

**THE MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY,
MARCH 4, 2013 AT 6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: KENNY HALE, BRYAN COLLIER, PAUL PRATHER, JEFF QUYLE, AND VICKIE KIVETT. ALSO PRESENT WERE BRENDA ADAMS, MORGAN COUNTY AUDITOR, DEB VERLEY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, AND PETE FOLEY, MORGAN COUNTY ATTORNEY. BOB O'NEAL AND RYAN GOODWIN WERE ABSENT.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER (*Kenny Hale*)

Minutes

Vickie Kivett made a motion to accept the February 4, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Jeff Quyle. Motion carried 5-0.

Transfers:

- *Health Department*

Jeanne LaFary, Morgan County Health Department, requested a transfer of \$16,912.29 from Account #1159-000-4116.10 (Part Time) to Account #1159-000-4443 (Vehicle) in order to purchase a new vehicle. Ms. LaFary stated that the vehicle they wish to replace has 110,000 miles on it. Paul Prather made a motion to approve the transfer. Motion seconded by Jeff Quyle. Kenny Hale asked what type of vehicle they are purchasing. Ms. LaFary stated that they are getting a Ford Fusion. Motion carried 5-0.

Indiana County Council Meeting

Kenny Hale stated that the state called Indiana County Council Meeting will be Saturday, June 29, 2013 in Plainfield. Mr. Hale stated that several council members and the Auditor went last year and if anyone is interested in going, Ms. Adams would take care of the registration. Mr. Hale stated that he learned a lot last year and recommended it.

LOIT Fire Department Update

Brenda Adams, Morgan County Auditor, presented a chart showing which fire departments had turned in their reports. There are four departments that have not turned in their reports. Ms. Adams asked that the Council look over the reports and if they needed more information to let her know.

Group Insurance Trust

Bryan Collier stated that the balance is healthy and there is a Trust meeting on April 18th. Mr. Collier discussed the possibility of participating in the school clinic with Randy Taylor, but no decision has been made yet. Jeff Quyle stated that several Trustees will be touring a clinic in Bloomington.

Kenny Hale asked about the percentage of employees participating in the Health Screening. Mr. Collier thought that all employees except two participated. There will be six objectives to meet for next year, but they have not set the discounted amount for meeting the objectives.

Comments

- *Fire Department Reports*

Paul Prather stated that he was reading through the reports and most of the runs appeared to be for medical issues. Devoney Collins, A&A Township Volunteer Fire Department, stated that it was stated that the LOIT funds could only be used for EMS purposes and if the reports were not turned in by March 1st, they would not be receiving the funds.

- *Riverboat Revenue*

Jeff Quyle stated that the county receives approximately \$250,000 a year in Riverboat Funds. It has dwindled over the last few years and will probably continue to fall. The county has not depended on this fund for daily operations, but they might want to consider some type of endowment fund to be able to use when there are no longer any Riverboat Funds. Mr. Quyle suggested putting half of next year's Riverboat revenue into the fund to start building it up.

- *Wheel Tax*

Mr. Quyle suggested that the Council consider raising the Wheel Tax, taking into consideration the state of the county's roads and public safety. The proposed budget has an increase in road funding, but this could be a short-lived option. The county needs to prevent the roads and bridges from deteriorating and becoming a hazard to the public and a deterrent to commerce.

- *LOIT Rate*

Mr. Quyle stated that Morgan County has a Local Optional Income Tax rate that is one of the top five in the state and they might be able to tweak it to have some reduction in the rates and revenue, but not so that it would be damaging. Bryan Collier asked what that would do to property taxes. Mr. Quyle stated that cutting the income tax would increase the property tax.

- *Innkeeper Tax*

Mr. Quyle stated that the Innkeeper Tax was put in place a few years ago with an understanding that the revenue would go to the Convention and Visitors' Bureau and they would act as stewards and partners with the county Park and Recreation Department and invest in elements of the park system that could contribute to tourism and recreation as part of the tourism industry. Mr. Quyle stated that to date they have not taken that step and it does not look like they intend to take that step. Mr. Quyle suggested lowering the 5% tax to 3%.

Adjournment

Jeff Quyle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Kenny Hale. Motion carried 5-0.

MORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL

Kenny Hale

Robert O'Neal

Bryan Collier

Paul Prather

Jeff Quyle

Vickie Kivett

Ryan Goodwin

ATTEST:

Brenda Adams, Morgan Co. Auditor