

## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

September 23, 2024

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on September 23, 2024, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry S. Kleinhenz, Tony London, Carl H. Lienhoop, County Administrator Tina Douglas, Assistant County Administrator Brooke Bowers, and Auditor, Pia O'Connor were in attendance.

Commissioner Kleinhenz opened the meeting.

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

The next item was the Approval of Minutes for September 16, 2024. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the September 16, 2024 Minutes, as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

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

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

<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>New Permits</u>	<u>Fees</u>	<u>Value</u>
9/16/24 to 9/20/24	20	\$3,416	\$2,119,530

The next item was the Highway Weekly Crew Report, presented by Highway Engineer, Danny Hollander, as follows: Finished up the chip and seal on Wednesday and have completed it for the year, Durapatched potholes, mowed in Grandview, tiling of a spring on 500 N that was coming up to the road, mowed in German Township, worked on signs, and CDL training for a few County employees. Engineer Hollander has been working with INDOT on the upcoming Bear Lane Project as well.

The next item was a Consideration of a Professional Services Agreement between Bartholomew County Commissioners and United Consulting, presented by Vice President of United Consulting, Jon Clodfelter, and County Engineer, Danny Hollander. *Bartholomew County desires to complete an intersection improvement project at US 31 & Bear Lane, near Taylorsville. The project will be locally funded by the County. Future developments on both sides of US 31 are anticipated to cause an increase in traffic volumes at this location over the next ten (10) years. In addition to the traffic light signal installation, this project will include pavement widening on the east approach of Bear Lane and an extension of the west approach of Bear Lane. East of the intersection, a dedicated right-turn lane on westbound Bear Lane will be added. Bear Lane will be realigned to connect with Hubler Drive through*

*a horizontal curve, removing the turns on the old alignment. A perpendicular intersection will be constructed in the horizontal curve for access to the Toyota dealership and the Speedway truck fueling station. On the west side of the intersection, the existing approach will be extended approximately 550 feet west. A temporary cul-de-sac will be constructed at the west end of the alignment. The typical section of the new extension will include a single lane in each direction with a raised concrete median. Access to US 31 on the west side of the intersection will be modified by the construction of a median to improve traffic flow & minimize conflict points. No work on mainline US 31 is anticipated as part of this project. The county has coordinated both with INDOT & Force Construction (developer) regarding the installation of the signal & proposed roadway improvements.* The term of the agreement will start upon execution of the agreement and continues until completion of services with an amount of three hundred fifty-seven thousand five hundred and seventy-five (\$357,575.00) dollars. To be paid out of the Northern Gateway Fund.

Commissioner Kleinhenz asked Engineer Hollander and VP Clodfelter if the project was around or within the CAMPO area. Engineer Hollander confirmed that it is, with Federal Monies, there are a lot of hoops to jump through.

Mark Webber with the Republic confirmed that Bartholomew County is paying for the light, even though it is a State Highway Intersection. Commissioner Kleinhenz explained that it is a complicated payment schedule, some of the funds will come from State Monies. The Project is not just for the light, there are a few Right-of-Ways that will be completed as well, with a complicated design through the State. Commissioner London added that if Bartholomew County waited for INDOT, the Project would take a few years longer to complete. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the Professional Services Agreement with United Consulting as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Right-of-Way Dedication for BMP-2024-012: Lykins 350 East Minor Subdivision, presented by Panning Director, Jeff Bergman. The Right-of-Way will create one new one-and-a-half (1.5) acre lot along 350 East, South of 500 South. County Road 350 East is classified as a Local Road and the plat dedicates the required twenty-five (25) feet of the Right-of-Way along it for a total dedication of 0.169 acres. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept the Right-of-Way as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Consideration of an Agreement for Cooperative Action between the City of Columbus, Indiana; Bartholomew County, Indiana; and the Town of Edinburgh, Indiana, *about the Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization*, presented by Planning Director, Jeff Bergman.

*Background: When the Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) was originally formed, an agreement was signed with the parameters of how the MPO was to function. That agreement was a best guess on how that interaction would take place.*

This agreement is an update to the 2004 agreement, maintaining the same purpose but revising certain details. Most of the changes are documenting what we have been doing. This agreement describes the purpose of CAMPO, the composition, function, and powers of the Policy Board, staffing, financing, and auditing. Further, it maintains the option for the Town of Edinburgh to opt-in at any point in time. An agreement needs to be approved by the Commissioners and City Board of Works, respectively, to take effect. Operations and Planning Activity Funds: Funds for operations and Planning activities, including the required local match, shall be incorporated into the City of Columbus annual budget. The County (Highway Department Budget) shall reimburse the City of Columbus following the end of each calendar year for its proportional amount of the local match that was spent the previous year.

Audience member Zach Patchett asked how this would affect the Columbus from getting to Edinburgh. Director Bergman explained this is more of a structure, not a specific relationship on funding.

