

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

November 28, 2016

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on November 28, 2016 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry Kleinhenz and Carl Lienhoop were present. Chairman Rick Flohr was absent. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were also in attendance.

Commissioner Kleinhenz called the meeting to order and gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of the November 21, 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 Lienhoop motioned to approve the claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was weekly reports. Commissioner Kleinhenz read the New Permit Report for the week of 11/21/16. Eighteen (18) permits were issued with fees collected of \$1,883 and estimated construction costs of \$841,415.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: replaced pipe on 100N and on Talley Road; ditched on 100N; put down rip rap on pipes on 1000E; worked on signs; picked up trash; and mowed in Flatrock Township.

Hollander then presented for two (2) agreements for **remote sand/salt stockpile sites** through April 15, 2017. **Columbus Silgas** will charge \$4.00/ton to store reserves at 1864 West 550 North, Columbus, and **Milestone** will permit storage at 6345 Jonesville Road South at no charge. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to enter into the agreement with Columbus Silgas. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to accept the lease with Milestone. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

For the next agenda item, County Parks Board Member Kris Medic, accompanied by the Parks Board President Bob Harden, spoke about the recent creation of the **Bartholomew County Parks Foundation** which will fall under the fiscal umbrella of the Heritage Fund-Community Foundation of Bartholomew County. Establishment of the foundation provides a means for the community to donate funds to subsidize the county parks' meager budget in supporting projects and improvements. The revenue stream this creates has been enjoyed by the city parks for 30+ years. Tax-deductible donations may be received in the form of appreciated stocks, real estate, grain and monetary gifts. Donation/gift envelopes may be obtained from the Commissioners' and Auditor's Offices. Audience member Mike Lovelace asked if the Heritage Fund would take a percentage and if master plans were required. Medic responded that zero percent was negotiated for now to start the fund. Master plan updates are not required for the foundation, but would become necessary if grant opportunities were to be pursued. (*The immediate release statement is attached.*)

In her capacity as Purdue Extension Educator, Medic said that Purdue Extension activities this year included grant-funded **study trips focusing on diversified operations**. Medic would be giving a presentation that evening at the library about the June Wisconsin study-trip attended by 25 Indiana extension educators and farmers. A similar trip to Maine and Vermont was attended in September by 6 area farmers.

Also, the Extension Office has planned a "Private Applicator Training" for licensed applicators at the fairgrounds Wednesday, 11/30/16, at 4:00 p.m. Just prior to that training session, there will be a land lease, best practices program-"Things to Know About Land Leases", for tenants and landlords lead by a member of the Purdue Land Lease Team, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Next week, Purdue partners with Kentucky State for an annual Sheep and Goat Health Webinar.

Animal Control Officer Mark Case read the Monthly **Animal Control Report** for October, 2016. There were 68 cases, 39 animals were picked up, 98 audits, 2 violations, 2 fines, 0 bite cases, 2 door hangers placed, 3 reclaimed animals, and 2 traps loaned to the public. The two vans traveled a total of 2,880 miles in October. Commissioner Lienhoop

motioned to accept the Monthly Animal Control Report for October, 2016. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

Next, Assistant VSO Larry Garrity read the Monthly **Veterans Services Report** for October, 2016. The Veterans Office processed 12 new claimants; conducted 123 scheduled/walk-in/outside interviews; made 251 contacts by phone/mail; made 9 trips to the VA Hospital; and traveled 802 miles. Other events in October included national certification training for VSO Tom Crawford. Garrity also reminded the Commissioners that the mileage counter on the van should reach 100,000 miles around mid-December at which time the VA hospital will pull the van off-line leaving the county without a vehicle to transport veterans. Garrity said that Kevin Cooley could be consulted for ordering another van. Commissioners plan to meet with VSO Crawford about a van. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the Monthly Veterans Report for October, 2016. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously. (2-0)

Lastly, IT Director Scott Mayes submitted a **Change of Service Agreement with Data Cave** for ratification. The fee structure for power distribution has changed from metered charges to a flat rate. The flat rate of \$445/month plus \$625/month for colocation then totals \$1,070/month. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to ratify the change. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD A. FLOHR, CHAIRMAN

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

ATTEST:

BARBARA J. HACKMAN

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COUNTY PARKS FOUNDATION FUND FORMED

COLUMBUS, Indiana (28 November 2016) – The Bartholomew County Park Board recently established the Bartholomew County Parks Foundation fund, administered by Heritage Fund: The Community Foundation of Bartholomew County.

The purpose of the fund is to accept and manage tax-deductible gifts and donations in support of county park projects, providing a funding source in addition to tax funding. It is expected that the Fund will also be used to supply match money for future grant applications, leveraging dollars to support projects and improvements that might otherwise go unfunded.

Donors will select areas of interest such as Projects, Youth Scholarships, Endowment Fund, or other specified targets when making a gift. With Heritage Fund as the fiscal agent, the Fund will be able to accept appreciated stocks, real estate, or grain, in addition to monetary gifts. Donors will also have the option of making a gift in memory, honor, or appreciation of another.

Donation envelopes are now available from County Park Board members, the Bartholomew County Commissioners' office, and the Purdue Extension Bartholomew County office.

Bartholomew County Parks encompass 12 properties over 144 acres, including Dunn Stadium, Anderson Falls Park, Heflin Park, two parks at BCSC schools, and smaller town parks formed as township schoolhouses were decommissioned. Activities include family camping, BMX racing, fast pitch softball, baseball, and cricket. Anderson Falls Park features a 44-acre nature preserve, administered by the DNR, offering a rich nature experience. This year, softball activities at Dunn Stadium alone attracted over 26 thousand visitors for an estimated economic impact of \$3.2 million in local spending.

A friends group, associated with the Parks Foundation, is anticipated.

Contact:

Kris Medic, Extension Educator
Agriculture/Natural Resources/Economic and Community Development

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