

# COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS 1

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Minutes of Meeting  
December 20, 2024**

As reflected in posted agenda:

To watch and/or listen to the meeting but not participate, you may do so by connecting via Zoom Conferencing Access Information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84849674203> or to listen via phone, please dial: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 848 4967 4203

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met Friday, December 20, 2024 at 9:05 a.m. with Chairman Mark Arndt, Commissioner Jon Becker and Commissioner Gordon Westhoff being present. Chairman Arndt asked Cass Yearous, Morgan County Environmental Protection Manager to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Ratify the Board of County Commissioners approval on assignment of debt collections to EMS|MC dated December 16, 2024. Client #242227, #242012, #242143, #242088A, #241212, #243066A, #241618, #242367, #242177, #241700, #241922, #242351, #242262, #242260, #241388, #241930, #242048, #241762B, #242395, #241883, #242334, #242376, #241627, #242162, #242356, #242054, #241167, #242104, #242201, #241067, #242832, #240895, #241166, #241992, #242378, #242243, #242230, #242183, #241974, #242297, #241866, #241333, #240349, #242283, #242721, #241506, #241875, #242061, #242355, #240928, #241885, #241905, #242200, #242063, #242088B, #242410, #242409, #242400, #242240, #241298, #241305, #241820, #241160, #241208, #242030, #242103.

At this time, Commissioner Westhoff made a motion to approve item 1 as presented; Commissioner Becker seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

### **Consideration of Approval – 2024 Mill Levies Certification For Tax year 2024 and Budget Year 20245**

Morgan County Information Services Director, Karol Kopetzky presented to the Board for approval the 2024 Mill Levies Certification for Tax Year 2024 and Budget Year 2025. Ms. Kopetzky summarized the information provided to the board stating that all taxing agencies have reported to the County in a timely manner.

Ms. Kopetzky read aloud the school district information certifying the following as:

Buffalo RE-4 School District as being 30.626 mills  
Brush RE-2(J) School District as being 49.015 mills  
Fort Morgan RE-3 School District as being 36.278 mills  
Weldon Valley RE-20(J) School District as being 39.820 mills  
Wiggins RE-50(J) School District as being 37.075 mills  
Briggsdale RE-10 School District as being 14.289 mills  
Aims Community College as being 6.305 mills

Ms. Kopetzky further summarized the mill levy for Morgan County as:

Morgan County certifying general fund 19.536 mills, road and bridge 7.500 mills, public welfare 2.000 mills with the total being 29.036 mills; which includes general fund, road and bridge and social services.

Ms. Kopetzky further summarized the mill levies for Morgan County's cities and towns as follows:

City of Brush as being 15.660 mills  
City of Fort Morgan as being 13.254 mills  
Hillrose as being 16.793 mills  
Log Lane as being 17.784 mills  
Wiggins as being 32.212 mills

Further local fire districts were then summarized with the fire districts being referenced as:

Brush Rural Fire Protection District as being 3.513 mills  
Fort Morgan Rural Fire Protection District as being 2.996 mills  
Hillrose Rural Fire Protection District as being 7.719 mills  
New Raymer-Stoneham Fire Protection District as being 2.588 mills  
Wiggins Rural Fire Protection District as being 7.000 mills

The following Water Districts were summarized as being:

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Morgan County Quality Water District as being 0.824 mills  
Prairie View Ranch Water District, LLC as being 0.000 mills

The following Water Conservancy Districts were summarized as being:

Central Colorado Water Conservancy as being 1.017 mills  
Central Colorado Water Conservancy - Groundwater Management Subdistrict as being 1.507 mills  
Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District as being .500 mills  
Northern Colorado Water Conservancy as being 1.000 mills  
Well Augmentation Subdistrict of Central Colorado Water Conservancy District as being 9.002 mills

Ms. Kopetzky further summarized the County Pest Control Districts indicating:

Fort Morgan Pest Control District as being 0.293  
Wiggins Community Pest Control District as being 0.415 mills

The remaining mill levies were summarized for the following as:

Bijou Metropolitan District as being 72.765 mills  
East Morgan County Hospital District as being 4.500 mills  
East Morgan County Library District as being 3.500 mills  
Morgan Conservation District as being 0 mills  
Munn's Addition Water & Sanitation District as being 0 mills  
North Kiowa Bijou Groundwater Management as being 0.020 mills  
Roberts 81 Business Improvement District as being 25.000 mills  
Snyder Sanitation District as being 8.511 mills

Ms. Kopetzky then summarized the assessments per acre foot, well or unit as:

Bijou Irrigation District as being 19,177 acres at \$46.580/acre  
Hillrose Irrigation District 7,374 acres at \$4.000/acre  
North Kiowa Bijou Special Association 366 wells \$30.000/each  
Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Class "D" 445 acres at \$33.000/acre a with an acre foot unit  
Riverside Irrigation District 22,154 acres at \$2.000/acre an acre foot unit  
Weldon Valley Drainage District 679 units at \$250.00/unit

Chairman Arndt noted that there was a missing line of the form for Hillrose Irrigation District. Director Kopetzky said that it would be corrected.

There was discussion about the Bijou Metropolitan District as being 72.765 mills which is up from last year, the Board wanted to make sure that the proper paperwork was submitted for the change.

There was a pause on the vote for a courtesy call to the Bijou Metropolitan District 9:18 a.m.

The meeting was continued at 9:29 a.m. with Cathy Geist from the Assessor's Office present. Director Kopetzky noted that the Bijou Metropolitan District's ballot question that was initially passed, granted the increase year after year to occur. She also noted what the requirements were in order to upload the appropriate information for the mill levies to the State of Colorado.

Commissioner Westhoff made a motion to approve the 2024 Mill Levies Certification for Tax year 2024 and Budget Year 2025 as presented by Morgan County Information Services Director Karol Kopetzky with Commissioner Becker seconding the motion. At this time, the motion carried 3-0.

## **Consideration of Approval – Purchase of 2015 Caterpillar Scraper, Caterpillar model 623, serial number WTB00167. Purchase price \$498,125.00.**

Cass Yearous, Morgan County Environmental Protection Manager presented to the Board the Purchase of 2015 Caterpillar Scraper, Caterpillar model 623K, serial number WTB00167 in the amount of \$498,125.00. Mr. Yearous stated that there were initially three machines for sale but the other two were sold. If approved, the Caterpillar Scraper will be delivered in 2025. The approval would be contingent upon a passing inspection. He also noted that he is attempting to get training provided upon delivery.

Commissioner Becker made a motion to approve the Purchase of 2015 Caterpillar Scraper, Caterpillar model 623, serial number WTB00167 in the amount of \$498,125.00 with the condition that when it arrives in Colorado, it must pass inspections, and proper training will be provided as presented by Cass Yearous, Morgan County Environmental Protection Manager, with Commissioner Westhoff seconding the motion. At this time, the motion carried 3-0.

## **COUNTY OFFICIAL AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Commissioner Westhoff noted that the county will be closing on December 24<sup>th</sup> at noon for departments that aren't critical. Clerk and Recorder, Kevin Strauch noted that his staff appreciates the half day and thanked the commissioners.

Chairman Arndt wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked them for their help.

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Commissioners reviewed the calendar dated December 20, 2024 through December 31, 2024 without changes.

Being no further business the meeting was then adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Strauch  
Clerk to the Board

(Minutes ratified January 7, 2025)

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
s/ Mark A. Arndt  
Mark A. Arndt, Chairman

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s/ Jon J. Becker  
Jon J. Becker, Commissioner

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s/ Gordon H. Westhoff  
Gordon H. Westhoff, Commissioner

(SEAL)

**ATTEST:**

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s/ Kevin Strauch  
Kevin Strauch