

Morgan County Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2012

Members Present: Stacy Dugan, Brenda Hutchinson and Bradley Close

The meeting was opened by Cathy Payne, Chief Deputy County Clerk at 9:30 a.m.

Also Present: Jody McClintock, County Administrator, Ginger Johnson , Commission Secretary, Joshua Clark, Morgan Messenger, Tricia Strader, Martinsburg Journal, Joe Mogus, Steve Hutchinson, John Rowland, Mackenzie Michael, Tracey Michael, Natalie Reed, Karen Reed, Harlie Stotler, Charla McDaniel, Rhonda McDaniel, Ciara McDaniel, Danielle Haynes, Sara Younker, Glorious Sagle, Kayla Munday, Melissa Munday, Amy Lane, Bob Ford, Vicki Barnard, Anthea McCallister, Margaret Henry, Max McCallister, George Farnham, John Kronyak, Elle Kronyak, John Kronyak Sr., Christine Lina, EJ Fisher, Laurie Fisher, Larry & Brenda Stotler, Gene Watkins, AIO Recovery, Vince Shambaugh, Sheriff, William Milburn and Chris Stubbs

ADMINISTRATION ITEMS:

Berkeley Springs High School Track Team

Commissioner Close introduced the Berkeley Springs High School Track Team and presented a certificate to them for their 2012 championship. The Commission congratulated the team.

Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Close stated that the minutes should state the actions instead of what is being said if you are going to abide by Roberts Rules of Order. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that when Stacy Dugan became Commissioner, they changed the way the minutes were written to better inform the public of what is going on. Commissioner Dugan stated that she feels the minutes need to be simplified. The Commission did not approve the minutes and tabled the decision until the next meeting.

Assessor's Exonerations

Ronald McIntire, Assessor, approached the Commission and presented six exonerations. Mr. McIntire explained the exonerations were for clerical errors. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approved the exonerations. This motion carried.

Relay For Life

Commissioner Hutchinson announced that Relay For Life is Friday, June 8, 2012 from 6:00 pm- 6:00 am. Commissioner Hutchinson also announced that there will be a bake sale on July 6 with the Mountain State Cruisers at the Berkeley Springs State Park.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Vicki Barnard, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)- Introduction & Request of Funds- \$3000

Vicki Barnard, Executive Director, CASA, explained that the mission of CASA-EP is to advocate for abused and neglected children of Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties within the court system, and to ensure that the children find safe and permanent homes as quickly as possible. Ms. Barnard requested funds in the amount of \$3000 and explained that the funds are for increasing volunteer recruitment. Commissioner Dugan stated that the Commission will review the funds request at the budget meeting on June 28, 2012. The Commission thanked Ms. Barnard for her time.

John Kronyak- Animal Control

John Kronyak approached the Commission and explained that he has visited animal control shelters in Hampshire County and Morgan County. Mr. Kronyak presented pictures he had taken at the two shelter locations. Mr. Kronyak stated that Morgan County passed up a good opportunity with the Humane Society by not using the facility. Mr. Kronyak stated that it should be a priority for the County Commission to take care of the animals. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the only answer is a new facility. President Dugan thanked Mr. Kronyak for his time.

Jim Michael, Dave Pruitt & Tom Ambrose, Cacapon State Park- Funds Request

Jim Michael, Cacapon State Park Foundation, approached the Commission. Mr. Michael introduced Dave Pruitt, Asst. Superintendent and Tom Ambrose, Superintendent of Cacapon State Park. Mr. Ambrose presented a handout to the Commission and explained that this year marks the 75th anniversary for Cacapon State Park. Mr. Ambrose stated that Saturday, June 30 there will be reduced swimming and boating for .75 per person and a fireworks display Saturday night at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Michael requested funds for the celebration event. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approved funds in the amount \$2250 to go towards the anniversary celebration. Funds will come out of the hotel/motel promotion account. This motion carried.

Brenda Stotler- Noise at current Animal Control Facility

Brenda Stotler approached the Commission and explained that she is a neighbor to the current Animal Control Facility on Rt. 9. Ms. Stotler explained that the kennel is noisy. Ms. Stotler stated that the noise has gotten worse over the years and she requested that the Commission shut the kennels down and find a new location away from neighborhoods. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she totally agrees with Ms. Stotler. The Commission thanked Ms. Stotler for her time.

Possible Executive Session- Dan James, Asst. Prosecutor & Vince Shambaugh, Sheriff Overtime compensation for Police Officers

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission went into executive session at 11:04 a.m. to discuss an employment issue. (WV Code Chapter 6 Article 9A-4 Exception A & B) This motion carried.

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion the County Commission came out of executive session at 11:35 a.m. This motion carried.

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approved funds in the amount of \$5000 to be transferred from the General Fund account to the Sheriff's Department account for overtime pay for the deputies. This motion carried.

Commissioner Brad Close- move location of proposed Animal Control Facility

Commissioner Close stated that after talking with several citizens of Morgan County, he would like to change the proposed location of the new Animal Control Facility if funding is approved through the Petco grant application. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission rescinds the previous motion to place the facility behind the old hospital. This motion carried. Commissioner Close stated that he would like to look at the property at the 522 ballfields and the property beside the track at Widmyer School as possible locations.

Gene Watkins, AIO Recovery- Saving money on bills

Gene Watkins, AIO Recovery, approached the Commission and explained that AIO Recovery works to save money on utility bills. Mr. Watkins stated that he has worked with 37 counties in WV and has found savings for every county except one. Mr. Watkins explained that there are no fees upfront. Mr. Watkins stated that if there are savings, AIO Recovery will receive 40% of the savings. Mr. Watkins stated that there is a 2 year contract agreement. On a Brenda Hutchinson/Brad Close motion, the County Commission agreed to go forward with AIO Recovery, LLC. This motion carried. The County Commission agreed to have Debra McLaughlin, Prosecuting Attorney, review the contract agreement before they sign and approve it. On a Brenda Hutchinson/Brad Close motion, the County Commission rescinds the previous motion to move forward until the contract agreement has been reviewed and approved by Debra McLaughlin. This motion carried. The contract agreement will be placed on the next agenda.

Decision on 911 Board Member

Commissioner Close stated that the Commission had two very well qualified individuals interested in sitting on the 911 board. Commissioner Close stated that Patrick Largent is currently not sitting on any volunteer boards. Commissioner Hutchinson agreed and stated that both gentlemen are very well qualified. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission appoints Patrick Largent to the Morgan County 911 Advisory Board to serve a three year term. This appointment is effective immediately and will expire June 30, 2015. This motion carried.

Bill Clark, EDA Director- Discussion/Decision on Paw Paw Rail Trail

Bill Clark, EDA Director, and Bert Lustig approached the Commission to discuss the Paw Paw Rail Trail. Mr. Clark explained that they had a federal grant that completed an environmental assessment and discovered that there are bats in the tunnels on the proposed rail trail plan. Mr. Clark stated that after extensive studies, they found out that you are not allowed to enter the tunnels with the endangered bats. Mr. Clark stated that the rail trail plan needs to be changed because there is no way to make a bike trail around the tunnels. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson the County Commission rescinds the previous agreement to go along with Alternative B for the Paw Paw Bends Rail Trail. This motion carried. On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission agrees to allow the National Parks Service utilize the remaining grant funds for costs to extend the trail and create a lookout on Bridge #1 short of the West Virginia border. This motion carried.

Carol York, Grants Administrator- Overview of Grants

Carol York, Grants Administrator, approached the Commission to give an overview of the grants. Ms. York reviewed the open active grants and the closed grants from last year with the Commission. The Commission thanked Ms. York for her time and hard work on all of the grants.

ADMINISTRATOR'S ITEMS

Approval of animal control policies and procedures

The Commission reviewed the policies and procedures. On a Brenda Hutchinson/Brad Close motion, the Commission approves all of the policies except Animal Control Policy #3. This motion carried.

On a Brad Close/Stacy Dugan motion, the County Commission approves all of the policies including Animal Control Policy #3. Commissioner Hutchinson opposed. This motion carried. Commissioner Hutchinson opposed due to the fact that the policy states if "no one claims the dog or the dog is not fostered or adopted within 30 days, an appointment is to be made on the 31st day or the first available appointment" and the portion of the policy stating "at the discretion of the AC officer" was removed.

DMV requirement

Jody McClintock, County Administrator announced that the DMV is now requiring actual automobile insurance cards from anyone obtaining WV tags.

Preventive Maintenance Agreement

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission approves the maintenance agreement for the old hospital building. The payment will come out of the hospital maintenance account. This motion carried.

Adjournment

On a Brad Close/Brenda Hutchinson motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m. This motion carried.