

## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

January 9, 2023  
"Organizational Meeting"

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on January 9, 2023, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry S. Kleinhenz, Carl H. Lienhoop and Tony London were present. Deputy Auditor Chris West, Attorney Grant Tucker, County Administrator Tina Douglas and Assistant County Administrator Brooke Bowers were present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was not present.

Deputy Auditor Chris West called the meeting to order. He gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item was the election of a Chairman. **Commissioner Kleinhenz nominated Commissioner London as Chairman. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Chairman London took charge of the meeting.

The first item was the 2023 Commissioner's Appointments read by Commissioner London as follows:

### ***Office Holders:***

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| • <i>Animal Control Officer</i>                       | <i>Mark Case</i>       |
| • <i>Building and Zoning Director</i>                 | <i>Michelle Cox</i>    |
| • <i>County Attorney</i>                              | <i>J. Grant Tucker</i> |
| • <i>County Building &amp; Maintenance Supervisor</i> | <i>Rick Trimpe</i>     |
| • <i>County Engineer</i>                              | <i>Danny Hollander</i> |
| • <i>County Highway Superintendent</i>                | <i>Dwight Smith</i>    |
| • <i>County Highway Assistant Superintendent</i>      | <i>Tracy Curry</i>     |
| • <i>Physician (Youth Services Center)</i>            | <i>Amanda Velez</i>    |
| • <i>Veteran's Officer</i>                            | <i>Larry Garrity</i>   |
| • <i>Weights &amp; Measures</i>                       | <i>OPEN</i>            |



	<i>Mark Gorbett</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>
	<i>Dan Greene</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>
	<i>Pam Schmelz</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>
• <i>County Board of Zoning Appeals</i>	<i>Dave Flohr</i>	<i>12/31/2026</i>
• <i>County Plan Commission</i>	<i>John Prohaska</i>	<i>12/21/2026</i>
• <i>Drainage Board</i>	<i>Jeff Schroer</i>	<i>12/31/2025</i>
	<i>Ron Speaker</i>	<i>12/31/2025</i>
• <i>Health Board</i>	<i>Dr. Eric Tannenbaum</i>	<i>12/31/2026</i>
	<i>Dr. Steve Newton</i>	<i>12/31/2026</i>
	<i>Julie Clore</i>	<i>12/31/2026</i>
• <i>Joint District Board of Zoning Appeals</i>	<i>Jared Dickey</i>	<i>12/31/2026</i>
• <i>Parks and Recreation</i>	<i>Dave Apple</i>	<i>12/31/2026</i>
• <i>Property Tax Adjustment Board of Appeals</i>	<i>Todd Boilanger</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>
	<i>Mary Rigsby</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>
• <i>Solid Waste Management District Board</i>	<i>Steve Rucker</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>
• <i>Substance Abuse Services Advisory &amp; Accountability Committee</i>	<i>Charlie Wells</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>

Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Drainage Board can be some tough boards to be on. Commissioner London agreed that all of them can be at times. He appreciates the amount of time that these people are willing to put in to help make County Government work. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve 2023 Appointments as read. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Mark Webber of the Republic, asked for the new people on the appointments. The Commissioners stated that Jeff Jones, John Cunningham, Dr. Tannenbaum, Dr. Newton, Jared Dickey, Julie Clore and James Smith were new appointees to the best of their recollection. Commissioner London stated that John Cunningham is the person that the movie “Addict’s Wake” was based on and that since he has gotten clean, he has been very instrumental in helping others. They are glad to have him on board.

The next item was the Consideration of Commissioner Liaison Positions read by Commissioner Kleinhenz as follows:

- *Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Bartholomew County-Town of Edinburgh Joint  
District Planning & Zoning* *Larry Kleinhenz  
Carl Lienhoop*
- *Board of Finance* *All Commissioners*
- *Chamber of Commerce* *Tony London*
- *Columbus Area Economic Growth Council (CAEGC)* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning  
Organization (CAMPO)* *Tony London*
- *Columbus Central Neighborhood Plan Steering  
Committee* *Tony London*
- *Community Education Coalition (CEC)* *Larry Kleinhenz*
- *Computer & Data Processing Board* *All Commissioners*
- *County Commission on Public Records* *Larry Kleinhenz*
- *County Plan Commission* *Tony London*
- *District 8 Homeland Security* *Larry Kleinhenz*
- *Drainage Board* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Economic Development Board* *Larry Kleinhenz*
- *Edinburgh/Bartholomew/Columbus Plat  
Review Committee* *Larry Kleinhenz*
- *Emergency Ambulance Services Board* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Healthy Communities* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Heritage Fund* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Job Review/Classification Committee* *Larry Kleinhenz*
- *Joint Council of Emergency Dispatch Services  
For Public Safety* *Carl Lienhoop*
- *Local Emergency Plan Committee  
(LEPC & Advisory Board)* *Tony London*
- *Personnel Administration Committee* *All Commissioners*
- *Region 9 Committee* *Tony London*

**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Approve the 2023 Commissioner Liaison Positions as listed. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of a 2023 Agreement with the Humane Society in the amount of \$125,000 (\$10,417.50 monthly). **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the 2023 Agreement with the Humane Society in the amount of \$125,000. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of a 2023 Agreement for Legal Services with Attorney Grant Tucker in the amount of \$71,524 (\$5,960.34 monthly). **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Approve the 2023 Agreement with Attorney Grant Tucker in the amount of \$71,524. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of a 2023 Agreement for Medical Services with Amanda Velez in the amount of \$10,924.20 (\$910.35 monthly). This is the same amount as in 2022. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the 2023 Agreement with Amanda Velez in the amount of \$10,924.20. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of a 2023 Agreement with Danny Hollander as County Engineer in the amount of \$93,983 (\$3,614.70 bi-weekly). It was noted that the State provides \$40,000 of this amount. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Approve the 2023 Agreement with Danny Hollander in the amount of \$93,983. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of a 2023 Agreement for Legal Services for the Bartholomew County Plan Commission with Attorney Jim Shoaf in the amount of \$18,000 (\$1,500 monthly). This is the same amount as in 2022. These funds come from the Code Enforcement Budget. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the 2023 Agreement with the Attorney Jim Shoaf in the amount of \$18,000. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Commissioner Kleinhenz asked Engineer Hollander the amount of his salary that the State reimburses. Engineer Hollander stated it is \$40,000. It was discussed that smaller counties, such as Brown and Jennings, do not have County Engineers, but instead they use consulting firms for their needed items. This is due to the size and population of their county. Commissioner Lienhoop guessed about 20 counties without Engineers. Engineer Hollander believes it to be much higher.

The next item was Consideration of Services with “Not-For-Profit” Agencies for 2023 read by Commissioner Kleinhenz as follows:

- *Greater Columbus Economic Development Corporation*
  - *Commissioners Seat* \$ 7,500
  - *Council Seat* \$ 7,500
    - *Paid out of CEDIT* \$ 15,000
- *CenterStone, Inc. (set by State)* \$739,872
- *Developmental Services, Inc.* \$115,000
- *Millrace Center (in gasoline usage)* \$ 5,000
- *The ARC of Bartholomew County* \$ 15,000

**Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Not-For-Profit Services Agreements for 2023 in the amounts listed. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Designation of Newspapers in which Bartholomew County Shall Publish Notices as follows:

- *The Republic*

**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Approve “The Republic” as the Designated Newspaper for Bartholomew County Publications. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Approval of minutes of December 19, 2022, December 22, 2022 and December 29, 2022. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the Minutes as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Approval of Payroll. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve Payroll as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the weekly permits report as read by Commissioner Kleinhenz:

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>12/19/22 to 12/23/22</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>\$2,064.00</i>	<i>\$2,569,000</i>

