

## **COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

**August 18, 2014**

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on August 18, 2014 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Chairman Carl Lienhoop called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Larry Kleinhenz and Rick Flohr, County Attorney J. Grant Tucker and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were also in attendance.

Chairman Lienhoop gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the August 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Flohr, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next was the approval of payroll. Commissioner Flohr made a motion to approve the payroll. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the weekly permit report. Chairman Lienhoop read the New Permit Report dated 8/11/14 to 8/15/14. Thirty-one (31) permits had been issued with a fee amount of \$3,554 and an estimated construction cost of \$2,522,434.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the County Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: put up signs; patched roads; mowed in Wayne, Hawcreek, Sandcreek and Columbus Townships; replaced pipe on 600W; worked on the 1000S pipe bridge; chip and sealed in Hawcreek and Clifty Townships; milled on 900E and 400S; ditched on 250W and 1000E; put down rip rap at the intersection of 600N and Marr Road; and built gabbons.

Engineer Hollander also submitted the Bartholomew County Highway Monthly Report for July, 2014 which included the July crew work, project status of bridges, roads and in-house projects, and upcoming August crew work priorities.

Engineer Hollander then presented line-striping quotes for consideration. The Commissioners opened the three (3) following bids for 300,191 linear feet of roadway striping meeting INDOT specifications:

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Total Quote</b>	<b>Price Per Ft.</b>
GridLock Traffic Systems (Indianapolis)	\$ 21,013.37	\$ 0.07
Indiana Traffic Services (Greenfield)	\$ 24,015.28	\$ 0.08
RoadSafe Traffic Systems (Lafayette)	\$ 30,019.10	\$ 0.10

Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to accept the lowest quote from GridLock Traffic Systems. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Mark Webber, reporter for The Republic, asked what areas were to be striped and Engineer Hollander responded that the work generally would be matching the overlay program. Once the majority of the overlay work has been completed, then the striping can be done all at once in a few days.

The next agenda item was the consideration of bids presented for the CCTV Video Recording/Storage System Upgrade at the Bartholomew County Jail. Major Todd Noblitt of the Sheriff's Department was present for the opening of the following two (2) bids read by County Attorney Grant Tucker:

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Itemization</b>	<b>Total</b>
Security Automation Systems, Inc. (Indianapolis)		
Video Recording/Storage System	\$ 117,066.00	
Booking Desk Microphone	\$ 1,334.00	\$ 118,400.00
Stanley Convergent Security Solutions, Inc. (Noblesville)		
Video Recording/Storage System	No breakdown	\$ 120,560.00

Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to take the two (2) bids for the Video Recording/Storage System Upgrade under advisement. Chairman Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the announcement of the Commissioners' appointment to the Property Tax Adjustment Board of Appeals ("PTABOA"). Todd Boilanger would fill the unexpired term of Bob Blessing. The term of office expires December 31, 2014. Chairman Lienhoop made a motion to appoint Todd Boilanger to PTABOA. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kleinhenz read the Veterans Services Report for the month of July, 2014. The Veteran's Office conducted 160 scheduled/walk-in/outside interviews; filed 52 claims and applications and 4 tax abatement forms; attended 2 veterans meetings; filed 20 power-of-attorney documents; made 20 trips to the VA Hospital; and traveled 2,175 miles. Additional contacts totaled 338 by phone and 52 by mail. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to accept the Monthly Veteran's Report for July, 2014. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Being the end of the published minutes, Chairman Lienhoop asked for any comments from the audience. Audience member and recent CFO/CAFO applicant, Bill Gelfius, expressed his concerns about the examination of the zoning ordinances relating to confined animal feeding operations ("CAFO") and the creation of a CAFO moratorium. He feared that some members on the Committee (CAFO Regulation Study Committee, or "Committee") may have an agenda and represent biased opinions that could be dangerous when setting a precedent. Not just with the livestock, but the county's actions could send a message to other businesses, as well, that look to come to Bartholomew County. He feels that negative attention in the media, establishment of the Committee, and a possible 18-month moratorium has created unfounded paranoia.

Commissioner Kleinhenz responded that he would approve a 12-month moratorium, but not an 18-month moratorium. It's a chance to review the comprehensive plan established in 2003 and a chance to listen to constituents, both for and against,

without placing undue burden on anyone planning an expansion. Generally speaking, the current ordinance is working very well and is not broken, but there may be a few items that could be re-examined and tweaked.

Audience member, Kristin Whittington, pointed out that the moratorium that went through the Plan Commission was for 18 months (through March, 2016) even though Kris Medic, organizer of the Committee, has stated that she expects their work to conclude by May 2015. Ms. Whittington said she agreed with enacting a moratorium in the event of a problem, but that is not the case here. She's concerned that the reason for the CAFO moratorium, to simply review the current system which is not necessarily broken, is not the message being received by the community. She felt the Commissioners might make a stronger conveyance to the public about the reason for the moratorium. Also, she stated the importance of making fact-based, not fear-based decisions.

Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that the intended length of a CAFO moratorium would be 12 months or receipt of the Committee's recommendations, whichever is sooner. Commissioner Flohr concurred with that statement and reiterated that the 18-month recommendation of the Plan Commission was a recommendation only.

Greg Slipper, Livestock Development Specialist with Indiana Farm Bureau, works around the state with these kinds of things occasionally, but seldom to the point of moratorium. He wanted to restate Ms. Whittington's point of impressing upon the Commissioners the value of their leadership and its impact on the community reaction. Any time there is a narrowing of scope (i.e., moratorium or significant changes in ordinances) that are negative to the livestock industry, it spreads like wildfire. He feared for them, because it is precedent setting. What's done in Bartholomew County may also impact the surrounding counties. Mr. Slipper urged the Commissioners to get to a resolution without a moratorium, the "M" word.

Mr. Slipper went on to ask if ordinance changes require public hearing and, if so, what is the notification period. Attorney Tucker responded that ordinance enactments

require two readings, in advertised public hearings requiring a two-week notice of event date.

Commissioner Kleinhenz asked for clarification about Mr. Silpher's comment that he fears for them should they pursue a moratorium. Mr. Silpher restated that he feared what impression would be made by the county's action on instilling moratorium and what that might mean to business expansion. "It's a statement about defining the business attitude in the county. In this case it's livestock, but the world looks at business expansion in a much broader sense. Traditionally, when we have this discussion in other counties, [inaudible] will step up and say 'we don't like that word that says we pick a particular segment of the industry and say stop' because that means you're willing or there's a probability to do it in other segments."

In conclusion, Chairman Lienhoop reminded everyone that there *may, or may not*, be changes to the ordinance. It was felt that for everybody involved it would be prudent to at least review the ordinance since its establishment in 2003. He also stated that if a moratorium is imposed, it would be ended as soon as possible. Commissioner Flohr asked for all parties to remain calm during this period to allow the Commissioners to take a careful look at all the information so that they make the right decisions. Commissioner Kleinhenz reminded everyone that the Commissioners are very supportive of the agriculture industry, but at the same time they have a lot of constituents and a lot of investment in the county other than agriculture that are affected by the issues being discussed. It's incumbent upon them to also look out for others' interests by studying and making sure that the practices in-place are appropriate and that they ensure the protection for all concerned.

Lastly, audience member, Mike Lovelace, asked if Cummins, Inc. had supplied the architect for the State Street Annex Building Project, yet. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lienhoop at 10:50 a.m. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

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CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

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LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

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RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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BARBARA J. HACKMAN