

Morgan County Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2012

Members Present: Stacy Dugan, Brenda Hutchinson and Bradley Close

The meeting was opened by Debra Kesecker, County Clerk at 9:30 a.m.

Also Present: Tamar Sparks, Kayla Munday, Andy Swaim, Paul Zorich, Kris Willard, Morgan County Partnership, Kate Shunney, Morgan Messenger, Donna Twigg, Mary Dean, George Farnham, Gary Rothstein, Ted Meek, Tricia Strader, Martinsburg Journal, Dale McConnell, Barbie Ginck, Laurie Fischer, Sean Forney, Jeanne Mozier, Lin Dunham, Jim Michael, James Breeden, James Bowers, Mary Breeden, Pam Proctor, Richard Voorhaar, April Breeden, Chris Davisson, Beth Davisson, Mike Jenkins, Bob Margraff and Lisa Parker

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS:

Meeting Minutes

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approves the meeting minutes from the January 12, 2012 County Commission meetings. This motion carried.

Morgan County Partnership Title V Grant Contract Resolution & Memorandum of Understanding

On a Brenda Hutchinson/Brad Close motion, the County Commission hereby authorizes Stacy A. Dugan, President of the Morgan County Commission, to act on its behalf to enter into a contractual agreement with the Division of Criminal Justice Services to receive and administer grant funds pursuant to provisions of the Juvenile Justice Community Prevention Title V Fund. This motion carried.

Recreation Trails Grant Resolution

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the Morgan County Commission hereby authorizes Stacy A. Dugan, President of the Morgan County Commission, to act on its behalf to enter into a contractual agreement with the West Virginia Department of Transportation to receive and administer grant funds pursuant to the provisions of the recreational trails grant provisions. This motion carried.

Bench

The County Commissioners were contacted by Larry Wilson regarding a bench for the courthouse. Mr. Wilson built a bench using wood from the old courthouse and is selling the bench for \$300. The County Commission discussed the bench and where to place it

in the courthouse. The Commission stated that there is no place to put the bench and declined to purchase it.

Regional Broadband Planning Team/Morgan County members

President Dugan stated that Region 9 is working on the Regional Broadband Planning Team and would like to include members from Morgan County. President Dugan stated Bill Clark, EDA Director & Region 9 member, Jerry Berman, Dave Michael, E911 Director and Dave McDonald, IT Webmaster would be good candidates. The County Commission agreed. President Dugan stated that she may serve on the board as well.

Point in Time Homelessness Survey Update

Commissioner Hutchinson explained that she and Glen Ryburn went out on Monday for the Point in Time Homelessness Survey and traveled around the western part of the county. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that they could not locate any homeless people or families. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that there was also a lunch prepared for the homeless at Calvary United Methodist Church. Audrey Morris from Starting Points will have the final number of homeless in Morgan County.

Thank you letters for Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Subcommittee

The County Commission will send thank you letters to the members of the Parks Recreation and Natural Resources Subcommittee for taking the time to listen to the Commissioners' presentation regarding the expansion project at Cacapon State Park.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Donna Twigg- Concerns regarding Paw Paw Fire Department & Townhouse Apartments

Donna Twigg, resident of Paw Paw, WV, approached the Commission and explained that she is concerned with the ambulance service for the residents of Paw Paw, WV. Ms. Twigg explained that the fire department is run by volunteers. Ms. Twigg stated that if there is a call, it takes a long time to get a response from the fire department and sometimes the calls are even dropped. Ms. Twigg stated that she pays the annual \$75 ambulance fee, but she does not believe she is getting adequate service. Ms. Twigg asked if a paid paramedic from the county can be placed in Paw Paw, WV. The Commission suggested Ms. Twigg talk to Paw Paw Company #32 regarding her concerns first; and then if she gets no response, she should take the issues to the Morgan County Emergency Medical Services Board.

Townhouse Apartments

Ms. Twigg also explained her concerns to the Commission regarding the Paw Paw Townhouse Apartments. Ms. Twigg stated that she lives across the street from the apartments and there is loud noise and parties at all hours of the night. Ms. Twigg stated that it is a major problem. She said the town police officer has been great and is working to try to stop the problems. The County Commission thanked Ms. Twigg for her time.

Gary Rothstein- Interview for Economic Development Authority

Gary Rothstein approached the Commission for an interview to sit on the EDA board. Mr. Rothstein stated that he currently serves as a Director of Workforce and Engineering at Blue Ridge CTC. Mr. Rothstein stated that he is interested in serving on the board to help enhance bringing jobs to Morgan County. The County Commission thanked Mr. Rothstein for his time and interest and explained that they still have more interviews to perform before making a decision.

Ted Meek- Interview for Solid Waste Authority

Ted Meek approached the Commission for an interview to sit on the Solid Waste Authority Board. Mr. Meek explained that he had previously approached the Commission regarding the recycling center no longer accepting glass. Mr. Meek stated that during that time, the County Commission requested Mr. Meek think about serving on the board. Mr. Meek stated that he has thought about it and he is interested in serving on the board. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission appoints Ted Meek to the Morgan County Solid Waste Authority to serve the remainder of Dale Moser's four year term. This appointment is effective immediately and will expire June 30, 2014. This motion carried.

Sean Forney- Interview for Economic Development Authority

Sean Forney approached the Commission for an interview to sit on the EDA board. Mr. Forney stated that he is a member of the Rotary Club along with Bill Clark, EDA Director. Mr. Forney stated that he is an insurance agent in Luray, VA. Mr. Forney stated that he would like to be on the EDA board to share ideas and help Morgan County expand. The County Commission thanked Mr. Forney for his time and interest and explained that they still have more interviews to perform before making a decision.

George Farnham- Humane Society making proposal for Animal Control

George Farnham, Board of Directors for the Morgan County Humane Society, approached the Commission to make a proposal regarding the Morgan County Animal Control. Mr. Farnham presented a handout to the Commissioners. Mr. Farnham reviewed the handout with the Commission. Mr. Farnham explained that the Humane Society sadly announces that they will no longer be handling the adoptions of dogs. Mr. Farnham explained that the future efforts will solely be based on the care and placement of cats. Mr. Farnham stated that the Humane Society has 17 large indoor/outdoor kennels, two big dog runs, and intake building, a three room isolation building, a storage shed and office building that will no longer be fully utilized. Mr. Farnham proposed that they will offer to share the facilities with Morgan County Animal Control with a 10 year lease at the cost of \$1 per year. Mr. Farnham stated that this will enable the county to move Animal Control from the current location on WV Route 9 to their facility on Route 522. Under the agreement, they will ask the county to maintain certain standards of care for the dogs, including rabies vaccinations and daily kennel cleaning.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she has spoken to Mr. Farnham about this, and

she is in favor of the proposition. Commissioner Close stated that it sounds very good on the surface, but there are a lot of unknowns at this time. Mr. Farnham agreed to have Tina Byers, Attorney, draft a proposal and present it at the Commission meeting on February 16, 2012 for the Commission to review. In the meantime, Jody McClintock, County Administrator, Holly Jack, Animal Control Officer, George Farnham, Barbie Ginck, Humane Society, Commissioner Hutchinson and Tina Byers formed a committee to discuss the cost and steps involved in implementing this proposal. The County Commission will revisit this issue at the next meeting on February 16, 2012.

Lin Dunham & Jim Michael- Funds request for Eastern Panhandle Conservation District
Lin Dunham and Jim Michael, representing the Eastern Panhandle Conservation District, approached the Commission to present a funds request in the amount of \$10,000. Mr. Dunham presented the new updated funds request forms. Mr. Dunham explained that some of the future projects include the Warm Springs Run Watershed Project on-going maintenance program of the eight flood control structures located in Morgan County. Mr. Dunham also explained that the EPCD is currently working on securing grant funding for a project at Berkeley Springs High School. Mr. Michael explained that the EPCD has outreach and education programs available for school children. Mr. Michael also explained that the EPCD will also be having the annual tree sale this year. Commissioner Close asked how much Berkeley and Jefferson counties contribute to the EPCD. Mr. Dunham stated that they each contribute \$5000. Commissioner Close stated that he would like to make sure that the funds Morgan County contributes stay in Morgan County. Mr. Dunham recommended stating that on the check when it is distributed. Mr. Dunham will continue to get the needed documents including a copy of the budget to the Commission. The Commission thanked the Mr. Michael and Mr. Dunham for their time.

Jeanne Mozier- County Website providing information for citizens

Jeanne Mozier approached the Commission to discuss the possibility regarding the placement of useful demographic and other data on the county website. Ms. Mozier requested having information regarding grant proposals posted and explained that this would be very helpful for volunteers. Ms. Mozier also stated that having information concerning the Census data is also a very helpful tool. Ms. Mozier stated that she has spoken to Carol York, Grants Administrator and Dave McDonald, Information Technology, and they agree it is a good idea and would be helpful to the citizens of Morgan County. Ms. Mozier asked for the Commission's approval to have the information posted on the county website. The County Commission approved the request. Ms. Mozier stated that she and Carol York will give a presentation at the next Chamber of Commerce meeting to get their approval as well. The County Commission thanked Ms. Mozier for her time and hard work.

Approval for Pay Application #27 from Milestone Construction Services

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approves the payment of \$100,583.57 contingent on receiving a letter from Milestone Construction Services, Inc. stating that the warranty for mechanical systems will last until July of this year. This motion carried.

Patriot Awards- Richard Voohar, Jimmy Breeden & Don Davisson

Commissioner Close stated that he would like to honor the late Don Davisson with the Patriot Award. Commissioner Close stated that Mr. Davisson taught for 33 years and coached for 40 years. Commissioner Close stated that Mr. Davisson had touched the lives of at least 3000 kids. Mr. Davisson's wife, son and daughter in law accepted the certificate and pin.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she would like to honor Richard Voohaar with the Patriot Award. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that Mr. Voohaar was a member of the Senior Life Services and helped start the Are U Ok program for senior citizens in Morgan County. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that Mr. Voohaar has been the lay minister at Calvary United Methodist Church for the past four years and he goes above and beyond to help people. Commissioner Hutchinson presented the certificate and pin to Mr. Voohaar.

President Dugan stated that she would like to honor Jimmy Breeden with the Patriot Award. President Dugan stated that Mr. Breeden has been a fire fighter since 1974. President Dugan stated that Mr. Breeden teaches fire prevention and fire safety to children. President Dugan stated that Mr. Breeden works two jobs and still finds time to give to the community. President Dugan presented the certificate and pin to Mr. Breeden. The County Commission congratulated all of the recipients and thanked them for all their contributions to the community.

Sheriff's Department Building/911 Loan Payoff/Restructuring

Commissioner Close stated that the loan amount on the Sheriff's Department building is \$57,770 and the loan amount on the 911 Equipment Loan is \$213,118. Commissioner Close suggested paying off both loans separately. The County Commission reviewed the loan amounts. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission agreed to pay off the loan on the Sheriff's Department building out of the fire recovery fund. This motion carried. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission agreed to pay off the balance of the 911 equipment loan taking \$35,000 out of the infrastructure revolving fund and pay the remaining amount out of the fire recovery fund with monies being paid back over a 36 month amortization schedule to begin July 1, 2012 and end June 1, 2015 with an interest rate in the amount of 4.375%. The money will be paid back to the fire recovery fund first. This motion carried.

James Bowers- Interview for Warm Springs Public Service District Board

James Bowers approached the Commission for an interview to serve on the Warm Springs Public Service District Board. Mr. Bowers stated that he has been a resident of Morgan County since 1996. Mr. Bowers stated that he is a Warm Springs Public Service

customer and would like to have some input on the board. The County Commission thanked Mr. Bowers for his time and interest and explained that they still have more interviews to perform before making a decision.

Goals for 2012

The County Commission reviewed and read aloud their goals for 2012. Commissioner Hutchinson attached “action items” to each of her stated goals and suggested that all of the county goals have an “action item” so that there is plan for accomplishing the goals. Commissioner Hutchinson will put the lists together and create a master list of goals for 2012.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Training Seminar for Animal Control Officer

The County Commission approved the Animal Control Officer’s request to attend a training seminar to be held on May 4, 2012 at the Flatwoods Days Hotel & Conference Center in Sutton, WV. The cost for registration is \$35.00. The total cost for the trip including gas and over night stay will be taken out of the contracted services account.

Adjournment

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m. This motion carried.