

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**May 10, 2022**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Representing:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Present:</b>
Matt Miller	At Large		Present
Bill Lentz	At Large		Not Present
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence	At Large		Present
R. Scott Bonnell	District 1		Not Present
Greg Duke	District 2		Present
Mark E. Gorbett	District 3		Present
Jorge R. Morales	District 4		Present
Chris Monroe	- -	Attorney	Present
Pia O'Connor	Auditor	Secretary	Present

The Bartholomew County Council met on May 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

President Greg Duke called the meeting to order.

President Duke gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes of April 12, 2022. **Matt Miller made a motion to Table the Minutes as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Immunization Program Grant (8920) in the amount of \$104,039.00 as presented by Grant Administrator Bobbie Shake. Administrator Shake explained that this covers the immunization program

July 13, 2022

funding. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$104,039.00 as presented. Matt Miller seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the IIMMVAC Grant (8882) in the amount of \$112,378.76 as presented by Grant Administrator Shake. She explained that this is items for youth and is reimbursable. **Matt Miller made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$112,378.76 as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Lead Health Issues/Challenges Grant (9215) in the amount of \$86,452.65 as presented by Grant Administrator Shake. She explained that this is continuation for services and notifications. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$86,452.65 as presented. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the County General – Circuit Court (1000-36) in the amount of \$25,000.00 as presented by Circuit Court Office Manager Tammy Johannesen. Manager Johannesen explained that this is for the Jury Payroll Fund. During budgeting, they ask for \$5,000 as they normally only have 1 jury trial a year. That has changed. This change started last year. They have 8 trials scheduled that they believe will go to jury trials. One is civil claim that they expect to take 8 days. They also have the murder trial that was delayed. This is an estimate of what they hope

July 13, 2022

will get them through the end of the year, or at least until the last quarter. Jorge R. Morales asked what has made this year so different. Office Manager Johannesen stated that she has thought about it but is not certain what is causing it. It is probably a combination of several things. She stated that she has not had a civil trial in maybe 4 years. Normally, mediation works things out. Right now she has several on the docket, including the one they expect to take 8 days. The amount has the potential to not make it to the end of the year. She is hoping that some of these are settled before trial. Mark E. Gorbett asked if they would be seeing this with the other Courts. She does not believe so but is unaware of their dockets.

**Jorge R. Morales made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$25,000.00 as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Judge Worton entered the room and was asked if they would need more money for jury trials this year. Judge Worton stated he does expect they will be back for more funds this year. He also discussed that the Veteran's Court will be graduating 8 from the program coming up. Jorge R. Morales stated that the Veteran's Court has been in existence for 6 years. He asked if it has been as successful as they had hoped. Judge Worton stated it has been more successful than expected. Community Corrections Director Brad Barnes stated that they have had a success rate in the 70% range and very few of those have become repeat offenders. Judge Worton stated that they have visited another court in Indiana as they are looking at a Court for criminal defendants that struggle with mental illness. Those defendants have to have 2 doctors examine them to determine if they are fit to stand trial.

July 13, 2022

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Indiana Local Body Camera (ILBC) Grant (9214) in the amount of \$960.00 as presented by Grant Administrator Bobbie Shake. Grant Administrator Shake explained that this is to provide body cameras for the Hope Officers and Hope will pay the match. These are compatible with the ones the Sheriff's Department has. Greg Duke asked if the County or Hope will own them. Ms. Shake stated that she believes it will be the County. Greg Duke asked if it would our IT. EMA Director Hannan Cooke stated that all the upkeep will be the responsibility of the Town of Hope. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$960.00 as presented. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Problem Solving Court Grant (FRC) (9210) in the amount of \$8,000.00 as presented by Grant Administrator Bobbie Shake. Ms. Shake stated that this is to allow personnel to attend a conference on Problem Solving. This is supplemental funding from the State to help cover travel costs. This is only for the Family Recovery Court. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked how many people would benefit from this? Ms. Shake stated she believes the Family Court tries to send 4 people. Community Corrections Director Brad Barnes stated that the cost this year will be right about \$2,000 per person. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$8,000.00 as presented. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

July 13, 2022

The next item was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the County General – Co-op Extension (1000-23) in the amount of \$8,400 as presented by Auditor’s Office Chief Deputy Dalene Pattingill. Chief Deputy Pattingill stated that this is for the summer intern that they do every year. They just need the funds appropriated. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$8,400.00 as presented. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request for Transfer of Funds for the IMMVAC Grant (8882) in the amount of \$8,000.00 as presented by Grant Administrator Shake. She stated that they are taking funds from the current Grant and moving funds from 8882-00-03-10 to 8882-00-02-40. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$8,000.00 as presented. Matt Miller seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a discussion with the Commissioners regarding the New Court Services Building. Commissioners Larry Kleinhenz and Carl Lienhoop were present to discuss the new building. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that they are getting close to the completion of the new building. He explained that the deal for the building with the City Redevelopment Commission was that they would pay the first \$1,500,000 on the cost of the new building. The City RDC also offered to finance the remaining amount for 15 years, of which the Commissioner were going to pay out of the CEDIT Funds. A quick calculation shows that they would pay \$750,000 in interest if they use this method. He stated that if they were to use County funds to pay the balance in the next 2 to 3 months,

