner Best attended a zoom with Eric Leach on Wednesday.

Thursday, Commissioner Best attended a zoom with DLZ of Department of Correction.

Commissioner Best and Commissioner Mayle attended a Republican Luncheon on Friday.

*Commissioners are in receipt of April expense, revenue and statement of cash report from the Morgan County Auditor.

26-212- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the minutes of April 27, 2026

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

Al Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance

Monarch Roofing Re-inspected the lower-level roof again and took a core sample of the roofing insulation under the roofing fabric. 2-13-26 (Core sample was taken 2-16-26)

All mowing at the Grove Park, Commons, Dirt Pile Lot, EMA Building, Old Transit Garage and Senior Citizen Building completed 4-30-26

Jason Pierce is working on quote to install Emergency lights for the Riecker Building 4-27-26

Light Post for the Grove Park has been delivered awaiting Jason Pierce to install it. 5-1-26

John Telesz, Engineer

26-213- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve the following:

A resolution authorizing Morgan County Engineer's Office to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or local transportation improvement program(s) and to execute contracts and required.

Whereas the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program both provide financial assistance to political subdivisions for capital improvements to public infrastructure, and

Whereas the County of Morgan is planning to make emergency capital improvements to County Rd. #15 East Branch Road.

Whereas the infrastructure improvement herein above described is a priority, the need for the community is a qualified project under the OPWC programs.

Now Therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of Morgan County Commissioners

Section 1: The Morgan County Engineer's Office is hereby authorized to apply to the OPWC for funds as described above.

Section 2: The Morgan Engineer's Office is further authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

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

26-214- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to euthanize dogs named Baby and Angel.

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

Prosecutor Welch, Auditor Williams, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Brink, Sheriff Fisher, Mr. Bond, Mrs. Woodburn, Judge Lowe, Judge Wells

Discussed with elected officials about the possibility of data center.

26-215- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to enter executive session at 10:20am with Prosecutor Welch and Sheriff Fisher pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

26-216- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to enter executive session at 10:20am with Prosecutor Welch and Sheriff Fisher pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

26-217- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to terminate Alicia Medley effective May 4, 2026.

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

The commissioners went to Pennsville to look at a road vacation.

26-218- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve the following:

On May 4th, 2026, the Morgan County Commissioners vacated 6 lots located in the First Addition, Town on Pennsville, Section 2, Penn Township, Township 9, Range 12, Morgan County, Ohio by Resolution #26-218, and previously to this, Lot 41—A (Vacated Alley) was created as parcel #150-007-231-0 to Ed and Rhonda Newton;

With this affidavit, I want to combine Lot#41—A (Vacated Alley), Parcel#150-007-231-0 (0.694 acre) with vacated Lots 41 through 46 into one parcel. Subdivision 123-2.194 Acres—retaining Parcel#150-007-231-0 in the name of Justin Newton.

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

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

The Commissioners discussed the topics for this year's mandatory HR training from CORSA, the County's insurance company. This year, there is one mandatory topic: Be Prepared to Effectively Manage Leaves & Layoffs. There are two options for a second topic of training: Discrimination Harassment and Retaliation or The Evolution of Social Media in the Workplace. The decision was made to go with The Evolution of social media in the Workplace for the optional training module.

The IT Director created a new "do not reply" email address for the phone systems, copiers, and other sending devices around the County. This account was created with Gmail since there have

been issues adding our Microsoft 365 accounts to some of the older devices.

The Sheriff's office staff and 911 dispatchers were removed from the County's Microsoft 365 plan as they will be using their own plan through iTech. This will change the County's invoice slightly as we are now under 100 accounts.

The HostGator account for the County's old domain was transferred back to the original owner after the County's domain was renewed. The IT Director and the original owner got the account set backup properly after HostGator mixed up much of the account ownership information.

Amber Wilson, Senior Citizen Director

Upcoming Health Fair

- A health fair is scheduled for Thursday.
- Location referred to as "up there," exact venue not specified.

Painting Event with Don Mason

- A painting session with Don Mason will be held again.
- No specific date provided beyond being an upcoming activity.

Senior Gardening Day with Tractor Supply

- Tractor Supply reached out to host a senior gardening day in June.
- Seniors can choose either a garden pot or herbs.
- Noted as positive community engagement.

