

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

July 1, 2019

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on July 1, 2019, in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr, Larry Kleinhenz and Carl Lienhoop were present. Attorney J. Grant Tucker was also present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was absent and Dalene Pattingill attended on her behalf.

Chairman Flohr called the meeting to order and Catherine Greenlee gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of minutes for the 6/24/19 Commissioners' Meeting. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

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

Chairman Flohr read into the minutes the New Permit Report dated 6/24/19 through 6/28/19. Forty-three (43) permits were issued with fees collected of \$11,187 and estimated construction costs of \$12,174,428. Over half of the cost total, \$7,166,678, was attributed to Gladstone Apartments Columbus. The Lofts at Ashford, LP, accounted for \$4,500,000. Permit fees collected for the month of June totaled \$20,498.

County Highway Superintendent Dwight Smith gave the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: fixed washouts in Harrison, Ohio and Rockcreek Townships; mowed in Sandcreek, Harrison, Rockcreek, Wayne and Clay Townships; patched roads; and began chip and seal in Clay, Rockcreek and Sandcreek Townships.

Chairman Flohr announced that county offices would be closed Thursday and Friday, July 4th and July 5th, in observance of Independence Day.

Mark Webber, reporter for *The Republic*, spurred a discussion regarding the retention of level 6 felons in the county jail while IDOC's payments for this service are past due. Payments from 16/17, 17/18 and part of 18/19 remain unpaid at this time. Even if received on time, commissioners agreed that the compensation for housing felons is not enough for the problems it creates (e.g., space, damages and staffing). The inclusion of level 6 felons in the county's jail

population is beyond the original intention of the facility. These offenders have changed the atmosphere of the county jail to that of a prison/penitentiary and has led to staffing turnover and shortages. The practice serves the state well, and commissioners fear that IDOC might require more felons be held locally in the future.

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, July 8, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD A. FLOHR, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

PIA O'CONNOR

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER