

**MORGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIECKER BUILDING**

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met in their office Monday, July 13, 2026.

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

The commissioners did the following over the past week:

Commissioner Best attended a Board of Revisions meeting on Wednesday.

Commissioner Mayle attended a LEPC meeting on Wednesday as well.
Commissioner Best attended a jail meeting and received an update on Taft Law on Friday.

26-337- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve the minutes of July 6, 2026.
Mrs. Maxwell abstain, Mr. Best yea, Mr. Mayle yea Motion Carried

Alan 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 7-1-26

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

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

Meet with ABM Reps on Site 7-6-26

RTU 1 went down compressor 1 needs replaced, Compressor 2 disconnected. H/C 6-23-26 were scheduled for Friday 6-26-26 RTU 1 is back up and operational. An exhaust fan on RTU 2 has been replaced. 7-2-26 All Units scheduled for Deep Clean of the coils 7-9-26

Need to schedule Modern Glass to look at rear inside glass door. 7-6-26

Cheryl Brink, Treasurer

- Topic Title: Interest Rates Context and Impact
 - Mrs. Brink noted that context is relevant to borrowing and fund management decisions.

- No specific rate figures were provided.
- Topic Title: One-Day Collection and Due Date Change
 - A one-day collection effort did not proceed as expected.
 - A new due date was set for July 31.
 - The exact amount to be collected is currently unknown.

Missy Fisher, JFS

26-338-- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to enter executive session at 9:04am with Missy Fisher pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

26-339- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to enter executive session at 9:08am with Missy Fisher pursuant to ORC. 121.22 section (G)(1) Employment, Personnel.

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

John Telesz, Engineer

Infrastructure or Inspection Report Status

- No calls were received indicating any problems.
- A report is expected within a couple of weeks.
- No major issues were identified during the discussion.
- The group noted they would usually receive a call if something was downgraded.
- The structure was described as probably stable, though non-redundant steel tension was mentioned.

Utility Pole Replacement and Electric Company Work

- Some poles are being replaced.
- There may be leftover work from fall 2025.
- The engineer and commissioners did not think much work remains.

Kurt Johnson, Airport Authority

Airport Authority Board Update

- A new board member, Jerry Voyko, has been appointed as the project manager for the airport project due to his engineering background.
- He has been in direct contact with Jess Howard and Richland Engineering.
- John Coler has also joined the board. The board now has four active members: Don Healy, Jerry Voyko, John Coler, and Kurt Johnson.
- This resolves the previous issue where the board lacked a quorum to conduct official business.

Shannon Wells, Development

Buckeye Southeast Transit will be holding public meetings soon in all counties to discuss changing public fare structure.

Shannon Wells and Commissioner Best met with DLZ and Pam Weaver on Friday, July 10, 2026, to discuss updates to the jail renovation project. DLZ was given notice to move the control room to the 2nd floor of the jail.

Shannon Wells and Commissioner Best met with Taft Law on Friday, July 10, 2026, to discuss project updates. A meeting with Kroger real estate is scheduled for July 20, 2026. A meeting will be held with Taft Law regarding tax increment financing with the data center the week of July 20, 2026.

Shannon Wells held an economic vitality committee meeting on July 8, 2026, for the Main St. McConnelsville program. The conversation this month was centered around the updates to the Discover McConnelsville website. The committee plans to tour some of the downtown buildings over the coming months to understand available space needs.

26-340- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to release a \$6,780.00 loan on a property location at 911 High Street Malta, Ohio.

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

Jeff Michaels, Health Department Board, Health Department

□ Topic Title: Space Reallocation for 911 and Courthouse Operations

- Commissioners outlined a multi-month effort to relocate 911 to meet state and Department of Corrections requirements.
- 911 cannot be housed in the former transit building or any facility that is new/non-compliant; it must be in a secure, hardened site.
- Upgrading the current sheriff's office would be costly (bulletproof glass, interlock doors at approximately \$5,000 per door, single-point entry, ADA compliance, scanners).
- Proposed plan: move 911 to the second floor; relocate Judge Lowe to the courthouse; move the prosecutor to another space to create capacity.
- Courthouse security standards (single entry, scanners, ADA) necessitate consolidating courtrooms and related offices.
- Multiple alternative buildings (Herald Office, Citizens National Bank building, Morgan Local Schools property) were evaluated but deemed unsuitable or unavailable.

□ Topic Title: Health Department Space Use and Grant-Funded Improvements

- The health department emphasized robust upstairs usage for accreditation work, community meetings, trainings (CPR, SAFE), child fatality reviews, and planned nutrition and food safety training.
- Both upstairs and downstairs were remodeled with federal public health infrastructure grants; referenced amounts ranged from “almost one hundred thousand” to “more than a million,” including ADA and ceiling upgrades.
- Completion of the training room depends on a fund check. Work includes installing a stove, refrigerator, wiring, and venting for public health education.
- Current use includes smart board sessions, WIC plans for next year, staff training, accreditation tasks, and community meetings.
- The department warned that losing upstairs space could jeopardize eligibility for grants that require proof of adequate space.

□ Topic Title: Public Health Programs and Community Needs

- Programs target diabetes, stroke, and obesity through education; distribute car seats, cribs, and diapers to prevent child injuries and fatalities (safe sleep, proper restraints).
- The department is pursuing adolescent resiliency funding, which may require hiring additional staff.
- Funding avenues include legislative and congressional sources; some funds are unappropriated and discretionary.
- There is a focus on acting on data from the Community Health Assessment, CHIP, and child fatality review.

□ Topic Title: Senior Center Relocation Considerations

- Moving the Office on Aging/senior center upstairs raises accessibility concerns: limited parking, an uphill walk, stairs, and no elevator.
- Community Action controls a room downstairs from 09:00–14:00; seniors can eat there daily, but office and program space is limited.
- The transit building and other county-leased spaces are already full or under lease, reducing options.

□ Topic Title: Communication Gaps and Process

- Commissioners indicated they were unaware of the full scope of upstairs health department activities and perceived the space as underused.
- The health department acknowledged a communication gap and proposed monthly administrator reports to commissioners.
- Commissioners suggested using AI to summarize updates for easier review; all agreed on the need for regular, proactive reporting.

□ Topic Title: Next Steps and Decision Status

- The health department requested clarity on whether decisions are final and whether input can still influence the plan.

- Commissioners plan additional discussions, including with the sheriff, about second-floor needs and potential alternatives for the Office on Aging.
- The health department asked to present information to judges to explore courthouse space solutions that avoid displacing the prosecutor.

Sheriff Fisher, Pam Weaver, Administrative Assistant

□ Topic Title: 911 Center Renovation and Space Reconfiguration

- DLZ plans include detention-grade doors at the top and bottom of the stairwell. The county will confirm which walls it will remove.
- The second-floor front section will become the 911 center. A control center above the 911 center is envisioned.
- Need to verify if an exit-only push bar door can be used in the hallway; detention-grade doors are required between the 911 center and the 911 coordinator's office.
- Plan to convert two former female cells into storage by removing steel bunks, toilets, and sinks. Windows will need replacement and may be covered by a building-wide window plan.
- The front area is proposed as a break room with kitchen access.
- Layout includes the coroner's office, a deputy office, and a large office for the 911 coordinator; a possible supervisor's office and conference room across the top.
- Evidence storage could be expanded by repurposing the old fair board office; smaller evidence items can be stored; long-retention kits will have a dedicated wall.
- DLZ will handle all doors; the county will remove a wall perpendicular to Main Street
- Action needed: Provide DLZ with photos and confirmation of county-removed walls; email coordination is in progress.

Amber Wilson, Senior Citizen Administrator

Concerns About Relocating the Office

- A possible office relocation was discussed; no final decision has been made.
- The main concern is accessibility: the proposed site is up a hill and would be difficult for seniors to reach.
 - Seniors currently walk to the downtown office; walking uphill—especially in winter—would be impractical.
 - The downtown location’s convenience lets people combine visits with errands (e.g., haircuts).
- There’s worry about becoming not as assessable, leading to a significant drop in walk-in traffic.
- The current office offers walk-in help with applications, computer access, and a place to rest or cool down—services that may be lost if relocated.

Impact on Community Service and Numbers

- Ms. Wilson expects weekly service numbers to decline at the new location due to reduced accessibility.
- Specific example: residents from “the manor” likely won’t walk up the hill.
- The current location helps seniors feel included in the community; this benefit could be lost with a move.

Jeff Babcock, IT Administrator

A Microsoft SharePoint site was created for the Commissioners and their Clerk to share and edit the Commissioners’ meeting minutes. This site will allow the Commissioners to review and edit the draft meeting minutes from anywhere and speed up getting the meeting minutes approved and online.

Network and phone wiring in the JFS Children Services break room was repaired to allow the room to function as an office again. This office will be required for a new employee starting this week.

An access issue on the Recorder’s server was fixed to allow the Auditor’s and Engineer’s offices to view the PDF file of deeds when performing electronic recording. The IT Director had to map network drives for each person requiring access, and GovOS had to fix account permissions within their County Fusion program to finally get e-Recording working in Morgan County.