Jesse Owens Trip Planning

- No confirmation yet on the Jesse Owens trip.
- Planning is aimed at June.
- Chuck is the contact who runs and sets up the trip; his phone number is available.
- Ken and Sharon previously worked with Chuck on arrangements.

Picnic and Concert at the Park

- A picnic and concert at the park are planned for June.
- Referenced with "Tim Norman's morning up there," with June 11 mentioned.
- Exact Park name not specified.

John Telesz, Engineer

Stoplight and Intersection Management

- A temporary stoplight is proposed to be installed from next week through August, aligned with the arrival of lake poles.
- An alternative proposal to install four stop signs at other intersections was rejected.
- Converting the bridge to one-way traffic was considered and dismissed.
- A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, May 5 at 1:00 PM, to further discuss these traffic control plans.
- Engineer Telesz suggested using four automatic, trailer-mounted construction lights as a potential solution.

Funding for Old Iron Bridge Restoration

- Efforts are underway to secure \$20 million from an ODOT program called “local major bridge” funding.
- This is federal funding with an 80/20 match; the county must provide 20% of the cost.
- A major issue is that the bridge is currently too small to meet the program’s size requirements.
- To qualify, the bridge must be designated as “movable” or “operational.”
- Although the bridge has not operated in fifty years, it is physically capable of moving but was welded shut, and the key is missing.

Resolution to Change Bridge Designation

- A resolution has been drafted to authorize the Morgan County Engineer’s Office to update the Old Iron Bridge’s operational status to “movable.”
- This change is critical to pursuing ODOT funding.
- The \$5 fee collected for the bridge can cover a feasibility study and annual inspections.
- A consultant will be engaged in conducting a full feasibility study to meet ODOT requirements.
- If the bridge is not feasible to restore, the ODOT program also provides funds for demolition.

26-219- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to authorize the Engineer’s Office to update the operability to “moveable” of MRG-Co203-00.512_ (5835712), known as the old iron bridge; prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), local major bridge program(s) and to execute contracts as required.

Whereas the (ODOT) Local Major Bridge Program provides financial assistance to political subdivisions for capital improvements to moveable/lift bridges, and

Whereas the County of Morgan owns MRG-Co203-00.512 (5835712), known as the Old Iron Bridge, which is historic swing bridge on the Muskingum River, and

Whereas the infrastructure herein above described is a priority need for community and should qualify as a Local Major Bridge,

Now Therefore, be it Resolved, by the Morgan County Commissioners:

Section 1: The Morgan County Engineer's Office is hereby authorized to apply to the ODOT for funds as described above.

Section 2: The Morgan County Engineer's Office is further authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining financial assistance.

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

Heidi Burns, DJFS

1. Mandated Share for May 2026
2. COG Meeting on May 18th – Joe will be going with Commissioners
3. Grand Jury Subpoena for Georgia

PCSA restructuring

Shannon Wells, Development Office

Marietta College, Center for Appalachian Innovation submitted a proposal to complete a housing study for Morgan County. Shannon Wells is making a recommendation to move forward with accepting the Center for Appalachian Innovation's proposal.

Shannon Wells will attend the Ohio Brownfield Conference on May 6, 2026, as a facilitator with Burgess & Niple. Due to this scheduling conflict, Shannon Wells will not be in attendance for the land bank meeting on May 6, 2026.

Shannon Wells and John Telesz will attend the Village of Malta council meeting on May 7, 2026, at 6pm to discuss the county engineer's office doing the engineering for the CR2 project.

AEP called and let us know the LEAP grant for signage was not funded.

26-220- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve a change order for line items 1-4 only in the amount of \$7,435. For the Transit parking and lighting contract.

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

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Submitted report

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

Transfers, Then & Now, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

26-221- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

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

26-222- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve the mandated share for the month of May is \$3,442.75

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

26-223- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the mandated share. Attachment A

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

26-224- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to supplement appropriate additional funds into expense line 001-1401-5364.00 Property/Building Liability Insurance in the amount of \$30.00. ~~OBJ~~ Please adjust purchase order 2026-00244

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

26-225- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to request a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$400.00 in the account 001-0207-5322.00 credit card fees from 001-0207-5322.00 credit card fees from 001-0207-4004.00.

