

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

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

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

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

Commission Best attended zoom jail call on Friday.

26-267- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the minutes of June 1, 2026
Mrs. Maxwell absent, Mr. Best yea, Mr. Mayle yea Motion Carried

Sheriff Fisher, Sheriff's Office

26-268- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle an amendment for the front porch at the Sheriff's Office including concrete (prep, pour and clean-up), railing (railing, repair, sandblast, powder coat & reinstall) and equipment (concrete line pump)

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

Al Eltringham, Riecker Maintenance

Monarch Roofing Re-inspected the lower-level roof with the Insurance Adjuster 5-11-26

All mowing at the Grove Park, Commons, Dirt Pile Lot, EMA Building, Old Transit Garage and Senior Citizen Building completed 6-3-26

Pierce Electric has started installing Emergency lights and Exit Signs in the Riecker Building

Called Advanced Heating and Cooling to repaired RTU 3. 6-1-26

Called Shane Hildebrand about installing a railing in the attic at the Courthouse. 6-2-26

Mowed bank leading to the old pool house. 6-4-26

Heidi Burns, JFS

26-269- Motion by Mrs. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to enter executive session at 9:01am pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

26-270- Motion by Mrs. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to exit executive session at 9:21am pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

Agency awards

- The OMJ Department received a Gold Award for having the newest enrollees in SNAP E&T for a small county (roughly 40 small counties).
- The IM Department received 3rd place for Medicaid Redeterminations.
- Heidi received the John Fisher Service award from the Ohio Job and Family Services Director's Association. Recognizing her willingness to foster strong relationships with peers, providing guidance, advice, and assistance.
- Child Support was top performer in the small category for total disbursed current support with a 4.3% increase.

March QC Review shows error rate for Morgan County at 4.33%

SOFA in Gallipolis – trying to hire new Executive Director, having some staffing issues and training issues

Working on dress code with recommendations from committee

Children's Summit

Steve Redrup, EMA

Meeting Notes

- Topic Title: Fire suppression training at Burr Oak and dry hydrant status
 - Conducted training at Burr Oak on the fire suppression system; initial confusion about a broken dry hydrant.

- Clarified that the dry hydrant is functional. It requires placing a pump at the pond to push water up the hill.
- Morning test: if the fire suppression system is active, do not draw from the two wash hydrants; they drain in under two minutes.
- Tested and flushed the dry hydrant and despite prior claims, it had not been flushed; flushing confirmed it works.
- Proposed flushing schedule: Jackson flushes in spring and Chester flushes in fall (or vice versa) to support maintenance and training.
- Requested ODR to trim hedges near the parking lot and add markings (e.g., red stripes) so the hydrant is clearly identifiable. It is currently overgrown and difficult to find.
- Recommendation from discussion with the State Fire Marshal (Jeff Cohen): sustained operations require three engines (one at the bottom, one at the top, plus one additional).
- The site has 24,000 gallons contained to feed the system, intended as a buffer to begin firefighting until trucks arrive.

Larry Stanley, Concerned Citizen

Mr. Stanley specifically spoke of a local road—it has degraded into a significant operational and quality-of-life liability due to increased usage and neglect. Mr. Stanley has a lot of experience within heavy highway construction reports that increased traffic, including five new houses and constant patrols, directly impacting residents. The previous stop gap measure of grading the road was a tactical failure. The proposed solution is to install a new seal, a task that will be delegated to a third party. This situation reflects a classic infrastructure bottleneck where deferred maintenance and a reactive approach have created a systemic problem now demanding a more permanent, capital-intensive solution.

Shannon Wells, Development Office

Shannon Wells applied to the Ohio Department of Development for brownfield remediation funds for the Morgan County Land Reutilization Corporation. The new properties submitted were CIC property on 607 for an assessment of an old, abandoned oil well and tank, CIC CenturyLink building and Ohio Hardwoods building former ODOT garage.

Buckeye Southeast Transit is looking to make changes to the fare structure for out of county trips. A public meeting will be scheduled soon.

Buckeye Southeast Transit will receive a grant from The United Way for \$5,025 to assist with medical transportation costs.

Shannon Wells and Michael Betts met with Village of Stockport neighborhood revitalization committee on June 5, 2026, to finalize location of projects.

Shannon Wells and Commissioner Best met with DLZ for a jail project update on June 5, 2026.

Becky Thompson, Dog Warden

-Submitted report

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

Steve Fate, Jeff Fleming, Medical Mutual

Mr. Fate and Mr. Fleming went over this quarter's claims report with the commissioners.

Cindy Finley, Tammy Ray, Paws 4 a Cause

Meeting Notes

- Staffing arrangement and hours at the dog pound
 - A staff member is willing to stay if offered 15 hours/week.
 - Proposal to distribute hours among three people to cover sick days and state/transport days.
 - Concern that understaffing could force occasional closures.
 - Acknowledgment that two staff work well together; concern about potential turnover.
- Facility issues: mold, drywall, shower area

- Black mold identified near an electrical panel and in a bathroom shower area.
 - Wall material is drywall, not concrete.
 - AI was consulted briefly; final resolution details remain incomplete.
- Water intrusion and floor safety (sump pump, slip hazards)
 - Ongoing water issues since 2024; sump pump discussed but not resolved.
 - Considered creating a floor opening or channeling to divert water; no decision reached.
 - Safety risk when only one worker is present; slip-and-fall risk noted.
 - Suggestion to apply a grit/non-slip floor coating; entry access concerns remain.
 - Contingencies mentioned: temporarily relocate dogs to the fairgrounds (as Zanesville did) or instruct Becky not to bring more dogs until fixes are made.
- Financial status and budgeting of the dog pound
 - Pound was approximately \$40,000 in the red at one point; improved by a few thousand but still structurally underfunded.
 - Budget cited: \$79,523 for the year; \$14,000 spent at time of review (date on report unclear).
 - Practice: funds moved from general funds to dog funds. Such transfers appear via appropriation papers, not on standard online budget screens.
 - Reporting capability: Auditor's office can run detailed expenditure and revenue reports for the dog pound.
 - Revenues mainly from dog tags and adoptions; insufficient to cover expenses. Ticket/fine processing goes through the courts, with the sheriff's auditing; county maintains the lowest dog tag fees.
 - Efforts to raise tag fees faced resistance; some residents prefer risking fines over licensing.
- Signage and visibility of the facility
 - The lighted Morgan County Dog Pound sign is set back and hard to see from the road.
 - State right-of-way (60 ft) prevents moving the sign closer; a prior request was denied.
 - A banner on the front fence is permitted as an alternative for visibility.

- Equipment and facility improvements
 - Four new kennels installed; Sonny provided positive feedback.
 - Jamie McNabb donated a building for dog food storage, free space.
 - An old van is used to transport dogs and has been a “godsend.”
- Recognition of staff contributions
 - Praise for Ms. Clay’s social media work and overall performance.
 - The county provided a downtown van temporarily for her transportation needs, fostering loyalty.

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

There was a meeting concerning fiber connectivity to the data center project on Center Bend Rd. in Center Township this past week. The company made the comment that they will be running 144 strands of fiber underground from Zanesville to the data center location. They also mentioned that “one or two” strands could be set aside for the County to utilize, but they emphasized that they would not help with fiber to home projects. The Development Office asked the IT Director if there were any possible use cases for a strand or two dark fibers between Zanesville and McConnelsville. At the time of this meeting, no use came to mind.

A computer at the Courthouse was identified as hacked this week. The infected computer was sending out emails to all its contacts containing a link to more malware. The IT Director received one of these emails. Fortunately, the infected computer was scheduled to be replaced the next day or two, so it was powered down and taken offline until could be replaced. The replacement of this computer is part of the ongoing Window 10 computer replacement at Common Pleas Court.

Transfers, Then & Nows, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Applications

26-271- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to transfer \$6,500.00 from 092-0092-5102.00 Rotary Salary to 092-0092-5367.00 Rotary PERS County Portion.

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

26-272- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve all transfers. See Attachment A

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

26-273- Motion by Mrs. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to request a supplementary appropriation account number 001-0601-5304.01 in the amount of \$975.00. These funds were a reimbursement awarded through CORSA for features on the 3 Durango's being leased through Enterprise. This transfer would be used towards Enterprise payments. Copies of checks deposited into 001-0601-4004.00 are attached.

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

26-274- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to request a supplementary appropriation to account number 001-0601-5303.00 in the amount of 121.64. These funds were a reimbursement from Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs (HOFNOD) a copy of the check deposited in 001-0601-4004.00 is attached.

Upon approval of this supplemental request, please adjust PO 127 to reflect an increase of \$121.64.

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

26-275- Motion by Mrs. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the following supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$6,000.00 to 005-0005-5310.00 Spay & Neuter Expenses. This is a mandatory cost that the pound must pay to adopt dogs. The original budget of \$6,500.00 has already been expended.

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

26-277- Motion by Mrs. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve all supplemental appropriations. See Attachment B

26-278- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

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

26-279- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to recess the commissioners meeting for a CIC meeting Monday, June 8, 2026, at 4:00pm.

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

26-280- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to reconvene the commissioners Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 9:00am for a Land Bank meeting.

26-281- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to adjourn the commissioners meeting Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 10:00am.

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

Approved by Commissioners on: September 8, 2026

Heidi Maxwell, President

Steve Best, Vice-President

Cecil, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

Attachment A:

MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

James R. Fisher, Sheriff

sheriff@mcs058.us



June 4, 2026

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

Subject: Budget Transfer Request

Dear Commissioners,

Please approve the following transfer

\$6,500.00

From 092-0092-5102.00 Rotary Salary

To 092-0092-5367.00 Rotary PERS County Portion

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

SCB 6/8/26
cmm 6/8/26

(740) 962-4044 (740) 962-4035 morgansheriff.com

37 E. Main St. • McConnelsville, Ohio 43756

Attachment B:

MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

James R. Fisher, Sheriff

sheriff@mcs058.us



June 3, 2026

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 001-0601-5304.01 in the amount of \$975.00. These funds were a reimbursement awarded through CORSA for features on the 3 Durango's being leased through Enterprise. This transfer would be used towards Enterprise payments. Copies of checks deposited into 001-0601-4004.00 are attached.

Upon approval of this supplementary request, please adjust PO 130 to reflect an increase of \$975.00.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

Pamela Weaver
Administrative Assistant
Morgan County Sheriff's Office

Cmm 6/8/26
SCB 6/8/26

(740) 962-4044 (740) 962-4035 morgansheriff.com

37 E. Main St. • McConnelsville, Ohio 4375

THE COUNTY OF MORGAN **Receipt**

Page:	1	Receipt No:	2026-PI-0001287
Account:	00000-001 (Miscellaneous)	Batch No:	1213
Received From:	Morgan County Sheriff	Date:	06/04/2026
Received For:	Reimbursement	Amount:	\$1,096.64
Reference:			

Line	Project	GL Account \ Service Category	Line Description	Amount
1		001-0601-4004.00 REIMBURSEMENTS	Reimbursement CORSA	\$975.00
2		001-0601-4004.00 REIMBURSEMENTS	Reimbursement HOFNOD	\$121.64

Total Amount:	<u>\$1,096.64</u>
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Tender References	Tender Type	
	Check	<u>\$1,096.64</u>
	Tendered Amount:	\$1,096.64
	Credit Memo:	\$0.00
	Change Amount:	\$0.00

MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

James R. Fisher, Sheriff

sheriff@mcsos58.us



June 3, 2026

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 001-0601-5303.00 in the amount of \$121.64. These funds were a reimbursement from Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs (HOFNOD) a copy of the check deposited into 001-0601-4004.00 is attached.

Upon approval of this supplementary request, please adjust PO 127 to reflect an increase of \$121.64.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

Pamela Weaver
Administrative Assistant
Morgan County Sheriff's Office

SCB 6/8/26
Cmm 6/8/26

(740) 962-4044 (740) 962-4035 morgansheriff.com

37 E. Main St. • McConnelsville, Ohio 43755

THE COUNTY OF MORGAN **Receipt**

Page:	1	Receipt No:	2026-PI-0001287
Account:	00000-001 (Miscellaneous)	Batch No:	1213
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Received For:	Reimbursement	Amount:	\$1,096.64
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Line	Project	GL Account \ Service Category	Line Description	Amount
1		001-0601-4004.00 REIMBURSEMENTS	Reimbursement CORSA	\$975.00
2		001-0601-4004.00 REIMBURSEMENTS	Reimbursement HOFNOD	\$121.64

Total Amount:	<u>\$1,096.64</u>
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Tender References	Tender Type	
	Check	<u>\$1,096.64</u>
	Tendered Amount:	\$1,096.64
	Credit Memo:	\$0.00
	Change Amount:	\$0.00



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	Nathan Bowen	Madison Mumme
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6/8/2026

Dear Commissioners,

Please approve the following supplemental appropriation. Please supplementally appropriate \$6,000.00 to 005-0005-5310.00 Spay and Neuter Expenses.

This is a mandatory cost that the pound has to pay for to adopt dogs out. The original budget of \$6,500.00 has already been expended.

Thank you,

Jessica Junn
Deputy Auditor

SCB 6/8/26
Cmm 6/8/26

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