

MINUTES  
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
1025 Morton Street  
January 9, 2023

Jim called the meeting to order at 9:00a.m. with open doors.

Present: Jim Tucker, Chairman; JW Finn, Commissioner, Clint Floyd, County Counselor; Gina Shores, County Clerk. Andy Bane, Shara Bane, Sandy Bane and Patsy Meyers.

JW opened the meeting with prayer.

The Clerk gave the oath to newly elected Commissioner Andy Bane.

At this time the election of officers took place. A motion by Jim, seconded by Andy, UYV for JW to be Chairman. A motion by Andy, seconded by JW, UYV for Jim to be Vice Chairman.

A motion by JW, seconded by Andy, to designate Heartland Tri-State Bank of Elkhart and TBK Bank as the official depositories for Morton County, Jim abstained.

A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV that the Tri-State News as the official newspaper for Morton County and [www.mtcoks.com](http://www.mtcoks.com) for publications.

Motion was made by Jim, seconded by Andy, UYV to sign Resolution 2023-1(A Resolution Adopting Standards for Financial Statements and Reporting. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to sign Resolution 2023-2 (Salary Resolution). A motion by Jim, seconded by Andy, UYV to sign Resolution 2023-3 ROZ Participation for 2023.

The Commissioners signed 1 P/R Form and Warrant Registers; 1 A/P Warrant Registers listed below. Signed the Road permit from Hancock Electric; bank signature cards; IT Contract and Indigent Services Contract.

	2023	2022
General	\$178,374.71	\$14,143.27
Road & Bridge	\$269.42	\$7,340.97
Weed	\$450.00	-
Airport	\$766.79	\$950.36
Sheriff	\$6,610.17	
Fire	\$88.46	\$158.49
Health	\$509.48	\$1,211.66
Capital Improvement	\$2,630.00	
Ambulance	\$266.12	
911	\$496.11	

Employee Benefits		\$63,452.00	
Sales Tax-Health System		\$21,422.88	
Special Equipment		\$5,774.93	
Treasurer M/V		\$2,170.05	
Emergency Preparedness		\$1,509.72	
Total		\$284,790.84	\$23,804.75

Chris—Public Works. He gave an update on the 2022 revenues for the landfill. Chris also asked the status of taking Merit’s contaminated soil, Chris and Adam worked on correspondence and Chris hasn’t heard an update yet. Mike Thompson has given his notice and Chris would like to advertise to hire. Commissioners approved. Chris and Calum would like to attend the annual (CDWE) Noxious weed training at the end of February at approximately \$1500. For room/conference. A motion by Jim, seconded by Andy, UYV. The road department is looking at rock out of New Mexico from Clayton. Review bid process for next meeting. Last year the road project was put off until this year.

Alexis—Economic Development. She presented the Rural Champion contract that Mike Horton has signed. She and Mike attended the Rolla City council meeting to discuss the property with the old ATM building, the city has sent over papers to the TBK bank for their review to purchase that property. YEC(Youth Entrepreneur Challenge) is getting organized, she is having Brandon Turner to speak as a business owner that grew up here and came back.

Kevin-Golf. The weather has been good for golfers. Gary Ellis may have to have some time off, if so he may need to hire but will keep the Commissioners updated. Currently busy grinding reels. They received approximately \$23,375 last year for this service. Before summer the bathrooms may need some renovations out of gifts and grants fund. He has put more water down this last year and he may have to go to cart path only to keep the grass in better condition.

Dusty—EMS. Dusty asked if Kim Hull could be scheduled to cover for Melinda being off for medical. Commissioners approved. Sent out delinquent notices for unpaid EMS services, if paying off in a month 20% off total. He and Derek are looking into paramedicine, a new service between the EMS and Hospital. 83% of the requested transfers were done last year. To become an EMR(Emergency Medical Responder) takes about 4 months of basic information testing. Currently there are 8 enrolled. Dr. Clark has been taking vested interest in reviewing EMS cases. Dusty feels he would be interested in paramedicine.

Hospital—Patrick, CEO. Patrick gave an update on staffing. They have a new nurse practitioner that has already started. Another nurse practitioner will start in April. In June they plan to hire a Doctor and his wife, which is a nurse, they have been talking with the Hospital and looking at our community. Heidi has signed her contract. Dr. Clark has

been busy. Serner software contract has been signed and getting ready to start using them and phasing out Azalea. Currently, do not have the staff to open the North wing, will continue to work on that. Pain management and colonoscopy services will start shortly. They have all the updated equipment needed and are glad about that. Patrick is working on a new \$800,000 grant, this can be used for operations. Received nomination for most improved hospital in the state of Kansas. Texas A&M selected 6 hospitals nationwide for most improved and Morton County was one of them, with that our hospital receives information and resources to continue to improve the hospital. The assisted living had a break in the sprinkler system that caused damage. Critical access papers were filed 6 weeks ago and was approved to proceed with the rest of the recommendations and hopefully will be finalized within the next couple months. This is a great achievement that will help with funding of rural hospitals.

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00. Went to Civic Center and looked at the water damage. Reconvened at 1:00.

A motion by Jim, seconded by Andy, UYV to approve Road bore permit from Hancock Electric. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to have signers: JW Finn, Jim Tucker, Andy Bane, Gina Shores, Mary Hutchinson, Vicki Peacock and Tiffany Hayes for 3 checking accounts at Heartland Tri-State Bank. The Commissioners updated the new Commissioner Andy Bane, and new Counsel Clint Floyd on current issues still in the process. Commissioners went over budget/salary amount for the County Attorney position.

A motion to adjourn by Andy, seconded by JW, UYV at 3:20.

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JW Finn, Chairman

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Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman

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Andy Bane, Commissioner

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Attest:  
Gina Shores, County Clerk