

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

December 4, 2023

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on December 4, 2023, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Tony London, Larry S. Kleinhenz, Carl H. Lienhoop (via Zoom), County Administrator Tina Douglas, Auditor Pia O'Connor, and Attorney Grant Tucker were in attendance.

Commissioner London opened the meeting.

Commissioner London gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item was the Approval of Minutes of November 27, 2023. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the November 27th Minutes, as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

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

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

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>11/27/23 to 12/1/23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>\$8,291</i>	<i>\$6,358,460</i>

This week's permits include a \$4.1 million commercial remodel at Cummins Mid-Range Plant in Wayne Industrial Park and a new \$700,000 commercial warehouse for Cork Liquors on Jonesville Road.

The next item was the consideration of an agreement for the Health Department presented by Nursing Director, Amanda Organist. The agreement is for an education affiliation with Western Governors University (WGU) for one (1) nursing student, Diana Garlen, to earn her clinic hours at the Public Health Department to meet the school's accreditation standards. There is not an agreement fee amount. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the consideration of an agreement with Irresistible Foods Group, Inc. presented by Jason Hester, President of Greater Columbus Economic Development Corporation. An investment and job creation agreement is being proposed with Irresistible Foods Group, Inc. The agreement is for offsite infrastructure improvements, such as road, water, sewer, and other improvements. These improvements will benefit not only the project but also the Taylorsville residential and business community. The company expects to employ up to one hundred forty-seven

147 persons within three (3) years of the commencement of operations with an overall blended average wage of \$29.94. The agreement will go into effect on the date of execution and will be valid through December 31, 2037. Bartholomew County will make available funds from County Rainy Day, County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT), Indiana Infrastructure Development Grant Fund (IDGF), and/or other local and/or state government funds for infrastructure costs in support of the project up to \$3,746,000.00. County funds will be immediately available in calendar year 2024. The company agrees that it will not file or claim a real property tax abatement deduction associated with the project, specifically, the real property abatement that was previously approved by the County Council on September 12, 2023, for the company's proposed eighty million (\$80 million) real property improvements. However, the company may still claim its approved personal property abatement approved on the same date. The company has 10 days to sign the agreement. The intended timeline has the company breaking ground in 2024, infrastructure and beginning use in 2025, jobs beginning in 2026, and full operations in 2027. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between Bartholomew County and the Eastern Bartholomew Water Company presented by EBWC's President of the Board of Directors, Ted Darnell. The agreement, summary shown below, is to outline the funding, and/or assist with the funding for the needed infrastructure improvements to attract Project Whiteboard with the amount to fund up to \$2,546,000.00.

1. Upon execution of this agreement Eastern must promptly engage & enter into a contract with such professionals as may be necessary to design and construct the improvements to its infrastructure to meet the needs of Project Whiteboard & the Economic Development Area in general.

2. Eastern must submit a monthly summary of bills and invoices received in connection with this agreement and project to the County.

3. The County will tender payment to Eastern within fourteen (14) days for the costs & expenses incurred by Eastern up to an amount not to exceed \$2,546,000. Upon receipt of the funds from the County, Eastern will pay the contractors, vendors & consultants associated with the construction of the water main infrastructure.

4. The parties hereto agree that if it is determined to be necessary to enter an additional agreement (s) to carry out the terms and intent of this agreement, they will cooperate in doing so.

5. *Upon the conclusion of this project, the infrastructure improvements shall become the property of Eastern and any funding remaining shall remain the property of the County.*

6. *The agreement shall be administered by the County through the Bartholomew County Auditor's office.*

7. *The agreement may be executed in counterparts and shall become effective upon the final signatures affixed hereto.*

Commissioner London inquired about the process to initiate the project from President Darnell. President Darnell explained that they have already started an extensive permit process and are evaluating if any further easements will be required. He also mentioned that they have been in contact with the Engineer for King's Hawaiian to ensure a cohesive working relationship. Commissioner Kleinhenz requested that the benefits of the project beyond the company's interests be discussed. President Darnell responded by stating that the fire protection they are adding will benefit 2,000 residential connections in the area by providing better reliability and water pressure. With the new infrastructure, the system will be able to more easily reroute and reduce outages. These improvements will also prepare the area for future industrial investors. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Highway Crew Report as presented by Highway Engineer Danny Hollander as follows: prepared 675 W for concrete work; pulled up trees in Rockcreek, Clifty, Harrison, Hawcreek, and Ohio Townships; sidewinding along roads recently paved for driveways and field entrances; cut trees around bridges; put on salt boxes; cement poured on 675 W.

The next item was the consideration of a Release of Permit to Work in County Highway Right-of-Way presented by Engineer Hollander. The Release of Permit number is 20-046 and is requested by Jim Whiteside for County Road East Base Road west of 850 E for a Tile Line. The financial guarantee amount to be released is two thousand (\$2,000.00) and the amount was held for three (3) years after completion. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the Release of Permit as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a proposal from the Highway Department for a Vacuum Truck presented by Engineer Hollander. The Highway Department is requesting to purchase one (1) used Vacuum Truck; listed below are the comparable trucks with the preferred choice being the 2013 Aquatech Vacuum Truck from MacAllister CAT. The purchase will be a budgeted item.

MacAllister CAT (Indianapolis, IN)

- One (1) 2013 AQUATECH
- Miles: 32,174
- Blower Hours: 1,581
- Water Pump Hours: 1,996

Total Price: \$185,926.00

Trucks-Septic/Sewer/Vacuum (Online Quote from Miami, FL)

- One (1) 2013 Freightliner Vacuum Jetter
- Miles: 54,213
- Hours: 6,499

Total Price: \$185,000.00

Trucks-Septic/Sewer/Vacuum (Online Quote from Miami, FL)

- One (1) 2014 Freightliner Vacuum Jetter
- Miles: 176,732
- Hours: 14,466

Total Price: \$215,000.00

MacAllister CAT (Indianapolis, IN)

- One (1) 2023 New AQUATECH

Total Price: \$563,987.00

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to approve the proposal as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Consideration of Year End Bids for Sand and Gravel for the Highway Department as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

- *IMI (formally Irving Materials) / Columbus, IN – met all criteria*

Commissioner London motioned to take the bids under consideration. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Consideration of Year End Bids for Crushed Stone for the Highway Department as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

- *US Aggregates / Indianapolis, IN – met all criteria*

Commissioner London motioned to take the bids under consideration. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Consideration of Year End Bids for Culvert Pipes for the Highway Department as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

- *Civilcon, Inc. / Jeffersonville, IN – met all criteria*
- *E-3 Bridge / Bedford, IN*

Commissioner London motioned to take the bids under consideration. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Under miscellaneous, Bartholomew County resident Sandra Bush highlighted a recent article in The Republic newspaper referencing politics and requested the reinstatement of an Animal Welfare Commission with community members allowed on the board.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

TONY LONDON, CHAIRMAN

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O’CONNOR