COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING
July 27, 2015

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on July 27, 2015 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry Kleinhenz, Carl Lienhoop and Rick Flohr were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were also in attendance.

Chairman Larry Kleinhenz called the meeting to order and County Assessor Lew Wilson gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the July 20, 2015 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next was the approval of claims. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the claims. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was weekly reports. Chairman Kleinhenz read the New Permit Report dated 7/20/15 to 7/24/15. Fifty-one (51) permits had been issued with fees collected of $6,267 and an estimated construction cost of $2,332,538.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the County Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: put up signs; mowed in Rockcreek, Sandcreek and Wayne Townships; fixed washouts on Wolfcreek, 50N, 850W, Youthcamp, Baker Hollow, Legal Tender, 475S, 650S, 400S, 100S, 250E, 250W, and Carr Hill Roads; and chip-sealed in Clay and Clifty Townships. Engineer Hollander also submitted the Highway Monthly Crew Report for June, 2015.

Mr. Hollander then submitted United Consulting Supplemental Agreement No. 1 reflecting an increase of $13,500 to add a fracture critical inspection of Bridge #39 over Anderson Falls. When the original contract was negotiated and signed on November 14, 2014 an inspection of Bridge #39 was not included because of the planned replacement of the bridge, but when bids came in too high the replacement was postponed. Now, even
though the bridge has been closed, an inspection on the steel, truss bridge is required. The County’s share of the $13,500 increase will be $2,700 (20%). Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to sign the United Consulting Supplemental Agreement No. 1 adding expense for an inspection of Bridge #39. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Planning Department Director Jeff Bergman presented a right-of-way dedication, MI/P-15-06 Comstock Minor Subdivision, for the creation of two new lots along State Road 46 just east of Newbern. The .16 acres right-of-way has been approved by the County’s Plat Committee. Chairman Kleinhenz made a motion to accept the dedication of right-of-way for Comstock Minor Subdivision. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, County Auditor Barbara Hackman stated that her office has received Form 144s from roughly 25 County Departments requesting salaries for the 2016 budget. The requests reflect an average increase of 3%. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the Form 144s. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Animal Control Officer Mark Case presented the monthly Animal Control Report for June, 2015, as follows: there were 124 cases, 41 animals were picked up, 97 audits, 2 violations, 1 fine, no bite cases, 2 door hangers placed, 4 reclaimed animals, and 7 traps loaned to the public. The two vans traveled a total of 4,548 miles. Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to accept the June, 2015 Animal Control Report. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Chairman Kleinhenz read the Veteran’s Services Report for the month of June, 2015. The Veteran’s Office conducted 118 scheduled/walk-in/outside interviews; made 245 contacts by phone/mail; made 18 trips to the VA Hospital; and traveled 1,760 miles. The office processed 11 new applicants. Veteran’s Services Officer Tom Crawford also attended a VA function and an interview with White River Broadcasting. He also received training for national and state recertification and Assistant VSO Larry Garritty received annual training. Chairman Kleinhenz motioned to accept the Monthly Veteran’s
Report for June, 2015. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Chief Deputy Prosecutor Kathy Burns presented the Commissioners with the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant application. Bartholomew County has received the VOCA Grant for the past 29 years. The grant request is for federally awarded money of $105,411.26 (80%) to the County’s match of $26,352.82 (20%) for a total of $131,764.08. With increased funding available to Indiana this year, the Prosecutor’s Office hopes to fully fund the salaries of two full-time employees for the Victim Assistance Program. Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to sign the VOCA Grant application. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, Auditor Hackman presented for consideration an estimate from American Legal Publishing for updating the County’s codification of ordinances and resolutions for 2014 through mid-year 2015. The fee would range from $800 to $1,400 for hardcopy books and online update depending on number of pages. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the expense to American Legal Publishing for the codification update. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The Commissioners announced that the Purdue Extension Office would be moving to 965 Repp Drive this week.

IT Director Jim Hartsook presented an invoice from On-Ramp Indiana (ORI.NET) for ratification. The one-time fee of $5,450 is for the design, deployment and support of a new point to point wireless link between the County’s 911 tower and 965 Repp Drive to extend the County’s IP network and voice over the IP phone system for the temporary location of the Purdue Extension Office. Commissioner Flohr made the motion to ratify the $5,450 expenditure to ORI-NET for wireless connectivity to 965 Repp Drive. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Mike Ferguson, owner of Ferguson Trucking, and Tim Ricker appeared regarding Hartman Drive at Taylorsville. Mr. Hartman asked what it would take to extend Hartman Drive out to meet Willoughby Drive, thereby relieving traffic congestion that continues
to increase with increased development in that area. Not only is the traffic congestion frustrating, but safety is becoming more of an issue. Planning Department Director Jeff Bergman explained that when the real estate lying between the Hartman Drive terminus and Willoughby Drive was rezoned commercial for the property owner, a condition was imposed by the Planning Commission and County Commissioners that would require the extension of Hartman Drive as a public street connecting to Willoughby with any further development of that land. In other words, the burden of improvement to Hartman Drive would be on the landowner. Mr. Ferguson is pursuing the purchase of the subject property in an effort to assist with commercial truck traffic in the area via the Hartman Drive extension and asked how to go about getting the project started. Mr. Ricker, likewise, was concerned with the safety and felt the extension to Willoughby would alleviate the majority of the safety issue and congestion at the Heflen Park Drive and US 31 intersection. Chairman Kleinhenz offered that possible sources of funding such an improvement would include: private individuals; companies having a beneficial interest; a developer; county funding; or any combination of those entities. County Engineer Hollander estimated the cost of materials for the quarter of a mile extension to be roughly $70,000. The Commissioners will schedule a fieldtrip to look over the property.

The next Commissioners’ Meeting will be held on Monday, August 3, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Chambers. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

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BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

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BARBARA J. HACKMAN

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RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER