

**Morgan County Commission Meeting
December 4, 2014**

Members present:

Commissioner Brad Close, President
Commissioner Stacy Dugan
Commissioner Robert Ford

Also present:

Jody McClintock, County Administrator, Ginger Johnson, Commission Secretary, Zac Caldwell; Joe Gonzales; Greg Ganoë; Bryan Myers; Kate Shunney; Tammy Painter; Joyce White; Tom Shade; Kevin Duckwall; Jazz Clark; Laura Smith, Jeanne Mozier; Stephanie Rebant; Sharon Prifogle; Trish Strader; Bridget Cohee; Colleen Tavenner and Donald Lopp

The meeting was opened by Cathy Spielman, Deputy County Clerk, at 9:30 a.m.

Administration Items

Demonstration of Emergency Radios

Commissioner Ford announced that the Berkeley Springs 911 Emergency Tower is activated and running now and this will improve the radio communications inside the courthouse and around the county. Commissioner Ford explained that Joe Gonzales is here to perform a radio demonstration to show how the emergency communication has improved. Mr. Gonzales handed Commissioner Ford a hand held radio. Commissioner Ford was able to use the hand held radio to call Emergency Responders in Flatwoods, WV and at the State Capitol in Charleston, WV and both calls were loud and clear. The Commission thanked Commissioner Ford for all of his hard work to get this emergency tower up and running.

Reports

Laura Smith, Annual Report of Travel Berkeley Springs

Laura Smith, representing Travel Berkeley Springs, approached the Commission for the annual report. Ms. Smith presented financial report to the Commission for their review. The Commission thanked Ms. Smith for her report.

Consent Agenda

On a Stacy Dugan/Bob Ford motion, the County Commission approves the consent agenda. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Dugan voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried.

Administrator's Report

Approval of BTI Invoice

On a Stacy Dugan/Bob Ford motion, the County Commission approves the BTI Invoice in the amount of \$7332.75 for the 911 Emergency Services Office.

President Close voted yea, Commissioner Dugan voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried.

Approval and signature of preliminary appraisal report for WV Corp

On a Stacy Dugan/Bob Ford motion, the County Commission approves the preliminary insurable values comparison report from the WV Counties Risk Pool. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Dugan voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried.

Action Items

Kim Nickles- Estate of John Prifogle (telephone conference)

The County Commission participated in a telephone conference regarding the estate of John Prifogle. The Commission suggested the parties review and revise the accounting to make sure all accounts are correct and report back to Kim Nickles, Deputy County Clerk.

Bridget Cohee, Steptoe & Johnson, Executive Session- Werner Case

On a Brad Close/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission went into executive session at 10:40 am to discuss a legal matter. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Dugan voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried. On a Brad On a Brad Close/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission came out of executive session at 11:00 am and reconvened into regular session. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Dugan voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried. No decision was made.

Recommendation & Approval for Contractor for Bath Community Center

On a Bob Ford/Brad Close motion, the County Commission approves the recommendation of Concrete Central, Hagerstown MD for the Community Center Sidewalk Project for the cost of \$319,714.00. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Dugan voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried.

Application for Exoneration- Michael McBrearty

The County Commission reviewed the application for exoneration. On a Stacy Dugan/Bob Ford motion, the County Commission made a motion to approve the application for exoneration. President Close voted nay, Commissioner Dugan voted nay and Commissioner Ford voted nay. Motion carried. Request was denied due to taxpayer error.

Commissioner Dugan left the meeting.

Donald Lopp- Ambulance Fees for old abandoned, non-livable houses

Mr. Lopp approached the Commission and explained that he has two non livable houses and he doesn't think he should have to pay ambulance fees for these properties. He has already approached the Ambulance Authority board and they have denied his request to be exempt from the annual \$75.00 fee. The County Commission reviewed his information and President Close explained that the

County Commission has no jurisdiction with this and if the Ambulance Authority has denied his request, the next step would be Circuit Court. Mr. Lopp thanked the Commission and will submit interior pictures of the houses to the Ambulance Authority Board for their review.

Application for Exoneration- Priestley

Colleen Tavenner approached the Commission regarding the application for exoneration submitted by her and her husband, Raymond Priestley. Ms. Tavenner explained that they have a residence and rent part of it out to have retreats and there has been confusion regarding the square footage. Ms. Tavenner stated that she has paid the bills, but they just want everything to be correct for future bills. The Commission reviewed the documents and on a Brad Close/Bob Ford motion, the County Commission approves correcting the back tax bills and exonerating the taxes as they relate to the incorrect square footage. President Close voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried.

Recess

On a Brad Close/Bob Ford motion, the County Commission made a motion to recess the meeting. President Close voted yea and Commissioner Ford voted yea. Motion carried.