**Commissioner London motioned to Accept the Agreement for Cooperative Action as presented.**

**Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Consideration of a Renewal Agreement between Mitchell & McCormick Inc., and Bartholomew County Public Health Department, presented by the Director of Nursing, Amanda Organist. The renewal agreement with Mitchell & McCormick Inc., for the Public Health Department is for third-party biller processing insurance for immunizations. The Bartholomew County Public Health Department is working on billing responsibilities themselves within one to two (1-2) years. It is a requirement for the immunization grant to be able to bill private insurance. This is a one (1) year agreement, the Public Health Department has utilized this company since before 2015. **A seven-hundred and fifty dollar (\$750) renewal fee will be paid out of the Immunization Grant** and the company collects ten (10%) percent of the amount received from insurance. **Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Renewal Agreement between Mitchell & McCormick, Inc., as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Proposal for Multifactor Authentication (MFA) from the Information Technology (IT) Department, presented by the IT Director, Scott Mayes. Back in 2016, the State required the County to use MFA for law enforcement computers, there were only a few needed for this. Due to more Cybersecurity risks, the State has required any County employee or computer that has access to the Public Safety Systems or Information. Stolen credentials are one of the highest risks for Cybersecurity. During the 2023 Budget Hearings, the IT Department included MFA in their funding to prioritize this need countywide. Multifactor Authentication (MFA) was identified as a strategic project for 2024. The product, Forti Authenticator, is an extension of the County's Fortinet application. The Information Technology (IT) Department was awarded **fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars** in the 2024 budget to begin work on the MFA Project. The agreement is for three (3) years initially and is projected to be six hundred and fifty dollars (\$650) annually. This is to be paid out of the IT Budget.

**SHI International (reseller for Fortinet; first three years) - \$34,576.88**

**CDW-G (reseller for Fortinet; first three years) - \$38,440.53**

The plan is to use non-hardware-based MFA prompts such as text messages or mobile app prompts. IT may need to purchase additional tokens for various departments if they do not use the recommended method. They will be added on a case-by-case basis as needed. **Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Agreement with SHI International as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Treasurer's August Monthly Report, prepared by Treasurer Barb Hackman. **Commissioner London motioned to Accept the Treasurer's Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Clerk's August Monthly Report, prepared by Clerk Shari Lentz. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the Clerk's Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Under Miscellaneous,

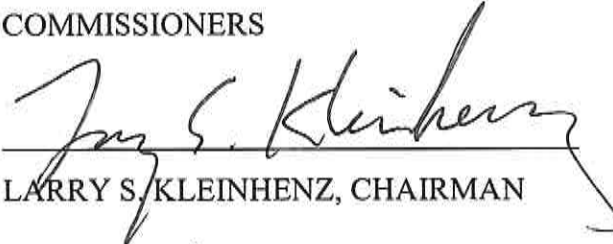
The next item was a Consideration of a Countywide Burn Ban presented by Emergency Management Director, Shannan Cooke. The fire chiefs have requested for the Countywide Burn Ban to be resigned for another seven (7) days. The conditions will be reevaluated once the Burn Ban is set to expire. **Commissioner London motioned to Accept the Countywide Burn Ban as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

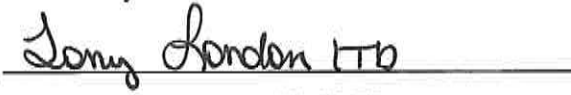
The next item was an update on the Fiber Project, presented by Dave Brodin, with Hoosier Fiber. To date, there have been fifty-seven (57) miles of Fiber within the County, there are a little over two thousand five hundred (2,500) homes passed, approaching a quarter of the overall project. There has only been one (1) preventable utility strike due to an electric strike, with a very small number of homeowner concerns expressed by anyone. There are two (2) things controlling the pace of the project, one (1) is other Utility Locates, all of the Utility Providers are doing an excellent job, the volume of Locates is higher than in previous years and they are doing the best they can to place the Locates. The other piece is the Pole Replacements, Bartholomew County REMC has done an excellent job as well, it just takes time to replace the poles. There has been more underground construction than anticipated to help keep things moving. Commissioner London mentioned that REMC needed one thousand seven hundred (1,700) poles replaced, and inquired how quickly are they being replaced on a weekly or monthly basis. Mr. Brodin commented that Bartholomew County REMC can do between twenty to thirty (20-30) per week, and the pace is going well. The cost of the poles versus going underground is taken into consideration as well before replacing the poles. There have been some unpreventable utility strikes such as hitting unmarked, older utility lines. Commissioner London commented that Fiber has worked well so far and people within the County are excited to receive Fiber. The project is projected to be completed in 2025.

Due to Fall Break week being revised from October 7-11 to now October 14-18, the Commissioner's will hold their Public Meeting on Monday, October 7th, and cancel their October 14th, meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

  
LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

  
TONY LONDON, MEMBER



CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

ATTEST:



PIA O'CONNOR, AUDITOR