

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

January 30, 2017

"Scouts In Government Day"

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on January 30, 2017, in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr, Larry Kleinhenz and Carl Lienhoop were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were also in attendance.

The County Offices recognized **Scouts In Government Day** by hosting them for several hours today. Boy scouts from various local troops met at the Governmental Office Building and were paired up with elected officials and department heads for job-shadowing experiences. The Commissioners sponsored Scout Cole Whitechurch and the County Engineer sponsored Scout Ryan Moore.

Chairman Lienhoop called the meeting to order and gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of the January 17th and 23rd, 2017, Commissioners' Meetings Minutes. Commissioner Flohr made a motion to approve both sets of minutes. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

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

The next item was weekly reports. Scout Cole Whitechurch read the New Permit Report dated 1/23/17 to 1/27/17. Twenty-one (21) permits were issued with fees collected of \$1,692 and estimated construction costs of \$630,745.

Scout Ryan Moore read the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: mowed in Clifty, Hawcreek, Wayne and Ohio Townships; put up signs; patched roads; ran the ditcher in Wayne, Harrison, Ohio and German Township; cut and cleaned up tree debris on 700N; fixed side ditching and edges of roads in Clifty Township; added stone to a school bus turnaround; picked up trash; and sanded roads.

Next, Emergency Management Director Shannan Hinton presented an award letter from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security for the **2016 Title 97.042 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program**. The \$10,000 is from Federal Grant # EMC-2016-EP-00006-S01 awarded on 6/20/16. It is reimbursable money with no match and administered through the Auditor's Office. Proceeds will defray costs of a District 8 Regional Deployment Exercise. The mobilization/demobilization exercise will include Districts 9 and 10 to the North and South. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the letter of acceptance. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Court Services Director Brad Barnes presented a grant application and letter of support for the **2018 Adult Community Corrections Grant** from IDOC. The grant has helped to fund the county's adult court services programs for 31 years. The request is for base funding of \$1,096,469 for the year ending 6/30/18. The state has opened up additional funding available to certain entities, Bartholomew County being one. The additional request totaled \$489,100 broken down as follows: \$366,000 for Community Corrections and \$123,000 for the Probation Department. The monies fund personnel, operations, and new program expenses. Commissioner Flohr made the motion to approve the grant request. Chairman Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The next item of business was the consideration two (2) purchases for the monitoring of certain work release clients. **Residential Work Release** Director Rob Gaskill presented a purchase agreement with **BI Incorporated** ("BI") for twenty (20) HomeGuard-206 **cellphone monitoring units** at \$1,700 each and the Telco wireless voice and data telecommunication service at \$250 per unit for one (1) year, all totaling \$39,000. Cellphone monitoring has become necessary due to landline phone obsolescence. The system is operated on a dedicated server at Court Services and is virtually independent of the IT Department. The funding will come from the pool of \$200,000 grant money awarded previously. Audience member Mike Lovelace asked how much is charged to individuals using the monitoring service and why is there a fee to the users if grant money is being used? Gaskill said that regular (landline) monitors are

\$10 per day, and cellphone monitors are \$15 per day. Those costs go toward the equipment and system maintenance and Telco service. Only the first year of Telco service is included in the initial investment being covered by the grant. Commissioner Kleinhenz moved to approve the purchase of 20 monitoring units and one year of wireless service for \$39,000. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Gaskill then presented a second agreement with **BI** for the purchase and service of five (5) LOC8 **GPS units** at \$2,100 each; Telco wireless voice and data telecommunication service at \$250 each for the year, and; five (5) SL2 **breathalyzer units** at \$800 each, altogether totaling \$15,750. Commissioner Flohr made a motion to approve the purchase from BI totaling \$15,750. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

VSO Tom Crawford read the Monthly **Veterans Services Report** for December, 2016. He also submitted the **annual totals for 2016**, shown here in parentheses. The Veterans Office processed 12 new applicants for the month (184/yr.); conducted 115 scheduled/walk-in/outside interviews (1,422/yr.); made 306 contacts by phone/mail (3,864/yr.); made 15 trips to the VA Hospital (177/yr.); and traveled 1,507 miles (17,454/yr.). Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the Monthly and Annual Veterans Reports as of December 31, 2016. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Under Miscellaneous was the consideration of an **appointment to the Computer and Data Processing Board** to take over the remainder of Bud Pflug's term which expires 12/31/17. Chairman Lienhoop motioned to appoint Dave Flohr to the Data Board. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Audience member Joan Crites of 4440 Lowell Road, representing herself and some concerned neighbors, spoke to the Commissioners about two condemned properties on 325W, specifically, 3925 N 325W and 3745 N 325W. Crites was appreciative of the progress the Commissioners had made and offered her and her neighbors' assistance in any way possible regarding those properties. They have become a public nuisance, a

location for suspected drug use, one has been crashed into by a car, and one had a fire. She expressed her continued support and asked for continued action. County Attorney Grant Tucker stated that one of the owners, Orvil Williams, passed away last year and the heir is willing to give the property to the county in lieu of forgiving the back taxes. A judgement search has been completed and a transfer could be done fairly soon. Crites received information from the Auditor's Office that the other property owned by Games was sold at tax sale, but the buyer did not show up to pay. Commissioners thanked Crites for her offer of assistance and patience and assured her that the county would continue to work on acquiring those properties.

In light of future increased rail traffic, audience member Lynn Fleming of 4040 Lowell Road, voiced concern about entering Columbus from the West side without crossing train tracks. It has taken her two and three stoplights to get onto US 31 to Washington Street. Conversations with the Mayor's Office have indicated that a solution to bypass the increasing train traffic may not emerge for at least four years.

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

BARBARA J. HACKMAN

RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER