

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

November 16, 2020

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on November 16, 2020, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr and Larry Kleinhenz were present. Commissioner Lienhoop was not in attendance. Attorney Grant Tucker was present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was in attendance via Zoom meeting.

Commissioner Kleinhenz called the meeting to order.

In addition to the above listed people, the following were present at the meeting:

Assistant County Administrator Brooke Bowers	IT Director Scott Mayes
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In attendance via Zoom were:

Tax Administrator Chris West, Auditor's Office	County Engineer Danny Hollander
Tony London, Commissioner-Elect	County Recorder Tami Hines
Ashley Beckort, Planning Department	David Doup, Taylor Brothers Construction
Council Member Jorge Morales	John Clark, White River Broadcasting
Jana Wiersema, The Republic	

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

The first order of business was the approval of the November 9, 2020 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

The next item was the approval of payroll. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

The next item was the weekly permit report as read by Commissioner Kleinhenz:

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>11/09/20 to 11/13/20</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>\$2,602.00</i>	<i>\$1,273,565</i>

The next item was the County Highway Weekly Crew Report presented by Engineer Danny Hollander. The following work had been done: Completed the culvert project on 900 E; picked up

trash; side-winded stone along 525 S, 275 W and Heflin Park Road; worked on a driveway culvert and ditched on 330 W; and mowed in Clay Township. Engineer Hollander also presented the October Highway Report for Financial, Budget Status and Highway Funds. They were out clearing trees from roads yesterday due to the winds.

The next item was the Consideration of Notice to Bidders for 2020 Year End Bids as follows:

1. *Crushed Stone, as per specifications.*
2. *Sand and Gravel, as per specifications.*
3. *Corrugated aluminum or galvanized steel aluminized, or polymer coated steel culvert pipe in round or arch shall conform to AASHTO-M-196 and current Indiana Department of Transportation specifications.*
4. *Two (2) 2021 Tandem Axle Dump Trucks with Equipment, as per specifications.*

Four items for Highway – Notice to Bidders to be Advertised Friday, November 20th and Friday, November 27th. Proposals will be opened Monday, December 7th and then Awarded the 1st Meeting of 2021 (January 4, 2021).

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the Notice to Bidders as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

The next item was the Consideration of Change Order #1 for the new Highway Garage Facility with Circle B Construction Systems as presented by David Doup of Taylor Brothers Construction as follows:

- *Modify front wall sub-framing to accommodate changes when façade pylon was removed.*
 - *Original Contract* *\$160,300.00*
 - *Change Order #1 Amount* *\$ 1,073.98*
 - *New Contract Amount* *\$161,373.98*

Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the Change Order with Circle B Construction Systems as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

The next item was Consideration of the Meadow Lawn Industrial Park Major Subdivision Final Plat, Phase 2 (EBC/MAS-2020-002) as presented by Ashley Beckort of the Planning Department as follows:

The Subdivision Improvement Agreement and Plat for Meadow Lawn Section 2.

EBC/MAS-2020-002 – Meadow Lawn Industrial Park Major Subdivision Final Plat Phase 2:

A request by Meadow Lawn Farm, Inc. to create 1 new lot (Lot 7), and extend Executive Drive by creating a permanent cul-de-sac. This approval also includes a platted emergency access easement from US 31 to Executive Drive.

1. Subdivision Improvement Agreement:

The applicant is proposing a “Performance Guarantee” (See SIA attached). They are providing a financial guarantee in hopes to also get the plat approved now as well. The agreement includes a cost estimate, copy of the check (to be delivered with the hard copies), and associated construction drawings for public improvements (see Paving Plan attached). This section of public improvements is the completion of the cul-de-sac. The amount of the Performance Agreement is \$80,406.25.

Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the Subdivision Improvement Agreement as presented.

Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

2. Meadow Lawn Industrial Park Major Subdivision Final Plat Phase 2:

The applicant is requesting the plat be signed now. As they are providing a performance bond, the County Commissioners may sign the plat now, accepting the 0.17 acres of right-of-way along Executive Drive.

The Planning Department has reviewed the materials, as well as County Highway Engineer Danny Hollander.

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the subdivision and right-of-way as presented.

Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

The next item was the Consideration of the 2021 Payroll & 2021 Voucher Schedules (see attached below). Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the 2021 Payroll & 2021 Voucher Schedules as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed 2-0.

The Commissioners Meeting for **Monday, November 23rd** has been **CANCELLED**.

All County Offices will be closed **Thursday, November 26th** & **Friday, November 27th** in Observance of Thanksgiving.

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, November 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**

Commissioner Kleinhenz had a new initiative that he wanted to discuss. The Commissioners have been approached multiple times to assist in getting Broadband in the county. He stated that with the schools going to E-Learning again, there is even a greater need. Commissioner Flohr stated that he had felt it was not something that Government should be involved in. They recognized the need was even more important due to the COVID Pandemic. Commissioner Kleinhenz met with Commissioner-Elect Tony London last week and they discussed that now is the time to take the initiative to assist with getting Broadband in the county. To get this rolling, they want to create the Bartholomew County Broadband Initiative as follows:

- *Commissioners' must be catalyst in order to attract private investment/providers*
- *Will not compete with private sector*
- *Utilize CARES Act Funding*
- *Form the Bartholomew County Broadband Initiative Board with at least the following members:*
 - *Commissioner Representative – Tony London, Chair*
 - *County Council Representative*
 - *Pia O'Connor – Auditor*
 - *Scott Mayes – Information Technology Director*
 - *Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation Representative*
 - *Heritage Fund Representative*
 - *City of Columbus Representative*

- *Initiative board will define needs and develop best approach to address needs*
- *Consider Consultant (Commissioners' sign agreement)*
- *Develop Funding Partner*
- *Consider current Broadband providers*
- *Deliver Recommendation options to Commissioner by Monday, March 15, 2021*

Jorge Morales asked what the difference was between this and the current REMC internet option. Commissioner-Elect Tony London stated that this group will not be providing Broadband to County residents. This group will assist in getting private businesses to take on this task. REMC is limited in their coverage area. Jorge Morales asked what the Heritage Fund would provide to this group. Commissioner-Elect London stated that they have people already involved in this and can bring ideas rather than the committee re-inventing the wheel. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that REMC will hopefully play a part in this. Commissioner-Elect London has had several talks with IT Director Scott Mayes, who will be a big part of this. Jorge Morales appreciated the answers and agrees this needs to be done. He hopes this will create better choices. Commissioner-Elect London stated that where he lives, he only has one option and it is spotty on good days. IT Director Scott Mayes stated that the infrastructure would most probably be a combination of hard wired and wireless. Even to get wireless in the county would require hard wire to the wireless equipment. It probably will require multiple vendors to accomplish this. Commissioner Flohr asked if the Commissioners would be a pass-thru for grants. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that, by the County being involved, there are more funding opportunities available. This will start a focused effort to get this moving. He stated that if they went before County Council with a \$1,000,000 request, it would be a tough sell. But if we can use CARES Act Funding, it would be a much easier process and better for the tax payers. Auditor O'Connor stated that they can do this using the CARES Act. She had allocated \$450,000 in the CARES Act budget that she presented to the County Council last week. Commissioner-Elect London had spoken with a Commissioner in Whitley County. Whitley County had just signed a contract with a company to provide Broadband for the County areas that will utilize existing towers. Their total cost was about \$750,000. Jorge Morales feels this conversation is long overdue. John Clark asked when this group would start meeting. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated probably this week. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to create the Bartholomew County Broadband Initiative Committee. Commissioner Flohr

seconded the motion which passed 2-0. Commissioner Kleinhenz recommended Commissioner-Elect Tony London as the Chair of this committee, and he accepted. Jana Wiersema asked if these would be public meetings. Commissioner-Elect London stated they would be. They will hopefully utilize Zoom. The Auditor's Office will take minutes for this committee. Commissioner-Elect London stated that there are deadlines associated with CARES Act and one of them is during this December, so they need to get moving on this. Auditor O'Connor hopes there will be another round of CARES Act Funding. She believes that internet access to everyone should be paramount given the current situation we are faced with. Commissioner-Elect London stated that this will help not only with the funding aspect, but there are hurdles that they can remove to make it easier for private business.

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

2021 Payroll Schedule

#	Due in Auditor's Office	Commissioners Approve	Pay Date
1	12/21/20	12/28/20	12/30/20
2	01/04/21	01/11/21	01/15/21
3	01/19/21	01/25/21	01/29/21
4	02/01/21	02/08/21	02/12/21
5	02/16/21	02/22/21	02/26/21
6	03/01/21	03/08/21	03/12/21
7	03/15/21	03/22/21	03/26/21
8	03/29/21	04/05/21	04/09/21
9	04/12/21	04/19/21	04/23/21
10	04/26/21	05/03/21	05/07/21
11	05/10/21	05/17/21	05/21/21
12	05/24/21	05/27/21 (Thursday)	06/04/21
13	06/07/21	06/14/21	06/18/21
14	06/21/21	06/28/21	07/02/21
15	07/06/21	07/12/21	07/16/21
16	07/19/21	07/26/21	07/30/21
17	08/02/21	08/09/21	08/13/21
18	08/16/21	08/23/21	08/27/21
19	08/30/21	09/02/21 (Thursday)	09/10/21
20	09/13/21	09/20/21	09/24/21
21	09/27/21	09/30/21 (Thursday)	10/08/21
22	10/11/21	10/18/21	10/22/21
23	10/25/21	11/01/21	11/05/21
24	11/08/21	11/15/21	11/19/21
25	11/22/21	11/29/21	12/03/21
26	12/06/21	12/13/21	12/17/21
27	12/20/21	12/27/21	12/30/21

**2021 Voucher
Schedule**

Due in Auditor's Office		Commissioners Approve & Pay Date
01/06/21	Thursday	01/14/21
01/13/21		02/01/21
01/27/21	Thursday	02/11/21
02/10/21		03/01/21
02/24/21	Thursday	03/11/21
03/10/21		03/29/21
03/24/21		04/12/21
04/17/21		04/26/21
04/21/21		05/10/21
05/05/21		05/24/21
05/19/21		06/07/21
06/02/21		06/21/21
06/16/21	Thursday	07/01/21
06/30/21		07/19/21
07/14/21		08/02/21
07/28/21		08/16/21
08/11/21		08/30/21
08/25/21		09/13/21
09/08/21		09/27/21
09/22/21		10/11/21
10/06/21		10/25/21
10/20/21		11/08/21
11/03/21		11/22/21
11/17/21		12/06/21
12/01/21		12/20/21
12/15/21	Added Date	12/27/21