

Morgan County Commission
Board Of Equalization
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2010

Rescheduled to the 12th due to weather.

Members Present: Thomas Swaim, Brenda Hutchinson and Stacy Dugan

The meeting was opened by Cathy Payne, Deputy County Clerk 2:05 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS:

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission approved the meeting minutes from the February 5, 2010 meeting. This motion carried.

Letter to Dr. Mark Roberts, DVM

The County Commission approved and signed a letter giving Dr. Mark Roberts, DVM at Berkeley Springs Animal Hospital authorization to euthanize animals brought by the Morgan County Animal Control with the understanding that there will be no cost incurred at this time for this service; but should it be necessary to charge in the future, the County Commission would need to discuss the matter further at that time.

Advertising for Holidays

Commissioner Swaim approached the Commission and stated that he did not see an ad in the Morgan Messenger advertising that the courthouse offices were closed on Monday, February 15, 2010 for President's Day. Commissioner Swaim stated that the closings for holidays were always advertised in the newspaper and had been for years. Commissioner Dugan stated that she does not think it's needed to advertise that the courthouse offices are closed for a holiday. The public knows the offices are closed on holidays and the closing was posted on the County Commission website. Commissioner Dugan stated that for example, Christmas and New Years had two separate advertisements in the paper. This cost the tax payers money and I do not believe the public thought we were going to be open on Christmas. Commissioner Swaim stated that not everyone in the county has internet access to check that and asked Aaron Robertson, Webmaster how many people are hitting the County Commission website. Mr. Robertson stated that he estimates the website is getting around 2,000 unique visitors a month. Commissioner Swaim stated that out of 17,000 people in Morgan County that is not very many people being reached. Commissioner Swaim stated that if someone was not aware of the closing and drove to town and the offices are closed, that's not fair to the people in the county. Commissioner Hutchinson suggested a compromise and will find out if the newspaper will advertise the holiday closings in the public docket section. The Commission will check to see if holiday closings can be listed in the public docket section of the newspaper.

Dog Warden Residence/ Office Agreement

The County Commission reviewed the dog warden residence/office agreement. The County Commission agreed to make amendments including a separate sheet stating the specific

animals that the animal control officer has living in the house. The County Commission will have the animal control officer sign the agreement.

Solid Waste Authority

The County Commission received a letter and resume from Dale Moser expressing his interest in serving on the Solid Waste Authority board. The Commission Secretary will set up an interview for Mr. Moser to come before the Commission.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Bill Clark- re-appointment for Region 9

Bill Clark, Economic Development Authority Director approached the Commission for an interview to be re-appointed on the Region 9 board. Mr. Clark explained that EDA directors are members of Region 9 Planning and Development Council. The County Commission reviewed the court order and discussed the reason Mr. Clark is being re-appointed until June 30, 2010 at Region 9's request so that his term of appointment will match other appointees. On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission re-appoints William Clark to the Region 9 Planning and Development Council at their request until June 30, 2010. This motion carried. Please see court order attached.

Court Order

Alma Gorse, County Planner- Census 2010 Press Release

Alma Gorse, County Planner approached the Commission and presented a press release she had prepared stating that the County Commission supports the Census efforts and urges everyone to take a few minutes to fill out the form and mail it back. Ms. Gorse explained that the press release will be advertised in the Morgan Messenger and this helps notify the public of the census study. Ms. Gorse stated that there is no charge to run the ad in the paper, but she needs the Commission's permission to do so. On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission approves the press release to be advertised in the Morgan Messenger for the Census Study 2010. This motion carried.

Bob Margraff- re-appointment of John Peterson to the Coolfont Community Enhancement District Board of Directors

Bob Margraff and John Peterson approached the Commission for Mr. Peterson's re-appointment to the Coolfont Community Enhancement District Board of Directors. Mr. Margraff corrected a statement he made previously to the Commission explaining that board members terms are staggered every four years. Mr. Margraff explained that he will start informing the County Commission of the meetings so the agendas and minutes can be posted on the website. On a Thomas Swaim/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission re-appoints John Peterson to the Coolfont Community Enhancement District Board of Directors for a four year term. This appointment term will run from September 8, 2009 until September 13, 2013. This motion carried.

Aaron Robertson- Courthouse Change Order

Aaron Robertson, Buildings Assistant approached the Commission with a courthouse change order. Mr. Robertson explained that the change order includes additional cost for revisions to bulkheads, additional cost to revisions to mechanical and electrical work and additional cost to install foil scrim at penthouse and drop seals at vaults. Mr. Robertson stated that the total cost of the change order is in the amount of \$7,853.00. On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission authorizes its president, Brenda J. Hutchinson to sign the courthouse change order #11 in the amount of \$7,853.00. This motion carried.

Adjournment

On a Stacy Dugan/ Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m. This motion carried.