

MORGAN COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY

August 12, 2024

Be it remembered that a Morgan County Legislative Session was begun and held in the town of Wartburg, Tennessee on the 12th day of August 2024. The Honorable Brian Langley was present and presiding.

Chief Deputy Rick Hamby called the session to order.

The following members were present:

Bobby Gibson, Susie Kries, Doug Vespie, Melissa Bryant, Rick Plank, Janet Adkisson, Eli Anderson, Debbie Lively, Terry Jackson, Randy Roberts, Steve Walls, Johnny Lindsay, Vera Scarbrough, Fred Snow, David Hennessee, Vernon Justes and Kenny Morgan

Absent were: Gary Kennedy

Also present: Finance Director Crystal Garrett and Morgan County Clerk Cheryl Collins where and when the following had and entered to wit:

Invocation was led by EMS Director Doug Laymance

Pledge of Allegiance was led by EMS Director Doug Laymance

Chairman Langley Executive Report:

Blue Cross Blue Shield Grant	Senior Citizens Day – Fair
Red Sand Project	Solid Waste Committee
Building Committee	Litter Committee
Chamber of Commerce	Dept. Head Meeting
Home Grant Completed	Morgan Co Medical Center Anniversary

Citizens Comments:

Randi Anderson – Encouraged the Commissioners to not forget Hwy 62 project and to continue to push for its completion.

#1 – Approval of Minutes and Financial Statements

Motion made by Commissioner Roberts to approve the June 24, 2024 minutes and Trustees Report, Commissioner Justes seconded.

Motion passed unanimously (17/0)

#2 – Notaries – Courtney Griffin, Jessica Massengill, Brandy Hall, Dawn Smith

Motion made by Commissioner Justes to approve the aforementioned notaries applicants; Commissioner Scarbrough seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

Executive Langley asked Lavergne Craig to make her presentation on the Safe Haven Baby Box project. Ms. Craig stated that the Safe Haven Baby Box makes a way for a mother to give up her child in a safe environment, anonymously and without repercussions of law enforcement. Ms. Craig along with EMS Director Laymance, 911 employees and EMA Director Webb have held discussions on where a good location for the baby box would be and it was decided that the EMS building would be a good place.

#3 – Motion – Approval of Safe Haven Baby Box

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve going forward with the Safe Haven Baby Box project in Morgan County, Commissioner Snow seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#4 – Motion – Approval to Purchase Property for Convenience Center/EMS/Sheriff Satellite offices

Commissioner Justes made a motion to purchase the property in Oakdale at the price of \$45,000.00 – the property is 1.35 acres with a 25x75 concrete pad, water, electric and sewer hookup already in place, Commissioner Kreis seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#5 – Resolution – Acceptance of Land Donation for Morgan County Highway Dept.

Commissioner Justes made a motion to approve the acceptance of the land donation from Cobb-Vantress to the Morgan County Highway Dept (approximately 2 acres), Commissioner Lively seconded. Executive Langley stated that this property would be used to store supplies for the Road Department to use in the event of hazardous weather/road conditions.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#6 – Resolution – Creating an Opioid Abatement Board

Commissioner Snow made a motion to create this board in principle, Commissioner Roberts seconded. The executive will create a list of potential board members and bring it back to Commission next month for approval.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

Budget Committee

#7 – Motion – Budget Amendment 101-1 – Property Assessor's Office

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve budget amendment 101-1 for Property Assessor's office in the amount of \$1,400.00, Commissioner Justes seconded. Unexpected vehicle repair.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#8 – Motion – Budget Amendment 101-2 – Ambulance/EMS

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve budget amendment 101-2 for Ambulance/EMS in the amount of \$16,498.00, Commissioner Justes seconded. To cover cost of equipment that insurance did not cover.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#9 – Motion – Budget Amendment 101-3 Sheriff's Department

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve budget amendment 101-3 for the Sheriff's Dept. in the amount of \$21,576.80, Commissioner Justes seconded. Move insurance recovery money into correct account.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#10 – Motion – Budget Amendment 116-1 – Sanitation Management

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve budget amendment 116-1 for the Sanitation Management in the amount of \$66,000.00, Commissioner Justes seconded. This is for the purchase of the mini-excavator.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#11 – Motion – Budget Amendments #1 - #4 BOE

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve the aforementioned budget amendments for Board of Education, Commissioner Hennessee seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#12 – Motion to Approve Highway Department Surplus Equipment

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve the surplus of equipment from highway department, Commissioner Justes seconded.

Moton passed unanimously. (17/0)

#13 – Motion – Approval of Blue Cross Blue Shield Grant

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve applying for the BCBS grant for a splash pad, the grant is in the amount of up to \$750,000.00, Commissioner Justes seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

#14 – Motion – Approval of Purchase of Heating & Air Unit for Archives Building

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve the purchase of a Heating & Air unit in the amount of \$4800.00 for the Archives Building, Commissioner Kreis seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

Building Committee

Commissioner Morgan stated that a building committee meeting was held and they are trying to get bids for the staining or painting of the Courthouse and also the pressure washing or steam cleaning. They are waiting on bids for roofing of the Courthouse. They are also discussing the sidewalk in the front of courthouse where the personalized bricks are coming loose, but don't want to lose that history. They are looking for ideas of how to approach a repair of this. They are also looking for employee parking ideas for Court Street side of Courthouse.

Litter Committee

Commissioner Gibson stated that a letter has been developed to send to Cash Express to ask that they no longer drop the plastic bags by citizens' mail boxes as it is leading to a lot of litter on the roads.

#15 – Motion – Approval to Send Letter to Cash Express

Commissioner Gibson made a motion to send the letter, Commissioner Hennessee seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

Back Tax

Commissioner Hennessee made a motion to have a bid off on 4 properties

- 2 - Rome Road
- 1 – Pea Ridge Road
- 1 - Oakdale Market (Wendell's)

Commissioner Kreis seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

Solid Waste

Commissioner Jackson stated that the Solid Waste Committee met and discussed the Wartburg transfer station. There have been many accidents at this location and are trying to fix the issue.

#16 – Motion – Approval of New Transfer Station Design and Installation

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the cost of \$95,000.00 for a complete redesign of the Wartburg transfer station for garbage, Commissioner Kreis seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

Executive Langley stated that the County has also received a \$123,000.00 TDEC Convenience Center Grant to upgrade the Oakdale, Wartbug, Coalfield and Frankfort Convenience Centers but did not get the Used Oil Grant. However, after a call to TDEC the County is going to receive an additional 47,000.00 for Sunbright's Convenience Center to make a total of approximately \$170,000.00 to upgrade 5 convenience centers in the county. The reason the others can not be upgraded with grant monies is because the county does not own the property.

Commissioner Lively stated that the Solid Waste also discussed increasing the pick up cost for business dumpsters from \$40.00 to \$45.00 per pickup.

#17 – Motion – Approval of Price Increase for Business Dumpster Pickup

Commissioner Lively made a motion to approve the price increase for business dumpster pickup from \$40.00 to \$45.00 per pickup on January 1, 2025, Commissioner Bryant seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. (17/0)

There being no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Jackson made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Justes seconded.

Meeting Schedule

Budget Committee	-	September 9 – 6:00 pm
County Commission	-	September 9 – 7:00 pm