

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

January 25, 2016

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on January 25, 2016 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr, Larry Kleinhenz, Carl Lienhoop and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker was absent.

Chairman Flohr called the meeting to order and County Assessor Lew Wilson gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the January 19, 2016 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next was the approval of claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the claims. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was weekly reports. Chairman Flohr read the New Permit Report dated 1/18/16 to 1/22/16. Twenty-four (24) permits had been issued with fees collected of \$3,800 and estimated construction costs of \$1,820,100.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: worked on signs; picked up trash; hauled sand to remote sites; plowed and sanded roads with roughly 1,060 tons of mix. He also submitted the December 2015 Monthly Crew Report, including crew work, status of bridge and road projects and crew priorities for January.

Mr. Hollander asked for signatures on INDOT's Letter of Understanding to accept an **Unofficial Detour for the US 31 closure** for resurfacing, intersection improvement and bridge replacements. Excerpt from the Letter:

...US 31 will be closed March 15, 2016, due to a resurface, Sand Creek and Quade Ditch structures close on April, 2016, and CR 400S [roundabout] starts on May 1, 2017. The Unofficial Detour will be US

50 to CR 1300E in Jackson County/CR 600E in Bartholomew County, to CR 850S in Bartholomew County for the US 31 closure from US 50 in Jackson County to Sand Creek Bridge in Bartholomew County. For the US 31 closure at CR 400S in Bartholomew County the Unofficial Detour will be CR 500S to CR 250E to SR 7 in Bartholomew County.

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to sign the letter of understanding. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, Mr. Hollander presented for consideration an LPA Consulting Contract with **Beam, Longest and Neff, LLC for signage design** services. This is the initial step toward upgrading the County's signs using federal funds. Compensation amount shall not exceed \$50,100. Federal funding will reimburse 90% of that cost (\$45,090) leaving the County to pay \$5,010. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the agreement with Beam, Longest and Neff, LLC, subject to County Attorney Grant Tucker's approval. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The last item of business for the County Highway was consideration of a service contract with **Midwest Surveying, LLC** to review site development plans as required under a Bartholomew County Ordinance. Services include the review of stormwater pollution prevention plans (SWPPP) for proposed developments and performing on-site inspections to ensure compliance with IDEM Rule 5 and IDNR regarding erosion control measures. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to enter into the agreement with Midwest Surveying. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The next agenda item was the request of a Letter of Support from the Commissioners for the annual **Indiana Department of Corrections 2016-2017 Grant Program Application**. Court Services Director Brad Barnes stated that IDOC has funded community corrections in Bartholomew County for 30 years, since its inception in 1986. The Community Corrections Advisory Board ("Board") has approved Court Services' budget proposal for the grant application. The request is for funding in the amount of \$1,096,469 for Adult Community Corrections and \$63,631 for Juvenile Day

Treatment at the Youth Services Center for a total of \$1,160,100. The Board also recommended applying for additional funding of \$409,118 for the following uses:

- \$100,000 Community Corrections Benefits-employee insurance
- \$132,630 WRAP Program Funding
- \$ 26,000 New vehicle for field visits
- \$150,488 Pretrial/Presentence Assessment Team

Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the letter supporting the community corrections programs in Bartholomew County. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Larry Perkinson of the Substance Abuse Council presented an itemization of the 2016 grant recommendations approved by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to be drawn from the **Bartholomew County Local Drug Free Communities Fund**. The fees collected in 2015 and deposited totaled \$48,745. The Substance Abuse Council proposed that the funds be disbursed to the following areas:

PREVENTION/EDUCATION:

<i>Advocates for Children/Youth Support</i>	\$2,500
<i>BCSC-Red Ribbon Week</i>	\$300
<i>Big Brothers Big Sisters</i>	\$3,800
<i>Boys and Girls Club</i>	\$1,500
<i>Columbus Regional Shelter</i>	\$3,065
<i>Community Church of Columbus</i>	\$4,500
<i>Reach Healthy Comm. Tobacco...</i>	\$2,000
<i>Young Marines</i>	\$1,000

TREATMENT/INTERVENTION

<i>BCSC-Youth Care Fund</i>	\$5,500
<i>Centerstone</i>	\$1,700
<i>Columbus Regional Shelter</i>	\$1,735
<i>Community Church of Columbus</i>	\$500
<i>National Youth Advocate Program</i>	\$1,900

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES

<i>Bartholomew County Sheriff</i>	\$6,000
<i>Columbus Police Dept.</i>	\$6,000
<i>Court Services</i>	\$3,500

ADMINISTRATIVE

<i>Desperate Households Conference Costs</i>	\$3,145
<i>Website</i>	\$100

Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to approve the Substance Abuse Council recommendations for using money from Bartholomew County Local Drug Free Communities Fund. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next item was the **Monthly Animal Control Report** for December, 2015, and for the **Annual Animal Control Report** for 2015. Commissioner Lienhoop read the numbers as submitted by Animal Control Office Mark Case by month and year as follows: there was a total of 84 cases (1,332/yr.), 15 animals were picked up (392/yr.), 78 audits (1,335/yr.), 2 violations (42/yr.), 2 fines (21/yr.), 0 bite cases (16/yr.), 5 door hangers placed (67/yr.), 3 reclaimed animals (66/yr.), and 0 traps loaned to the public (61/yr.). The two vans traveled a total of 3,282 miles in December (40,254 miles for the year). Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to accept the December, 2015 and 2015 Annual Animal Control Reports as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item of business was a presentation by local attorney Richard Eynon of Eynon Law Group, P.C., accompanied by Bruce Enz of Injury and Crash Analysis, LLC, (“ICA”) an expert in accident reconstruction analysis and Douglas Head of Head Engineering, a former district engineer with the Indiana Division, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. DOT. Mr. Eynon also introduced audience members Josh Speidel who recently crashed in the area to be discussed, and his mother Lisa Speidel. State transportation representatives were invited to attend the meeting, but failed to attend. The gentlemen were there to express their concerns and present their analyses and **opinions on the intersection at US 31 and Bear Lane** and the service road entrance across from it. This area is a major artery in Columbus and Taylorsville and commercial development has continued to increase over time. Mr. Eynon, compelled to investigate and advocate for traffic improvements because of Mr. Speidel’s recent crash, but acting

solely on his own behalf, presented a comprehensive analysis of the subject area collaboratively supported by himself, Mr. Enz and Mr. Head in hopes of eliciting local and state action that could reduce traffic risk factors there and prevent future accidents.

Section V. Opinions of the ICA report dated August 13, 2015 gave “opinions within the limits of reasonable reconstruction and engineering certainty are as follows:

- The subject intersection of US 31 and the service road immediately to the south of I-65 should have overhead lighting.
- On the night of the accident the pavement was wet creating reflections and distorting the ambient and vehicle lighting.
- From the subject intersection there is background lighting to the north, which makes a “busy” lighted background for driver’s entering onto US 31 and looking north to see oncoming vehicles.
- The subject intersection is a wide intersection requiring a left turning driver to cross 4 southbound lanes on US 31 consisting of 1 right turn lane, 2 through lanes, a left turn lane and then crossing over a median and northbound US 31 left turn lane, finally entering directly onto the 55 mph high-speed lanes of US 31.
- There are no speed advisory signs to lower the speed of vehicles on US 31 in the area of the businesses and the interstate ramps.
- The marking and lighting of the intersection at which the crash occurred is poor. Because of the curvature and super elevation of the approaching roadway a driver located at the intersection cannot see the lane markings to verify where approaching vehicles are laterally on US 31 or on the ramp merge lane.
- Drivers on southbound US 31 or the I-65 exit ramp to southbound US 31 cannot readily determine the location or action of vehicles using the intersection.”

While US 31 is a state roadway, Mr. Eynon urged the County to consider make whatever improvements are within its jurisdiction, e.g., lighting on Bear Lane. County Engineer Hollander said that county-owned roadways intersecting with a state highway and its right-of-way require INDOT’s approval when making any improvements. Mr. Eynon also suggested arranging a joint meeting with agents of the county and state to discuss

options and offered his assistance in any way needed to move forward toward increasing traffic safety in that area.

Next on the agenda was consideration of a **Resolution Accepting Real Estate** located at 3775 N 325W, Columbus. The owner wishes to handover the real estate to the County. County Attorney Grant Tucker had pre-approved the action via resolution. Commissioner Flohr motioned to sign the resolution to accept the property on 325W. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Lastly was consideration of a **Transamerica Premier Life Insurance Company Application for Excess Loss Insurance** for ID#00840-00177-02. The document had been reviewed and pre-approved by Mr. Tucker. Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to sign the application for excess loss. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD A. FLOHR, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

BARBARA J. HACKMAN

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER