

**Morgan County Commission Meeting
January 28, 2026**

APPROVED

FEB 02 2026

PRESIDENT COUNTY COMMISSION



Members present:

President Joel Tuttle
Commissioner Sean Forney
Commissioner Bill Clark

Staff Present:

Kim Nickles, County Clerk
Johnnie Walter, Sheriff
Misty Clingerman, County Administrator
Felicia Darlington, Grants Administrator/Commission Secretary

Marshall Younker, 911 Director
Dan James, Prosecuting Attorney

Call to Order

Kim Nickles called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the Agenda. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Items from the public

Lydia Brimelow from the Berkeley Springs Castle Foundation stated the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) grant was not going to be given to them and was asking what could be done for the match the county had given during Hotel/Motel Fund distribution. President Tuttle said the match funding can be held and saved for the next fiscal year and asked Mrs. Brimelow to give a formal letter to the commissioners stating that.

Kim Nickles announced Saturday, January 31, 2026 from 9:00am to 12:00pm is the last day to file for office.

Administration Items

Approval of meeting minutes

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 1/7/2026. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

New Road Name- Spruce Lane

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the new road name, Spruce Lane. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Assessor's Exonerations

President Tuttle made a motion to approve the exonerations that were objected by the Assessor for taxpayer King for 2022 and 2023. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the exonerations that were objected by the Assessor for the taxpayer Messer for 2024. President Tuttle voted nay. Commissioner Clark voted nay. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion failed.

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the exonerations for taxpayers Adams, Messer, and Henry for the non-objects presented by the Assessor. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

Agenda Items

Wellness Center New Hire

Commissioner Forney made a motion to retroactively approve the new hire at the Wellness Center. Austin Kesselring will be a part-time employee at \$14.00 an hour effective January 19, 2026. Mr. Kesselring will be a no more than 19.5-hour employee. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried

Schedule Public hearing for EMS Commercial Billing Fee

Commissioner Forney made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the EMS Commercial Building Fee on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 11:30am. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

Day Report- Letter of Support for IOP

The Day Report Center is asking for a letter of support for and new IOP (Intensive Outpatient Program). The Day Report Center is uniquely positioned to serve as a hub for this program, offering accessible, coordinated services for individuals who may not qualify for inpatient care yet require more support than traditional outpatient treatment provides. By integrating therapeutic services, case management, and recovery-focused programming, the IOP will help participants address underlying behavioral health needs while maintaining community ties, employment, and family responsibilities. Commissioner Clark made a motion to authorize all commissioners to sign the letter of support for the IOP. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

SNAP Stretch Program Letter of Support

SNAP Stretch is asking for a letter of support to continue the program for FY2027. The program gives a dollar-for-dollar match to families who buy eligible food from farm markets and local vendors. Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the President to sign the letter of support for SNAP Stretch. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried

Land and Water Conservation Fund Resolution

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the President to sign the Land and Water Conservation Fund Resolution for the Cold Run Valley Park Parking Improvements Project at a total cost of \$280,618 and the Morgan County Commission committing to 50% of the payment of \$140,309. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Snip and Tip Kennel House Lease

The Morgan County Commission will be leasing the old animal control building, 5506 Martinsburg Road, Berkeley Springs, WV 25422, to the non-profit, Snip and Tip. Snip and Tip have a low cost spay and neuter program they offer to other non-profits. There is no such program in the Eastern Panhandle. Commissioner Forney made a motion to authorize Commissioner Clark to continue working on the lease and President Tuttle to sign the lease when complete. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

Comprehensive Planning and Development Plan

A discussion between all three Commissioners to work on the Comprehensive Planning and Development that is due every 10 years, which lands on 2027, as the last one was 2017. All three Commissioners are to be working on this and getting proposals for assistance to complete the Comprehensive Plan before it is due next year.

Blanket Approval of General County's expenses, loans, and leases.

Commissioner Clark made a motion to authorize a blanket approval for the County Clerk's Office to pay General County expenses for 2026. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

911- CNB Lease

CNB presented a lease for a loan for 911's Vesta Nxt hardware and services. The 5-year contract total is \$490,000 Commissioner Forney made a motion to borrow \$340,000 from CNB, \$150,000 down, (\$100,000 from Opioid Funds and \$50,000 from 911 Carry-over) for a payment of \$6,759 a month for 5 years. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Commissioner Forney made a motion to authorize the President to sign the lease documents with CNB and to sign the agreement with Motorola. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

North Berkeley Rail Trail- CDS Resolution

Commissioner Clark made a motion to authorize all three Commissioners to sign the Resolution for the Congressionally Directed Spending for the North Berkeley Rail Trail. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried

Administrator's Report

Valkyrie Simulators who lease the third floor of the Dyke-Kidwell Building will be renewing their lease.

The fire departments has requested for the Commission to pay for air-pack and hose testing. Commissioner Forney made a motion to pay \$4,859 for air-pack testing and \$8,894.13 for hose testing from Carry-over Funds. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

Sheriff Walter approached the Commission about getting cell phones for his deputies. The Commission has asked Marshall to reach out to his contact at First Net for a quote of phones and 15 additional lines.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the consent agenda. President Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Commissioner Forney voted yea. Motion carried.

Adjourn

President Tuttle adjourned the meeting at 10:57am.

Minutes submitted by F. Darlington