

Morgan County Commission
Special Meeting – Budget Review Meeting with Morgan County Rescue Squad
Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2011

Present: President Stacy Dugan, Commissioner Brenda Hutchinson, and Commissioner Brad Close

Also Present: Jody McClintock, County Administrator, Ginger Johnson, Commission Secretary, Bob Dugan, Kim Michael, Tricia Strader, Kevin Duckwall, Dan Duckwall, Renea Stansbury and Todd Songer

The meeting was opened by Cathy Payne, Chief Deputy County Clerk at 11:00 a.m.

Commission President Stacy Dugan stated that her father-in-law, Bob Dugan, representing the Morgan County Rescue Squad, is present; and she asked if anyone had a problem with her participating in the meeting. There was no opposition.

Kim Michael, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Tax Office, presented a list of the ambulance fee duties performed by the tax office employees to the Commission. Commissioner Dugan asked what supplies the Sheriff Tax Office provides. Ms. Michael stated that the Sheriff Tax Office provides the following supplies:

- file folders
- spec print book
- paper
- statements & reminders
- stamps (postage)
- employees

Ms. Michael stated that the employees usually get a percentage of the ambulance fees as part of their pay for the additional duties they perform for the ambulance fees. Ms. Michael stated that the employees are taking a pay cut for 3 months to make sure the monies are available for the supplies needed.

Commissioner Close stated that he wanted to have a meeting because the County Commission has been asked for more money from the Morgan County Rescue Squad. Commissioner Close stated that this meeting does not in any way show a lack of confidence in the rescue squad. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she has spoken to Kevin Duckwall, Morgan County Rescue Squad, regarding payroll and overtime. Mr. Duckwall presented a list of payroll salaries of neighboring counties in WV to the Commission. Mr. Duckwall stated that if you cut overtime you will lose people and explained that neighboring counties have a higher salary than Morgan County Rescue Squad employees. Commissioner Close stated that from reviewing the budget, he noticed a large increase in payroll from 2007-2010. Renea Stansbury, Morgan County Rescue Squad stated that there were pay increases in 2007 and 2008 and overtime due to the major snow storms in 2010. Commissioner Close asked if staff has increased from 2007

– 2010. Kevin Duckwall stated yes, there was an increase in staff; but they have recently cut 2 twelve hour shifts. Commissioner Hutchinson asked if they have checked interest rates with other banks to try and find a lower interest rate for the mortgage payment. Renea Stansbury stated that she has checked with CNB, and they could not get a lower rate. Commissioner Hutchinson suggested checking with other banks in Morgan County and stated that there is a Bank of Romney in Paw Paw, WV. Bob Dugan, Morgan County Rescue Squad, stated that everything else has increased since 2007 except the ambulance fee. Commissioner Dugan stated that she is not in favor of increasing the fee. Commissioner Hutchinson asked if performing transports will help make money. Commissioner Dugan stated that she has called Charleston, WV, and the rescue squad is licensed to do transports. Kevin Duckwall stated that then you run a risk of performing a transport and not being available for an emergency call. Commissioner Dugan stated that she would like to see a small group of people go over the budget and submit suggestions on how to proceed. Commissioner Hutchinson asked what people and who would determine selecting the people. Commissioner Dugan stated that each Commissioner could select two people and form a committee. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that there is a certified PA on the Commission, and she does not agree with putting together a group of people to review the budget. Commissioner Close stated that he wants to fully exhaust all options before raising any fees. The County Commission will further discuss options and are having a transport meeting with representatives from War Memorial Hospital, Valley Health, Valley Medical Transport and WV Medical Command on June 9, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m. This motion carried.