

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
June 11, 2012

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on June 11, 2012 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Chairman Larry Kleinhenz called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Commissioners Carl Lienhoop and Paul Franke, Auditor Barb Hackman, and County Attorney J. Grant Tucker were also in attendance. Emergency Operations Director Ed Reuter gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Commissioner Lienhoop made a motion to approve the June 4, 2012 minutes. Chairman Franke seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The Payroll Claims were presented for approval. Commissioner Franke made a motion to approve the Payroll Claims as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, Chairman Kleinhenz read the New Permits Report from 6/4/2012 to 6/8/2012. Forty-four (44) building permits were issued with a fee amount of \$3,257.00 and a valuation amount of \$3,614,103.

County Highway Engineer Danny Hollander distributed the Monthly Financial Report for May 2012 and the Monthly Work Report for May 2012, listing last month's accomplishments and priorities for this month.

Chairman Kleinhenz recognized Kristen Brown, Mayor of Columbus, City Councilmen Frank Jerome and Frank Miller, County Councilman Larry Fisher and County Treasurer Pia O'Conner.

Engineer Hollander gave the weekly crew report. They mowed in Columbus, Wayne, German, Flatrock and Jackson Townships, bermed roads for overlay, replaced pipes on 650 E., 350 E., 250 W. and 850 W., ditched on Deaver Rd., 200 S., and 670 E. and patched roads.

Commissioner Franke made a motion to accept the MS4 Stormwater Monthly Report for the month of May 2012. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Joel Thacker, Columbus City Fire Chief and Rodney Ferrenberg, Columbus Township Fire Chief were recognized in today's meeting.

Jim Bickel, CEO of Columbus Regional Hospital, did a presentation on ambulance costs. He described a recommended model for consideration on how we might look at reducing the contract fees associated with the current provision of 911 EMS services for both the city and the county (not a formal proposal by CRH as the provider) while not adversely impacting quality or response times to the community.

The current contract prescribes a set number of ambulances to be available for 911 calls and remain within the county at all times. Columbus Regional Hospital proposes a model for 911 Emergency Services that is based on expected outcomes to be delivered by the 911 EMS provider. This model change would require the 911 EMS

provider to meet these outcomes while at the same time allow the provider to supplement downtime with other non-emergent work thus bringing more efficiency into the operations.

In order to ensure the safety and quality of the 911 emergency service and that it continues to meet the community needs, CRH also proposes that the current Medical Control committee be expanded to provide oversight and contract compliance monitoring of clinical excellence, response time reliability, economic efficiency and patient satisfaction. The Medical Control committee would meet quarterly and should be comprised of city, county, physician and hospital representatives. He then discussed the following list of critical success factors:

- One City/County contract for 911 EMS ambulance services
- Increased collaboration with Columbus Fire Department – utilize current CFD paramedics to ensure timely ALS first response
- Established metrics and reporting structure using national benchmarks to ensure quality and efficient operations
- Establish operational plans for flexibility of resources including Mutual Aide Agreements with other EMS providers, both public and private
- Build non-911 referral base
- Local medical control to ensure continuity of care
- Consistent staff to ensure clinical quality
- Establish oversight board

Commissioner Lienhoop feels the current agreement has served the City and County well over the last 6 to 7 years, but feels that something different needs to be done. Emergency Operations Director Ed Reuter stated that Bartholomew County has always been excellent in public safety and he agrees that the City and County needs to stay together instead of a divided contract. Mayor Kristen Brown had some concerns with the

current model. She has a problem with the City residents paying double for ambulance services than what the County residents do. She also spoke of the west side of town being inadequate on transport time. Joel Thacker, City Fire Chief, wants the partnership between City and County to continue. He feels that the fire department needs to train more paramedics, but feels that they strive to have the best response and transport time that they can have and also feels that strategic placement is critical. Frank Jerome, with the City Council, wanted to know the impact of the accidents on I-65 and runs that are made to that area. Dan Sparks, with Columbus Regional Hospital, explained that it varies a lot and no one could predict how many accidents there will be. Lonnie Vautaw, a resident of the west side of town questioned what criteria is being used to determine how many ambulances to place at each station because no one can predict when an accident may happen, and Mr. Bickel assured her that he was not suggesting that we do not adequately cover the areas of the City and the County, but is suggesting that we allow the provider the ability to flex units as necessary depending on the run volume that is occurring. He further explained that they would not send units home, but to put them on other jobs and with the current model, he cannot pull one of the units to do an inner facility transport. Ms. Vautaw then asked how many ambulances are tied up during the day transporting DNR patients and Mr. Bickel stated that those are handled primarily by the private ambulance services. Rodney Ferrenberg, Chief of Columbus Volunteer Fire Department, said that if you are going to leave it as a City/County service, to look at the whole County and not just the City. He said that German Township is probably 70% of

the County runs. Frank Miller, with the City Council stated that the City and County should work together, see what assets we have, how the fire department can work with CRH and how we can look at the dollars and cents with what is going on. Steve Larue, Fire Chief of Clifford, questioned Mr. Bickel that when he calls for backup to cover his contract does he have a mutual aid agreement with someone or is there City/County funds for that. Mr. Bickel explained that there is really nothing in place to do that.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration to reject video arraignment bids. This is a way to have prisoners stay in the Jail and communicate with the Judge at the Courthouse through a camera and a screen, which would eliminate the transport issues. After reviewing all four bids and finding they did not meet the specifications, the IT Department recommends rejecting all four bids and doing this in-house. Commissioner Franke made a motion to reject all four bids and do the video arraignment in-house using Telecommunications money. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report for the month of May was presented. Treasurer O'Connor explained that the report is in excess of \$40,000,000 since this is the month after collections. Chairman Kleinhenz made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2012. Commissioner Franke seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Auditor Hackman added that Spring Settlement went out Friday, so the \$40,000,000 is probably gone.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Kleinhenz at 11:17 a.m. The next Commissioners' meeting will be on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

PAUL FRANKE, MEMBER

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

ATTEST:

BARBARA J. HACKMAN, AUDITOR