

**Morgan County Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Morgan County Commission Meeting Chambers**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was opened at 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Jack Soronen, Susan Parker, Justin Andrews, George Didawick, Eric LaRue, Scott Swaim and Wayne Omps

Members absent: Robert Ford, Carl Cowgill and Lori Hansroth

Others present: Alma Gorse, Ginger Johnson, Brian Hopkins, Arro Consulting & Engineering and Cindy Born with Berkeley Land Surveys

II. MEETING MINUTES

On a S. Parker/E. LaRue motion, the Morgan County Planning Commission unanimously approved the January 23, 2018 meeting minutes.

III. DISCUSSION TOPICS

A. Proposed Route 522 Bypass

A. Gorse provided West Virginia Department of Highways maps depicting the location of the proposed 522 Bypass for the Commission to review. The group discussed the options and the impacts of stopping traffic flow through town. E. Larue shared his concerns regarding the bypass and the impact the current plan will have on his property due to the closure of the northern end of Sugar Hollow Road. The public comment period has ended and staff will keep them updated on any changes to the design.

**B. Morgan County-Berkeley County Health Department merger
Changes with issuance of well/septic permits**

A. Gorse stated that Berkeley County and Morgan County Health Departments have officially merged and because of this there are changes in how well and septic permits will be issued. A. Gorse explained that she and G. Johnson had a meeting with representatives from the Berkeley-Morgan County Health Department to discuss the process that has been put in place and how these changes will affect the Planning Commission ordinances. The process for issuing well and septic permits for residences will not change. The process for

developers submitting applications for subdivisions will result in the issuance of an approval letter that will reference lots number and state that well and septic locations have been approved. Well and Septic permits will not be issued until lots are sold and new property owners are ready to build. Staff will continue to work with the Health Department and inform the Commission should revisions to our subdivision ordinance be needed to coincide with this change.

C. Unsafe Structure and Property Enforcement Ordinance Hearings

A. Gorse informed the group that the County Commission is in the process of drafting an Unsafe Structure and Property Enforcement Ordinance. The County Commission has held two public hearings to receive public comments and concerns. A. Gorse stated that legal counsel for the Commission is reviewing the final draft and once completed, will be scheduled for County Commission review and possible adoption. G. Johnson stated that the draft ordinance is on the county website if anyone is interested in reviewing it.

D. Morgan County Expo participation

A. Gorse stated that in past years, the Planning Commission has participated in the Morgan County Fair by setting up an informational booth on various topics. This year the event has a different theme and that this type of booth doesn't fit within the parameters of the new program. The group agreed to allow staff to make the decision as to whether to participate this year. Staff has decided not to be a part of the Expo for 2018.

IV. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Warm Springs Watershed Association/Town of Bath
Greenway Cemetery presentation
May 29, 2018- 1:00 pm at Greenway Cemetery

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm