

**Morgan County Commission Meeting
November 6, 2024**

Members present:

Commissioner Sean Forney
Commissioner Joel Tuttle
Commissioner Bill Clark

Staff Present:

Kimberly Nickles, County Clerk
Misty Clingerman, County Administrator
Dan James, Prosecuting Attorney
K.C. Bohrer, Sheriff
Marshall Younker, 911 Director
Jason Hoover, OES Director

APPROVED

NOV 20 2024

PRESIDENT COUNTY COMMISSION



Items from the public

Kimberly Nickles thanks all voters and poll workers. It was a record turnout.

Review and Approval of Agenda

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

Administration Items

Approval of meeting minutes

Commissioner Tuttle made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the 10/16/2024 meeting. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Assessor's Exonerations

Commissioner Tuttle made a motion to approve the exoneration for taxpayer Bonilla, Hilda Shiloah Natural Health Insurance. President Forney voted nay. Commissioner Tuttle voted nay. Commissioner Clark voted nay. Motion failed.

Agenda Items

Dan James - Part-Time Employment Request for Prosecutor/Sheriff Department

Dan James, Prosecuting Attorney, requested permission from the Commission to hire a part-time Investigating Officer. He would like to hire Captain Stapleton after he retires from the Sheriff's Department. The salary would be approximately \$20,000/year. Mr. James stated it would decrease the jail bill and speed up case presentation. The Commission advised Mr. James to proceed with details of a new position.

K.C. Bohrer - Deputy Salaries

K.C. Bohrer approached the Commission to discuss Deputy Salaries. He stated that his deputies make an average of \$10,000 less than the starting salary for uncertified officers in

surrounding counties. The Commission agreed to look into the budget to see what kind of raise is available.

Lee Thorne & J.P. Burns – Bypass Questions

Lee Thorne & J.P. Burns appeared before the Commission to answer questions regarding the Bypass. Mr. Burns answered the following questions:

- 1) When will the southern portion of the bypass open?
 - **This month. They are determining signage.**
- 2) Where will the traffic go at the terminus of the current bypass on Fairfax Street if it is northbound?
 - **Route 9**
- 3) Who can landowners contact if their land has been impacted by bypass construction and items need to be corrected or restored to order?
 - **Project Field Office. Contact Ian Ebersole.**
- 4) What's happening with the lights around Route 9?
 - **The lights should be directed away from the homes and only on the roadway. This is being investigated.**
- 9) Have Morgan County fire, EMS, and police been able to tour the southern portion of the bypass to discern new response routes, risk factors, and exits? If not, will they be given that opportunity before it's opened?
 - **No at this time. However, if they want to coordinate with the contractor, Jim Woods, they can arrange a tour with him.**
- 10) Has the DOH worked with Morgan County Schools to determine new bus routes once the southern portion of the bypass is open? How will the public be notified of those routes?
 - **No at this time. However, if they want to coordinate with the contractor, Jim Woods, they can arrange a tour with him.**

Town of Bath – Required Professional Engineering Report

Greg Schene, Councilman of the Town of Bath, presented the Commission with a request for funds for a Professional Engineering Report. The report's findings aim to support the Town of Bath, Berkeley Springs Water Works, in maintaining a reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally sustainable water treatment system, ensuring high-quality drinking water for the community for years to come. The cost of the Report is approximately \$50,000. A lengthy discussion ensued. Further discussion is required to determine how much funding the Morgan County Commission can provide.

Town of Bath – Requesting Storage at the Pines

The Town of Bath requested that the Commission consider providing storage at the Pines for the Bath Christmas Market Chalets. They would like to place a container there for temporary storage. The Commission will discuss this at the next Morgan County Commission Meeting.

Marshall Younker – Equipment Building Migration

Marshall Younker, 911 Director, requested that the Commission approve moving the current building to inside Vertical Bridge at a cost of \$4,579. Commissioner Tuttle made a motion to approve G.H.S. to do the work at a cost of \$4,579 from Fund 7120. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Marshall Younker – Migration from Call Works to Vesta Nxt

Marshall Younker presented the Commission with a request to migrate from Call Works to Vest Nxt citing that the restructure is too expensive. The Commission advised Mr. Younker to inform Motorola that they are not happy with the pricing.

Jason Hoover – RFP for Trailer – mounted LED Message Signs

Jason Hoover, OES Director, requested permission to put out an RFP for trailer-mounted LED message signs. The signs will be paid for out of a Homeland Security Grant. The Commission permits Mr. Hoover to move forward with the RFP.

Warm Springs MOU Approval

After discussion, the Commission needs to consider where the funds will come from. The monthly cost in addition to other expenses must be considered. The Commission would like to discuss this with Mike Jenkins at the next MCC Meeting.

Warm Springs PSD – Caperton Pump Station Land Acquisition

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve \$1,600 for the Caperton Pump Station Land Acquisition to be paid from the ARPA Fund. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Warm Springs PSD – Bethel Cemetery Right of Ways

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve \$350 to be paid from the ARPA Fund for the Bethel Cemetery Right of Ways. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Warm Springs PSD – Joseph Clem Pump Station Acquisition

Commissioner Tuttle made a motion to approve \$5,000 to be paid from the ARPA Fund for the Joseph Clem Pump Station Acquisition. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Berkeley Springs Water Works – Joseph Clem Easement

Commissioner Tuttle made a motion to approve \$585 to be paid from the ARPA Fund for the Joseph Clem Easement. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Town of Bath – Water/Sewer Resolution #2 Reimbursement

Commissioner Tuttle made a motion to approve \$1,000 to be paid from the ARPA Fund for the Water/Sewer Resolution #2 Reimbursement. President Forney voted yea. Commissioner Tuttle voted yea. Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Administrator’s Report

None

Consent Agenda

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

Adjourn

President Forney adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by M. Smith