

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

April 7, 2020

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on April 7, 2020, in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Carl Lienhoop, Rick Flohr and Larry Kleinhenz were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker was present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was present through Zoom meeting.

Chairman Lienhoop called the meeting to order. Chris West, Tax Administrator for the Auditor's Office gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of the March 23, 2020, Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Rick Flohr motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Next item was the approval of payroll. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the payroll. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the Ratification of Claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to ratify the Claims as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was weekly reports. For the week of 3/23/2020 thru 3/27/2020 there were 19 new permits at fees of \$4,716 with an estimated value of \$1,963,979. For the week of 3/30/2020 thru 4/3/2020 there were 10 new permits at fees of \$778 with an estimated value of \$91,882.

The next item on the agenda was the County Highway Weekly Crew Report presented by Engineer Danny Hollander (via Zoom) of the following work that had been done: patched with the hot box and dura patcher; ran the ditcher in German Township; picked up corn stalks at Southern Crossing due to flooding; pulled back rip rap on 800 S; put up signs; removed sandboxes from the plow trucks; worked on Southern Crossing and Sawmill Road; delivered some put-together pipes; hauled donated concrete chunks to the Azalia bridge; and cut up trees on 400 W. They have a third of their crew working every day. Chairman Lienhoop stated that the bend in the river at Azalia bridge is very concerning to him. Engineer Hollander agreed. If that bridge is lost it could be between \$5,000,000 to

\$10,000,000 for a new bridge. They could abandon the road, but that is a busy road. Commissioner Flohr asked if they would be changing the third of a crew a day option. It is putting them behind schedule. They may consider going to two crews instead of three. Commissioner Kleinhenz recommended that we work on putting pipes in so that when we get back to normal we could be ready to be the first county for paving at the low asphalt prices. Engineer Hollander stated that they also have no idea as to their revenue from the gas tax as the Stay-at-home order will affect. The tax is the same amount but will be lower based on volume.

The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of a request from Yellow Trail Museum of Hope to for Permission to Close a Portion of County Road 700 N and County Road 670 E on July 3, 2020 and September 26, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. for Fireworks Displays. The letter was received from Michael Dean, CEO of Heritage of Hope and the Yellow Trail Museum. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the closings as requested. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the decision on eight (8) vehicles for the Sheriff's Department. This will be tabled until the next meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of three (3) Resolutions. Attorney Grant Tucker explained the Resolutions as follows:

Consideration of Resolution 2020-06 Authorizing Payment of Employees During Governor's Executive Order of March 23, 2020 Requiring Indiana Residents to Stay at Home. The point is to acknowledge the Governor's Order and Order that the employees will be paid whether they work or do not work during the Stay at Home order. It would have expired yesterday but the Governor extended it to April 20th. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve Resolution 2020-06 Authorizing the Payment of County Employees During the Governor's Stay at Home Order. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Consideration of Resolution 2020-04 Authorizing the Payment of Claims During the Declared Public Health Emergency. This Resolution authorizes the Auditor's Office to pay claims as needed with approval by the Commissioner at their next meeting. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve Resolution 2020-04 Authorizing the Payment of Claims by the

Auditor’s Office During the Declared Public Health Emergency. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Consideration of Resolution 2020-05 Concerning the Frequency of Deposit of Public Funds. This Resolution involves how frequently County offices that receive money have to deposit that money. Normally this would be daily but under the current circumstances to deposit money as little as two times a week utilizing the current internal controls. Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to approve Resolution 2020-05 Concerning the Frequency of Deposit of Public Funds. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a Proposal for Repairs to the Retaining Walls at the Courthouse. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that the retaining walls are original to the Courthouse. They have very little in the term of footers and are in jeopardy of falling over. The bids were as follows:

1. Premium Concrete Walls (Columbus, IN)	
Original bid	\$119,500
Alternate #1 – Remove existing footers & replace with new	\$ 19,950
Alternate #2 – Remove 3 short wall & replace w/new brick	\$ 5,200
Alternate #3 – Remove & Replace 2 exposed aggregate ramps	\$ 8,950
Original Bid and Alternate #2 Total	\$124,700
2. Repp and Mundt (Columbus, IN)	\$176,248
3. Driftwood Builders, Inc. (Columbus, IN)	\$164,500

Commissioner Kleinhenz will abstain from voting as he has a family member that is a part of Premium Concrete Walls. Commissioner Flohr motioned to Award the bid to Premium Concrete Walls at \$124,700 (low bid). Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed 2-0 with Commissioner Kleinhenz abstaining. Commissioner Lienhoop noted that sprinkler, mulch & landscape work by others, permits was not included in any of the bids.

The next item on the agenda was the Ratification of an Expenditure for the Sheriff’s Department. This is for the purchase of 20,000 N95 face masks. Of the \$105,000 total cost, the Sheriff has paid half (\$52,500) by credit card. These masks were

purchased from Preventative Wellness Consultants of Columbus, Ohio with the intent that the City would take half of them (10,000) and cover half the cost. The remaining balance of \$52,500 will be due upon delivery, if they are received within 5 to 10 days as promised. Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to approve the expenditure of \$52,500. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the Monthly Animal Control Report as read by Commissioner Flohr. They picked up 15 animals, placed door hangers and had 79 total cases. One van drove 2,100 miles and the second van drove 1,500 miles. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the Monthly Animal Control Report as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the Veteran's Monthly Report for the month of February as read by Commissioner Kleinhenz. They had 47 office interviews. They had 11 trips to the VA Hospital. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the Monthly Veteran's Report as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded them motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was a miscellaneous item for IT. Director Mayes has purchased a MAC computer to enable the upkeep of website updates. He had been using personal equipment to do the random updates but given the fact that they are doing updates daily. He was able to get 1 of the last 2 MAC computers available in the area. The cost was \$2,799.99 at Best Buy of Columbus, Indiana. It was .99 cents higher than the lowest bid but the lowest bidder could not supply the item for another 2 weeks. Commissioner Flohr motioned to Ratify the Purchase of a MAC Computer for the IT Department at \$2,799.99. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

County Offices will be closed on Friday, **April 10, 2020** in observance of Good Friday.

Mark Webber (via Zoom) asked Engineer Hollander about the third of a crew. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they have 3 crews of 6 that are rotating work days 3 days.

John Clark (via Zoom) had no comments or questions.

Chairman Lienhoop stated that there will be no Commissioners Meeting next Monday, **April 13, 2020**. The next regular session of the Board of Commissioners will

be tentatively held on Monday, **April 20, 2020** at 10:00 a.m. in the GOB Commissioners' Chambers.

Brooke Bowers (via Zoom) had no comments or questions.

Auditor O'Connor (via Zoom) stated that her office is paying bills, paying the payroll and continuing to transfer properties. The only thing on hold at this time is the deduction filing as they are not due until December 31, 2020. Property Taxes are due May 10, but they will not accrue penalties until after July 10, 2020. She encouraged those that can to pay on time, not just for the County but for the other units of government.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O'CONNOR