July 13, 2022

they would save the \$750,000. The amount currently is about \$2,000,000 owed by the County. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they do not have all the bills in at this time so they believe that the difference could be plus or minus \$150,000. Mark E. Gorbett stated that the comment about the ARP money is very accurate. They were looking at ways to fund the HVAC at the Jail and because of the ARP funds, they were able to accomplish this. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that the annual report from the Treasurer stated that the highest yielding bond was .75%. It does not make sense to invest at even 1% to pay the City RDC 5%. Matt Miller asked why this would not fit the ARP funds. It was stated that this project was started prior to the ARP funds. Auditor Pia O'Connor stated that the new building would be at least 4% and the Jail bond is at about 3%. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked about parking for the employees. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that the deal was for 100 spots in the new City parking garage as well as 100 spots already existing. They also acquired title to the parking lot they have been leasing for the past years. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked about a stoplight for people to get to the Jail. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that it is a good point, but when this project is finished, most of the problem will go away. Matt Miller stated that if we can save the taxpayers \$700,000, it is to their best interest. His only question is whether we give them an interest free loan or just write the check. Mark E. Gorbett stated that he has thought about this and it all comes down to the fact that it is all County money. Any money paid back will go back to another project so his opinion is just pay it off and be done. Jorge R. Morales stated that with the road funding situation, if we just pay it off then the Commissioner can help with road

July 13, 2022

funding. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that in their CEDIT fund, they have started taking their 400 line item and use it for roads. The total of the new Highway Garage was bonded for \$6,000,000 but cost \$8,400,000. They paid the remaining \$2,400,000 out of the CEDIT Fund. They also just agreed to \$200,000 for a road widening project in front of CERLAND. Jorge R. Morales stated that was his point. Matt Miller asked if we are done with new buildings. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that they did purchase a different building for the Nursing Department and they have signed an agreement to sell the old building. Money from that sale will go to County General. They also have the old Highway Garage to dispose of. That funding could go to a new salt barn at the new Highway Garage as well as storage for the County. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they did not want to build the new building, but it just came time that we needed to move on it. Matt Miller stated that he just understands that down the road they may need another building, but he hopes we are in a good place right now. Mark E. Gorbett asked if they were in agreement as to no interest loan. He asked where the \$1,000,000 was that was set aside for the salary study. Auditor Pia O'Connor stated that she did not believe this could be acted on tonight as it was not advertised. Attorney Chris Monroe agreed. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they could come back in a month. Auditor Pia O'Connor stated that they could have a special meeting in 2 weeks as there were 2 members not in attendance. Greg Duke stated that he did not recognize her as he was asking elected Council members. They will come back next month at which time they should have better numbers as they hope the final bills will be in. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that they would proceed with

July 13, 2022

the City Redevelopment that they will pay it off and not enter into a 50 year lease. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if the Commissioners have a long range plan for the future of the County in the event we do need more space such as the Youth Services Center. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they do think about it and talk about it a lot.

The next item was the Presentation of the Information regarding the Salary Study as presented by Auditor's Office Chief Deputy Dalene Pattingill. Mark E. Gorbett stated that as there are 2 Council members not present tonight, one of which was wanting this information. He would propose moving this to a work session next month. He stated that they received basically parts A, B & C. Parts B and C was requests to change job titles and structure based on the study. He stated that Chief Deputy Pattingill has put a lot of work into this having held meetings with the Department Heads. Jorge R. Morales would like to see possibly a Special Meeting to review and vote on it and get this over with. Matt Miller stated that he had talked with Bill Lentz who stated that he cannot make meetings in May. He could make the work sessions in June. Mark E. Gorbett stated that doing this at a work session would give the Auditor's Office the direction for the June meeting so that they could be prepared for it. Jorge R. Morales stated that he thinks that we need members to show up. Matt Miller stated that there were errors that needed to be corrected before moving forward. Mark E. Gorbett stated that they have had the Study and now Chief Deputy Pattingill has met with the department heads. Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to postpone this to the next work session. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence stated that the study did not include our benefits package comparisons.



July 13, 2022

Chief Deputy Pattingill stated that the comparisons of benefits was in the first packet they received. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to . R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Presentation of the American Recovery Plan (ARP) Funds as presented by Auditor Pia O'Connor. Auditor Pia O'Connor stated she was not prepared to discuss this at tonights meeting.

Greg Duke wanted to thank Dalene Pattingill for her work on the Salary Study.

There being no further business to come before the Council, **Matt Miller made a motion to adjourn. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Duke, President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Miller, Pro-Tem

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
R. Scott Bonnell, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jorge R. Morales, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Lentz, Member

July 13, 2022

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark E. Gorbett, Member

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pia O'Connor, Auditor  
Bartholomew County

DRAFT