

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

July 3, 2017

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on July 3, 2017, 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 Lienhoop called the meeting to order and Catherine Greenlee from the Auditor's Office gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of the June 26, 2017, Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Flohr 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 Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was weekly reports. The New Permit Report dated 6/26/17 to 6/30/17 was not available for presentation.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: chip-and-sealed in Flatrock, Clifty, and Hawcreek Townships; put in pipes on 300S and Old Nashville Road; ditched and put in driveway pipes on 500N, 500W and in Hamor Heights; patched roads; hauled stone to the fairgrounds; and mowed in Clifty, Rockcreek, Harrison and Flatrock Townships.

Additionally, Hollander said he had received several proposals for the county's upcoming renegotiation of the bridge inspections contract. Those received, so far, were: LockMueller Group, United Consulting, GS Infrastructure, DLZ, and USI. He will deliver the proposals to the Commissioners' Office for review once evaluation sheets have been compiled.

Next was the approval of the monthly **ACH drafts**, such as, the employee benefit trust, insurance, and retirement payments. This month also included tax settlement payments to townships and organizations. Chairman Lienhoop motioned to approve the

Auditor's monthly ACH claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lienhoop announced that the county offices would be closed on **Tuesday, July 4th**, in observance of Independence Day.

Audience member Arnold Krause residing at 501 S 525W addressed the Commissioners about the speeding problem he witnesses at the end of his driveway when checking mail and getting onto 525W. Last November he asked that a speed limit of 45 mph be posted. Since then, Krause has seen little improvement and speeders typically travel 10 mph above the limit; therefore, he has returned to request lowering the posted limit to 40 mph. Hollander felt posting a 5 mph lower speed limit would not deter speeders. Commissioners agreed to request a deputy to run radar in the area. Krause also mentioned that heavy rain runoff pools on the road despite the county's ditching at the driving range.

Audience member Mike Lovelace suggested posting signage for motorcyclists warning of newly chip-and-sealed areas (loose gravel), e.g., on 450N. With the push on saving money, he also questioned the need to pave Bonnell Road rather than using chip-and-seal, since it served only one church and no residences. Hollander responded that its stage of maintenance was beyond a chip-and-seal application and it is still a useful road for through traffic. Roads, if not maintained with the proper treatment, will ultimately cost more in the long run.

Commissioner Kleinhenz commented that the Commissioners, having the responsibility of maintaining the county's buildings and having previously put off repairs due to fiscal pressure, will petition the County Council for an extra million in their 2018 budget to take care of unavoidable repairs. Commissioner Lienhoop said they conscientiously deliberated their budget needs after studies identified considerable building repairs needed, e.g., the courthouse (roughly \$3,000,000) and the veterans memorial (roughly \$300,000). Commissioner Flohr expected that improvements to the highway garage buildings would also be considered in the next four to five years.

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

BARBARA J. HACKMAN

RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER