Morgan County Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was opened at 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Jack Soronen, Scott Swaim, Carl Cowgill, Wayne Omps, Robert Ford, Jim Hoyt, Susan Parker, Eric LaRue.

Others present: Alma Gorse, County Planner.

Members absent: Robert White, George Didawick.

II. WELCOME NEW MEMBER

President Jack Soronen welcomed Robert Ford, new County Commission representative for the Board.

III. MEETING MINUTES

On a W. Omps/S. Parker motion, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the June 23, 2015 meeting minutes.

IV. STAFF DISCUSSION

County Planner, Alma Gorse discussed a variety of topics including upcoming meetings, studies and plan updates.

Discussion points:

1. West Virginia Department of Highways Quarterly meeting with Planners/Engineers being held on September 23, 2015, 10:00 a.m. at Ranson City Hall, 3rd Floor. These quarterly meeting provide informative discussion with WVDOH authorities regarding permitted and pending applications.
2. Ethics and Open Meetings Act Seminar October 29, 2015, Martinsburg Holiday Inn, 9:00 a.m.
3. Staff stated that the Planning Commission booth was on display at the Morgan County Fair this past July. Its topic was permitting requirements and floodplain management information.
4. Addressing Ordinance and GIS Mapping – County Commissioner Robert Ford explained that this Ordinance was recently adopted by the County Commission and staff has started to verify road

Approved 12.1.15 AEG

names and gather GIS datasets for road intersections throughout the county. This information can then be integrated into future aerial mapping of the county. Staff will also be producing new road signs throughout the county. These signs will be green with white reflective lettering. Addresses at home sites will also need to comply with the ordinance standards for displaying a physical address of a residence. This ordinance standard will assist emergency personnel with locating a residence when an emergency occurs.

5. The Warm Springs Green Infrastructure Study draft document is now available online and hard copies are available at the Planning Office. Matt Pennington, representing Region 9, along with engineers from Thrasher organized and held a public meeting outlining the components of the draft document.
6. The West Virginia Code requires Comprehensive Plans to be updated every 10 years. The Morgan County Comprehensive Plan is due for updating by 2017. Staff had recommended that the Board start thinking about how they would like to start the process. President J. Soronen will meet with the County Commission in January 2016 to initiate the conversation and discuss the possibility of obtaining funding for engineering work. Staff will speak with Richard Parks, the county engineer about an estimated cost for the project and review the Code for required public hearings, etc.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.