

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

February 24, 2014

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on February 24, 2014 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Chairman Carl Lienhoop called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Larry Kleinhenz and Rick Flohr, County Attorney J. Grant Tucker and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were also in attendance.

County Assessor Lew Wilson gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the February 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Flohr, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next was the approval of Claims. Commissioner Flohr made a motion to approve the Claims, seconded by Commissioner Kleinhenz, and the motion passed unanimously.

The next item was the weekly Permit report. Chairman Lienhoop read the New Permits Report dated 2/17/14 to 2/21/14. Nineteen (19) permits had been issued with a fee amount of \$2,266 and an estimated construction cost of \$1,230,600.

Engineer Hollander then gave the County Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: put up signs, mixed salt and sand, plowed and sanded roads, patched roads, fixed field tile on 800N, cut trees, and placed stone from road cuts at the fairgrounds. The Commissioners asked for clarification about the progress being made on potholes, rip rap work on 930S when the ground thaws, and the seemingly premature fading of striping on 46/25th Street.

The next item on the agenda was the Recycling Center Report through December 2013 presented by Heather Siesel, Education Coordinator for the Bartholomew County Solid Waste Management District (SWMD). The annual report will be forthcoming and will include more detail as well as averages and trends. Residential Recycling Volumes for 2013 showed newspaper recycling totals were up by 12% over last year in spite of the advent of *e-editions*. Commercial Recycling Volumes in the cardboard and office paper program continue to show slight yearly increases. Satellite Recycling Volumes reported that the number of users visiting the Satellite Sites in 2013 was 2,767 (up from roughly

2,400 in 2012). Landfill Reuse Center Volumes were down from 2012 which might be attributed to an increase of other agents in the community taking reusable items. The SWMD Program Totals for 2013 reported an overall increase. New this year was the collection of electronics and vinyl siding, and through the Tox-A-Way Program: CFL bulbs, fluorescent tube lighting and smoke detectors. The Recycling Center collected 21,600 tons of material.

Ms. Siesel discussed upcoming events for spring of 2014. Free Senior Loading Days where seniors can receive one truckload of compost or mulch that is loaded for them at no cost will be on the last two Wednesdays in March, the 19th and 26th. Earth Day will be on Saturday, April 26th, and Tox-A-Way Day at the Fairgrounds will be held on Saturday, May 17th.

Responding to Commissioner Kleinhenz's question, Ms. Siesel said that classroom education opportunities have been limited this winter because of all the snow days. Chairman Lienhoop noted that, excluding aluminum, steel and scrap metal, the Recycling Program diverts significant amounts from the landfill which continues to increase the life of the landfill for the benefit of future generations.

For the next agenda item, County Assessor Lew Wilson and Chief Deputy Rita Carr appeared before the Commissioners to reach a decision regarding Appraisal Services and the 2014-2017 Cyclical Reassessment and the 2015-2018 Annual Adjustment of All Real Property. Proposals were previously submitted by GnA Assessment Professionals, Nexus Group and Tyler Technologies. Assessor Wilson recommended awarding the service contract to GnA based upon the availability of onsite personnel, past performance and turning in the comparatively lowest bid.

Troy Fryman of Tyler Technologies asked for clarification of pricing and of what the County is anticipating on what the review is going to take from the desktop utilizing Pictometry. While Assessor Wilson analyzed some 25 variances within the proposed contracts, he especially focused on the commitment of days of professional personnel being onsite. He stressed that continuity is imperative for quality reassessment results and the frequent presence of contracted professionals onsite, particularly the project manager, that GnA is willing to provide offers more assurance of reaching that level of continuity. Mr. Fryman wished to state for the record that Tyler Technologies is a large company that

would not have just one person in the County, but would have many, not to mention that one individual is a Bartholomew County resident. He went on to say that Tyler Technologies has done previous work in the County. He noted that Tyler Technologies' cost of having three Tyler people onsite versus GnA's one person onsite for the same number of days would still come in under the GnA bid.

John Dishinger, in the audience, asked what services this contract would be providing. Assessor Wilson said this bid was for annual adjustments (trending), review of properties via Pictometry or field review, and assistance with appeals. He also mentioned that appeals work cost a little over \$100,000 with Tyler Technologies for tax year 11/12 and that GnA did more quantity and higher quality appeal work for 12/13 at a cost of \$80,000. Mike Lovelace, in the audience, asked what the overall pricing difference was between Tyler Technologies and GnA. Chairman Lienhoop's figures showed a \$12,000 price difference with GnA offering the lower. Assessor Wilson noted that the biggest difference between bids was in the daily rates: Tyler Technologies, \$600; Nexus, \$550-750, and; GnA, \$300.

