

Morgan County Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2010

Members Present: Thomas Swaim, Brenda Hutchinson and Stacy Dugan

The meeting was opened by Debra Kesecker, County Clerk at 3:37 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS:

On a Thomas Swaim/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission approved the meeting minutes from the June 3, 2010 County Commission meeting. This motion carried.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she had attended the Eastern Panhandle Transportation Authority meeting and Morgan County has been awarded \$15,000.00 for the design and planning of a local highway project. Ms. Hutchinson stated that the money could be used for design and planning of crosswalks and lighting on Rt. 522 between the baseball fields and soccer field.

Distinctive Women Nomination

The County Commission discussed the possibility of submitting a nomination for the Distinctive Women Award this year.

Thelma J. Stone Award

The Thelma J. Stone Award is an achievement award presented to a County Commission which exemplifies outstanding performance and extraordinary achievement over the past year. Commissioner Dugan will present a letter nominating Morgan County.

Assessor's Staff

The County Commission approved Patsy Stotler and Darrin Fowler to be hired as data collectors under contract for the Morgan County Assessor's Office.

Wage and Review Board

Commissioner Dugan stated that she had attended a wage and review board meeting. Commissioner Dugan stated that there are county employees that have not signed the employee handbook at will consent form. This will be given to the wage and review board for further discussion.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Conference Call with Dave Corsaro, Potesta Engineers and Environmental Consultants to discuss the results from the soccer field sampling

The Commission held a conference call with Dave Corsaro from Potesta Engineers and Environmental Consultants to discuss the results from the soil samples taken from the soccer field. Mr. Corsaro stated that 6 samples were tested, and the samples contained metal and glass. Mr. Corsaro also stated that the test showed arsenic in the soil. Mr. Corsaro stated that the arsenic levels are not considered a risk, and the biggest problem is the physical hazard of the metal and glass particles coming to the surface. Commissioner Hutchinson asked Mr. Corsaro if he could prepare a report from the engineer stating the alternatives to solve the problem at the soccer field. Mr. Corsaro agreed to put together a report of the soil sampling tests, alternatives and costs and follow up with the Commission.

Debra Kesecker, County Clerk- Transferring Delinquent Land Sales from County Clerk

The County Commission had asked Debra Kesecker, County Clerk, to find out what is needed for Morgan County to continue to process delinquent land sales instead of returning it to the state for processing. Ms. Kesecker approached the Commission and explained that she has checked into the delinquent land sales; and if Morgan County decides to keep processing the delinquent land sales, a court order is needed stating the county will do so. Ms. Kesecker stated that there are currently two counties that are keeping delinquent land sales. Ms. Kesecker agreed to consult with the counties on what paperwork is needed. Ms. Kesecker will follow up with the Commission.

Debra Kesecker, County Clerk- Poll Workers Salary Increase

Debra Kesecker, County Clerk, approached the County Commission to discuss the possibility of a salary increase for the poll workers. Ms. Kesecker stated that there has not been an increase in salary for poll workers since 2003. Ms. Kesecker stated that currently the poll workers are paid \$25.00 for training and \$90.00 for working on election day. Ms. Kesecker stated that the poll workers can work from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. or later. Ms. Kesecker presented a handout with a chart showing the salary for poll workers in other counties in West Virginia. Ms. Kesecker requested that the Commission consider raising the salary for poll workers to \$35.00 for the training and \$120.00 for working on election day. The Commission will consider the request at the budget review meeting on July 1, 2010.

Alma Gorse, Jack Soronen- Present Draft Zoning Ordinance for scheduling Public Hearings

County Planner, Alma Gorse, and Jack Soronen, President of the Planning Commission, approached the Commission and presented the draft zoning ordinance. Commissioner Hutchinson thanked Ms. Gorse and Mr. Soronen for all their hard work and time spent on the draft ordinance. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the planning commission and the land use subcommittee have worked very hard on this, and she would like to thank everyone for their time. Commissioner Swaim stated that even though he did not vote for the ordinance he would like to thank everyone for all their hard work. Commissioner Dugan stated that Ms. Gorse is wonderful and very dependable and has done a great job on the draft ordinance. Commissioner Dugan also stated that Mr. Soronen is a good

leader and she would like to thank him for all his hard work. The Commission reviewed the ordinance. The Commission discussed page 73 of the ordinance and decided to change the percentage of required signatures for petition from ten percent to one percent. The Commission decided to make a motion. On a Thomas Swaim/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission voted unanimously to accept the draft Zoning Ordinance for Morgan County with an amendment to Page 73 changing the percentage of required signatures for petition from ten percent to one percent and to move forward with the scheduling of public hearings to receive public comments. This motion carried. The Ordinance, as amended by the County Commission prior to the acceptance of the Report states as follows:

Page 73 – Article XIII – Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance

Article XIII.C.4

Old language: “The governing body must hold an election on an amendment to the zoning ordinance if a petition, signed by at least **ten** percent of the eligible voters in the area....”

New language: “The governing body must hold an election on an amendment to the zoning ordinance if a petition, signed by at least **one** percent of the eligible voters in the area....”

On a Thomas Swaim/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission voted unanimously to accept the Zoning Study and the Report on zoning study along with the proposed Zoning Ordinance, as amended, with the required maps as prepared by the Planning Commission and schedule two public hearings as required by West Virginia law to receive public comments on the Zoning Study and Report and the proposed Zoning Ordinance and maps. This motion carried. The public hearings are scheduled for:

July 1, 2010, 7 :00 p.m., Warm Springs Middle School cafeteria in Berkeley Springs; and

July 2, 2010, 3:00 p.m., Paw Paw School cafeteria in Paw Paw.

Re-appointments to Volunteer Boards

Parks & Recreation Board- Kenny Mason

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission hereby appoints Kenny Mason to the Morgan County Parks & Recreation Board to serve a four year term. This appointment is effective immediately and will expire June 30, 2014. This motion carried.

Solid Waste Authority- Dale Moser

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission hereby appoints Dale Moser to the Morgan County Solid Waste Authority to serve a four year term. This appointment is effective immediately and will expire June 30, 2014. This motion carried.

Morgan County Library Board of Trustees- Connie Perry, Nina Schwartz and Thomas Close

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission hereby appoints Connie Perry, Nina Schwartz and Thomas Close to the Morgan County Library Board of Trustees to serve a five year term. This appointment is effective immediately and will expire June 30, 2015. This motion carried.

Terry Weber- Vending Machines for Courthouse

Terry Weber, representing Elite Vending of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia approached the Commission and presented a brochure on snack and beverage vending machines for the new courthouse. The Commission stated that at this time, a decision cannot be made on vending machines or where they will be located in the courthouse; that decision will be made once the courthouse is completed and is occupied. The Commission thanked Mr. Weber for his time. Kirk Beddow approached the Commission and stated that he also owns vending machines and will prepare information and prices for the Commission.

Adjournment

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. This motion carried.