<i>12/26/22 to 12/30/22</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>\$ 375.00</i>	<i>\$ 36,400</i>
<i>01/02/23 to 01/06/23</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>\$3,537.00</i>	<i>\$4,656,475</i>

*\*Of Note 12/19/22 \$2,327,000 Banister Constr., single family dwelling at Harrison Lake*

*\*Of Note 01/02/23 4,231,700 Arbor Homes, several single family dwellings*

The next item was the Weekly Highway Crew Report for the last 2 weeks as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows: sprayed brine prior to snow event; patched with the Hot Box; cut trees & limbs; put up signs; plowed & salted roads; washed trucks; hauled off trash; crack sealed in Flatrock Township; cleaned deck drains & cut trees under the Southern Crossing bridge; and dug dirt off of the bridge on 800 S at the dead end. Someone had brought in dirt onto the bridge so that their equipment would go over the guardrails as the equipment was too wide to fit the bridge. Highway cleaned it up for the homeowner that lives beyond the bridge as he had been driving through the dirt. Commissioner London stated he had received several compliments on how well the Highway Department had handled the recent winter storm.

The next item was the Decisions on Bids for Year End Bids as follows:

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <i>1. Crushed Stone</i>                               | <i>No Bids</i>                      |
| <i>2. Sand &amp; Gravel</i>                           | <i>Irving Materials, Inc.</i>       |
| <i>3. Corrugated Aluminum, Galvanized Steel Pipes</i> | <i>E3 Bridge<br/>Civilcon, Inc.</i> |
| <i>4. One 2023 Batwing Rotary Cutter</i>              | <i>Koenig Equipment, Inc.</i>       |

**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept All Bids, including both E3 Bridge and Civilcon, Inc., as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Presentation of the November 2022 Financial Report and the December 2022 Crew Report as presented by Engineer Hollander. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the Reports as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Notice to Bidders for the 2023 Roadside Mowing Program as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

- *Notice to Bidders for Mowing Right-of-Ways*
  - *For All County Roads*
  - *Divided up by Townships*
- *Advertised Thursday, January 12, 2023 and Thursday, January 19, 2023*
- *Bids will be opened on Monday, January 30, 2023.*
- *Bid documents to be picked up at the County Highway Garage or contact Karen Stoner for an e-mail*

**Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Notice To Bidders as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Ms. Ellen Macy, in the audience, asked if this included the median and sides of US 31 and SR 46. The Commissioners explained those are State property and therefore the responsibility of the State.

The next item was the Ratification of Expenditures for the Highway Department as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

- ***Removal of fallen tree on 1200 E and 200 N***
- *East of Stam Farm*
- *Due to Winter Storm on 12/23/2022*
  - *Frank's Tree Care (Columbus, IN)*
    - *Hackberry Tree across 1200 E*
    - *Included REMC line*
    - *REMC assisted*
    - *Tree Cut/Removed/Cleaned up*
    - *Hourly rates include double-time hazard pay due to weather conditions*
    - *\$1,560*



**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Ratify the Expenditure with Frank’s Tree Care in the amount of \$1,560 as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Ratification of Expenditures for the Highway Department as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

- *Ratification for a 10,000 gallon Salt Brine Tank for the Highway Department*
- *December 19, 2022*
- *Highway Department to pay*
  - *Ohio Valley Ag (Greensburg, IN) \$11,656.79*
  - *The Tank Depot (online) \$14,479.00*
  - *Plastic-Mart (online) \$14,479.00*

Engineer Hollander stated that this could have waited until 2023, but the low bidder only had 1 tank in stock so they felt it was important to get it while they had it. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Ratify the low bid from Ohio Valley Ag in the amount of \$11,656.79 as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Right-of-Way Dedication as presented by Director Jeff Bergman of the Planning Department (via Zoom) as follows:

1. *MI/P-2022-015: Ernie & Donna Dettmer Minor Subdivision*
  - a. *Request by Ernie & Donna Dettmer*
  - b. *Create 1 new lot for a total of 1 Lot, an Administrative Lot and an Ag Remainder*
  - c. *Totaling acres +/-29.6 Acres*
  - d. *Located at the SW corner of the intersection of 200 W and 950 S*
  - e. *Wayne Township*
  - f. *200 W requires 25’ of Right-of-Way*
  - g. *Dedicating 0.43 acres along 200 W*

**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept the Right-of-Way Dedication for the Ernie & Donna Dettmer Minor Subdivision as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion**

**which passed unanimously.** Commissioner Kleinhenz asked why the dedication was only for the Lot, and not on the remaining 20 acres. Director Bergman stated that is all that they are required to provide.

The next item was the Consideration of Contractor Agreements with the Recorders Office as presented by Recorder Tami Hines as follows:

- **Anita Hole**

- *1 year agreement*
- *To continue in the conversion process of scanning and indexing of microfilm documents from the year 1822 thru 1950*
- *Contractor will be paid an hourly rate of \$22.00*
- *This is a \$1.00 increase from 2022*
- *Contractor will receive NO benefits and will be responsible for their own taxes*
- *Recorder will pay the contractor from the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund*
- *Either party can terminate with a 30 day written notice*

- **Pam Cain**

- *1 year agreement*
- *To continue in the conversion process of scanning and indexing of microfilm documents from the year 1822 thru 1950*
- *Contractor will be paid an hourly rate of \$22.00*
- *This is a \$1.00 increase from 2022*
- *Contractor will receive NO benefits and will be responsible for their own taxes*
- *Recorder will pay the contractor from the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund*
- *Either party can terminate with a 30 day written notice*

Recorder Hines stated that they now have 63 years of records on-line. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept the Contractor Agreements with the Recorder's Office as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

**All County Offices will be closed Monday, January 16, 2023 in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day.**

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, January 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**

Commissioner London noted that last week, Larry Fisher had passed away. Mr. Fisher had served in positions as the County Coroner and the County Council. He was also heavily involved with 4-H and the Fair.

Commissioner Kleinhenz also noted that Ken Minnet, a good friend to County Government through various engineering firms had also passed away.

Under Miscellaneous, Ms. Ray asked if the Contract with the Humane Society was paid based on the number of animals that were taken there or was it a set amount. Commissioner London stated that it was a set amount for the year and divided up between the 12 months. All they have to do is submit a claim each month.

Ms. Sandra Bush stated it was very sad about Larry Fisher as she had worked for his wife for many years. She thanked the Commissioners for allowing her to present to them on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. She noted that she has an active on-line petition with 811 citizens on it and a paper petition that is being taken to businesses in the county. She has 20 signatures on that one. She has found that there is a lot of confusion in the community regarding animal care, one of the confusions is that the Bartholomew County Humane Society is not owned/run by the County. There is also confusion regarding there being 2 sets of standards for animals; one the County standards and the other the City standards. She has volunteered for the food drives for both the Humane Society and C.A.R.E. She stated that someone may bring a cat and 8 kittens to the Humane Society who finds out that they live in the City, so they send them to the City or CARE, but the person will simply drop them in the road as they leave. She has talked with the owners of Phoenix Guns who are near the Humane Society and they have rescued 30 animals or so that they believe were from this situation. At the conclusion of the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, Commissioner Lienhoop stated that the Commissioners would give consideration to her presentation. She is anxious to know what they have come up with. She would like to extend an invitation to the Commissioners and the community to a meeting to be held on January 19, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at 450 N Brewery.

Ms. Macy gave a follow up to the Commissioners on the case involving Thor. She stated that there had been a Motion to Dismiss on December 29, 2022 by the out-going Prosecutor.

Commissioner London reminded everyone of the first County Council Meeting that will be held tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers next door.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

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TONY LONDON, CHAIRMAN

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LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

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CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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PIA O'CONNOR