Transfers, Then & Now, Supplemental Appropriations & Utility Application

26-341- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to add additional line items for the 2026 068 fund as well as budget these lines for the 2026 fiscal year:

Expense Lines	Name	Budget
068-0068-5102.00	Salaries	\$24,500.00
068-0068-5306.00	Contract	\$ 500.00
068-0068-5309.00	Other Expenses	\$ 1,164.75
068-0068-5367.00	PERS	\$ 3,430.00
068-0068-5368.00	Medicare	\$ 355.25
068-0068-5369.00	Worker's Com	\$ 600.00

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

26-342- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to transfer money from 063-0063-5312.00.00 (ACCREDITATION) to 063-0063-5309.00 (Other Expenses) in the amount of \$5,600.00. This is due to Accreditation being paid out of the 084 Public Health Workforce fund instead of the 063 General Health fund. It is also needed to cover additional general other expenses for the remainder of 2026.

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

26-343- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve all transfers. See Attachment A

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

26-344- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve a supplemental appropriation as follows:

Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to add additional line items for the 2026 068 fund as well as budget these lines for the 2026 fiscal year:

Expense Lines	Name	Budget
068-0068-5102.00	Salaries	\$24,500.00
068-0068-5306.00	Contract	\$ 500.00
068-0068-5309.00	Other Expenses	\$ 1,164.75
068-0068-5367.00	PERS	\$ 3,430.00
068-0068-5368.00	Medicare	\$ 355.25
068-0068-5369.00	Worker's Com	\$ 600.00

*Attachment is noted as a transfer and supplemental appropriation. Resolution 26-341 is supplemental appropriation.

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

26-345- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to request a supplemental appropriation of \$5,600.00 to be allocated to fund line 084-0084-5309.00 (WF Other Expense).

This adjustment is needed to cover the PHAB accreditation bill of 2026.

26-346- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to approve all supplemental appropriations. See Attachment B

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

26-347- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to approve payment of bills. *See attached*

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

26-348- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mrs. Maxwell to recess the commissioners meeting at 4:00pm.

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

26-349- Motion by Mr. Best and seconded by Mr. Mayle to reconvene the commissioners meeting at 4:00pm for a CIC meeting.

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

26-350- Motion by Mr. Mayle and seconded by Mr. Best to adjourn the commissioners meeting Monday, July 13, 2026, at 4:00pm.

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

Approved by Commissioners on:

Heidi Maxwell, President

Steve Best, Vice-President

Cecil Mayle, Member

Sheila Welch, Clerk

Attachment A:



Morgan County Health Department
4275 N St Rt 376 NW
McConnelsville, OH 43756
Phone: 740-962-4572
Fax: 740-962-3271

July 1st, 2026

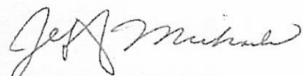
The Morgan County Commissioners
155 E Main Street
McConnelsville Ohio 43756

The Morgan County Health Department would like to add additional line items for the 2026 068 fund as well as budget these lines for the 2026 fiscal year:

<u>Expense Lines</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Budget</u>
068-0068-5102.00	Salaries	\$24,500.00
068-0068-5306.00	Contract	\$500.00
068-0068-5309.00	Other Expenses	\$1,164.75
068-0068-5367.00	PERS	\$3,430.00
068-0068-5368.00	Medicare	\$355.25
068-0068-5369.00	Workers Comp	\$600.00

<u>Revenue Lines</u>		
068-0068-4001.00	PHEP Revenue	\$30,550.00

Thank you


Jeff Michaels

HRM 7/13/26
SCB 7/28/26
emm 7/13/26

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Supplemental



Morgan County Health Department

4275 N St Rt 376 NW
McConnelsville, OH 43756
Phone: 740-962-4572
Fax: 740-962-3271

July 10th, 2026

The Morgan County Commissioners
155 E Main Street
McConnelsville Ohio 43756

The Morgan County Health Department would like to transfer money from 063-0063-5312.00 (ACCREDITATION) to 063-0063-5309.00 (Other Expenses) in the amount of \$5,600.00. This is due to Accreditation being paid out of the 084 Public Health Workforce fund instead of the 063 General Health fund. It is also needed to cover additional general other expenses for the remainder of 2026.

Thank you

Jeff Michaels

HRM 7/13/26
SCB 7/13/26
Cmm 7/13/26

Attachment B:



Morgan County Health Department

4275 N St Rt 376 NW
McConnelsville, OH 43756
Phone: 740-962-4572
Fax: 740-962-3271

June 26th, 2026

The Morgan County Commissioners
155 E Main Street
McConnelsville Ohio 43756

We are requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$5,600 to be allocated to fund line 084-0084-5309.00 (WF Other Expense). This adjustment is needed to cover the PHAB accreditation bill of 2026.

Thank you,

Jeff Michaels

HRM 7/13/26
SCB 7/28/26
Cmm 7/13/26

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