

Morgan County Commission Budget Work Session March 13, 2014

Members present:

Bradley Close, President
Commissioner Stacy Dugan
Commissioner Robert Ford

Also present: Jody McClintock, County Administrator; Ginger Johnson, Commission Secretary; Debra Kesecker, County Clerk and Heather Tyler and Cathy Spielman, Deputy County Clerks

The meeting was opened by the Honorable Debra Kesecker, Morgan County Clerk, at 9:00 a.m.

County Commission meet with Elected Officials to discuss Health Insurance Changes

The County Commission met with Elected Officials to discuss the upcoming changes to the health insurance. President Close explained that health insurance premiums have increased 21% and changes need to be made to keep it affordable. The County Commission is considering switching from the current company, Blue Cross Blue Shield to a self insured company. The County Commission explained that every county employee will need to fill out a health questionnaire form and they will only have 2 weeks to complete the form. Any employee that does not complete the form will not be eligible for health insurance this year. The Elected Officials will talk to their staff regarding the changes and the importance of filling out the health questionnaire.

Budget Meeting

The Morgan County Commission held a general budget meeting where the Commission reviewed the budget for the budget year 2014-2015. President Close explained that the budget is very tight and if property values do not go up, next year, the County Commission may have to make some cuts.

Salary Increases

The County Commission discussed giving employees a pay raise. Commissioner Dugan questioned whether it should happen or not considering the tight budget. Commissioner Dugan suggested a 1.5% increase. President Close and Commissioner Ford agreed to a 2% increase for county employees and a 3% increase for the Sheriff's Department. On a Bob Ford/Brad Close motion, the County Commission approved a 2% pay increase for county employees and a 3% pay increase for the Sheriff Deputies. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Ford voted yea and Commissioner Dugan opposed and voted nay. Motion carried.

911 Emergency Center & Dispatchers

Zack Caldwell, 911 Director, reviewed the 911 budget with the Commission and requested pay increases for the 911 dispatchers. Mr. Caldwell explained that the pay increases are based on trainings and length of employment. The County Commission approved the budget sheet. On a Bob Ford/Brad Close motion, the County Commission approves the salary increase of \$2.00/per hour for Zachary Caldwell, 911 Director, totaling \$16.00/hr. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Ford voted yea and Commissioner Dugan opposed and voted nay. Motion carried. Mr. Caldwell will also consult with the 911 Advisory Board to select an individual to be his Assistant Director.

County Administrator

On a Bob Ford/Brad Close motion, the County Commission went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Ford voted yea and Commissioner Dugan voted yea. Motion carried.

On a Bob Ford/Brad Close motion, the County Commission came out of Executive Session and reconvened back into regular session. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Ford voted yea and Commissioner Dugan voted yea. Motion carried.

On a Bob Ford/Brad Close motion, the County Commission agreed to increase the salary of the County Administrator \$6000 to total an annual salary of \$35,000. President Close voted yea, Commissioner Ford voted yea and Commissioner Dugan opposed and voted nay. Motion carried.

The County Commission will approve and sign the budget at the next County Commission meeting on March 20, 2014.

Recess

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