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

26-226- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve all supplemental appropriations. See Attachment B

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

26-227- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to transfer funds between the following accounts:

From	To	Amount
015-0015-5369.00 (L-12 WC)	OBJ 015-0015-5304.00 (L-3 Equip.)	\$148.00

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

26-228- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to transfer \$208.26 from 200-0200-5301.00 into line 0010602-4002.00 for 1st Quarter 2026 Housing Trust Admin Fees.

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

26-229- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to approve all transfers. See Attachment C

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

26-230- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to recess the commissioners meeting May 4, 2026, at 4:00pm.

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

26-231- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to reconvene the commissioners meeting Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 9:00am for a Land Bank meeting.

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

26-232- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to adjourn the commissioners meeting May 6, 2026, at 10:00am.

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

Approved by Commissioners on: August 24, 2026

Heidi Maxwell, President

Steve Best, Vice-President

Cecil Mayle, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

Attachment A:

MORGAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

**155 East Main Street, Room 009
McConnellsville, Ohio 43756
Phone: 740-962-4616 Fax: 740-962-5344**

May 4, 2026

Morgan County Board of Commissioners
155 East Main Street, Room 216
McConnellsville, OH 43756

RE: Mandated Share

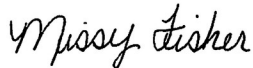
Commissioners:

Per letter received from the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, the mandated share for State Fiscal Year 2026 is \$41,313.00 We are presently billing you for:

**May 2026
\$3,442.75**

If you should have any questions, please contact me.

Approved By:



Missy Fisher, Fiscal Supervisor

Cc: Randy Williams, Morgan County Auditor

SCB 5/4/26
HRM 5/4/26
RWM 5/4/26

Attachment B:



RANDY WILLIAMS
MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR

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



Deputy Auditors:	Jenny Cordray	Jessica Junn	Courtney Morrow	Maddy Mummey	Nathan Bowen
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May 4, 2026

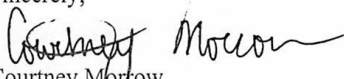
Dear Commissioners,

Please Supplementally appropriate additional funds into expense line 001-1401-5364.00
Property/ Building Liability Insurance line in the amount of \$30.00

I asked for the wrong amount in the supplemental from last week.

Please adjust purchase order 2026-00244

Sincerely,


Courtney Morrow
Chief Deputy Auditor

✓
cm
5/4/26

HRM 5/4/26
SCB 5/4/26
cm 5/4/26

Morgan County Court

Michael D. Lowe, Judge

37 E. Main Street

McConnelsville, OH 43756

Telephone (740) 962-4031

Fax (740) 962-2895

May 1, 2026

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

To whom it may concern:

I hereby request a Supplemental Appropriation in the amount of \$400.00 in account 001-0207-5322.00 credit card fees from 001-0207-4004.00 reimbursement other.

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

Sincerely,



Kelly Williams,
Clerk

cc: Jessica Junn

HRM 5/4/26
SCB 5/4/26
Cmm 5/4/26

Attachment C:



May 1, 2026

TO: Morgan County Commissioners

FROM: Morgan Soil & Water Conservation District

SUBJECT: Transfer Between Accounts

The Morgan SWCD Board of Supervisors respectfully requests the transfer of funds between the following accounts:

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
015-0015-5369.00 (L-12 WC)	015-0015-5304.00 (L-3 EQUIP.)	\$148.00

Thank you for time concerning this matter.

Respectively,

Trista Nelson
District Program Administrator
Morgan SWCD Board of Supervisors

HRM 5/4/26
3CB 5/4/26
Cmm 5/4/26
Posted 5.4.2026
/BD



RANDY D. WILLIAMS
MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR
155 E. Main St. · Room 217
McConnelsville, Ohio 43756
740-962-4475



Deputy Auditors:	Jenny Cordray	Nathen Bowen	Jessica Junn	Courtney Morrow	Maddy Mummey
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5/4/2026

Dear Commissioners,

Please Approve a transfer of \$208.26 from 200-0200-5301-00 into line 001-0602-4002-00 for
1st Quarter 2026 Housing Trust Fund Admin Fees.

Thank you,

Jessica Junn

ARM
SCB
Cmwl
5/4/26
5/4/26
5/4/26

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