Commissioner Kleinhenz suggested that this awarding process, for what is very similar to a professional services contract, seems almost too complicated to bid out and asked if it was necessary to do so. It was then confirmed by the county attorney and auditor that the process requires state submission. Mr. Fryman cited that the experiences in Lake County in 1993 and Brown County in the early 2000's have caused the bidding process to be mandated by IC Code.

Commissioner Flohr pointed out that, while the daily rate is disclosed, the unknown factor is the *number* of days to be worked at that rate. Assessor Wilson used last year's figure of 350 days and anticipates more for this year. Commissioner Flohr made a motion to award the contract to GnA for Appraisal Services and the 2014-2017 Cyclical Reassessment and the 2015-2018 Annual Adjustment of All Real Property. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion with the understanding that the Assessor has the responsibility of getting the job done and trusts his recommendation of how best to accomplish that goal. A vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

For the next item of business, Emergency Management Director Dennis Moats presented a letter addressed to Jan Crider of Indiana Dept. of Homeland Security stating the County's intention to update the County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan) which expires March 2014 to ensure future eligibility for mitigation grant money. Bartholomew County has been designated by Homeland Security as a possible recipient of this type of funding. Plan upgrade and renewal is required of counties receiving predisaster mitigation grant money. The federal share is \$12,480.80 and requires a 25% County match of \$4,160.27 by cash or through in-kind services. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the Letter of Intent to Homeland Security. Chairman Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Mr. Moats also presented an application for the 2013 Homeland Security Grant Program Sub-Grant Agreement EDS #C44P-4-504B. This grant money is part of School Safety Initiatives Grant and specifically designates \$9,268.40 for the purchase of breeching kits/equipment to be used by law enforcement to enter schools during times of lock-down. Responding to County Auditor Barb Hackman's question, Mr. Moats confirmed that the grant money was coming from the *Fiscal Year 2013* Homeland Security Grant Program. Fifteen (15) kits will be purchased with this funding. Mr. Lovelace asked how often the equipment is inventoried to which Mr. Moats responded, "annually". Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the Sub-Grant Agreement #C44P-4-504B with Homeland Security. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The next agenda item was presented by Brad Barnes, Director of Court Services, who submitted the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Grant Agreement for signatures. The state-wide initiative provides juvenile court judges, probation staff, detention staff, law enforcement, and others with additional tools to improve outcomes for children involved in the justice system. The grant is for \$20,670 to fund a contracted coordinator position, computer, telephone and initial supplies to initiate the program locally. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the JDAI Grant Agreement with Indiana Dept. of Corrections. Chairman Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Mr. Barnes had recently participated in a conference call with the Indiana Dept. of Corrections. Of the 92 counties of Indiana, approximately 80 of those are involved in

Community Corrections Grant Act programs. Bartholomew County has been a participant since 1986 and was recognized for its commendable efforts. IDOC was able to provide almost \$14,000 of additional performance-based funding (a bonus) to the County based on several factors, specifically, the operations of community corrections, programs and initiatives being practiced locally. What hurt the County in receiving more funding was the number of D felons (approximately 22%) ending up at the Dept. of Correction versus going through the courts. Many of those are alcohol/drug offenders, notably meth and heroine, and indicate a continuing struggle within the community to get control over the meth issue. It's hard to change behavior when someone's on drugs.

The next item was consideration of a quote for a vehicle for the Sheriff's Dept. to replace a vehicle recently totaled. Chairman Lienhoop read a quote from Fletcher Chrysler of Franklin for a 2013 Dodge Charger for \$20,944. Chairman Lienhoop made a motion to award the quote to Fletcher Chrysler for \$20,944. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion. Commissioner Kleinhenz defended not opening it up to bidders since the vehicle was being purchased right off the lot and can quickly get it back into the fleet. Mr. Lovelace asked if the quote included the paint job to which no definitive answer was given. With the motion having been made and seconded a vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

Last item on the agenda was the monthly Animal Control Report for January 2014. Commissioner Kleinhenz read the report as follows: there was a total of 116 cases, 20 animals were picked up, 68 audits, 6 violations, 3 fines, 2 bite cases, 4 door hangers placed, 2 reclaimed animals and 2 traps loaned to the public. The two vans traveled a total of 2,657 miles. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to accept the January Animal Control Report as submitted. Chairman Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lienhoop at 10:55 a.m. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER

ATTEST:

BARBARA J. HACKMAN