

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

June 20, 2016

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on June 20, 2016 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr, Larry Kleinhenz and Carl Lienhoop were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker and County Auditor Barbara Hackman were also in attendance.

Chairman Flohr called the meeting to order. Commissioner Lienhoop gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the June 13, 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 payroll. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the payroll. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was weekly reports. Chairman Flohr read the New Permit Report dated 6/13/16 to 6/17/16. Thirty-five (35) permits had been issued with fees collected of \$4,133 and estimated construction costs of \$4,263,907.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: patched roads; put up signs; wedged on 500S, 1125E, 200S, 1000E, Talkington Road, Georgetown, 325W and Bellsville Road; mowed in Harrison, Clifty, Clay, Ohio and Hawcreek Townships; replaced pipes on Seymour Road, 300E, 450E and 950N; and replaced a retaining wall with a rip rap chute on 325W.

Mr. Hollander then presented the **contract with Dave O'Mara** supporting its winning bids for the 2016 Overlay Program. O'Mara's portion of road projects totaled \$38,359.04. Chairman Flohr motioned to sign the contract with O'Mara. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Captain Brandon Slate of the Sheriff's Department requested consideration of a **Homeland Security grant application** for \$91,801.80 to fund the purchase of 60 **active-shooter kits** which include ballistic vest and helmet with quick deployment bag. The

equipment will be distributed to road deputies, reserve deputies, courthouse security, and jail transport personnel, as inventory allows. This is a reimbursable grant and funds are expected to be awarded in August. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the grant application. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Emergency Management Director Shannan Hinton requested consideration of a **Homeland Security grant application** for \$316,043.75 to fund the **purchase of radios for all county first responders**. The 800mh radio system equipment currently being used is reaching end-of-life and will no longer be supported. County-wide recipients include departmental personnel from fire, law enforcement, 9-1-1, EMS, EM, town marshals, animal control, Hope, Elizabethtown, etc. The 5000 models become obsolete at the end of 2017 and the 2500 models at the end of 2018. This grant request marks the beginning of a \$3.2 million, four-year plan to replace all the radios. This is a reimbursable, non-matching grant offer through Homeland Security. Ms. Hinton will primarily seek funding from the Fire Act Grant. Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to sign the grant application. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Ms. Hinton then requested consideration of a **Homeland Security grant application** for \$7,215.16 to fund **conference fees** for two EMA employees to attend the International Association of Emergency Managers Conference and the RES/CON Conference. The grant is reimbursable through Homeland Security. Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to sign the grant application. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Whereas Bartholomew County is the fiscal agent for **District 8**, Ms. Hinton also requested consideration of a **Homeland Security grant application** for \$40,000 to fund the training and conference attendance of District 8 members. Training opportunities will be based upon the district's 3-year training and exercise plan. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to sign the grant application. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Audience member Mr. Johnson raised questions about the Sheriff's Department take-home vehicles, vehicle trade-in mileage, and increased number of deputies without an increased law enforcement visibility. County Attorney Grant Tucker explained that the changing nature and scope of public assistance requests, i.e., the role of officers as dispute referees, has increasingly added to their callout numbers, but not necessarily crimes numbers. Legal publications and reviews indicate that demands on law enforcement departments keep rising due to expanded responsibilities, more laws and more activities to police, resulting in a burgeoning law enforcement budget.

County Auditor Barbara Hackman stated that budget forms have gone out to all departments and should be returned by the first week of July. Also, settlement was completed last Friday and monies were distributed to the taxing units.

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, June 27, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD A. FLOHR, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

BARBARA J. HACKMAN

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER