

June 19, 2017

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
April 11, 2017

Name:	Representing:	Title:	Present:
Laura DeDomenic	District 2	President	Present
Bill Lentz	At Large	Pro-Tem	Present
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence	At Large		Present
Chris Ogle	District 1		Present
Mark Gorbett	District 3		Present
Jorge Morales	District 4		Present
Matt Miller	At Large		Present
Chris Monroe	- -	Attorney	Present
Barb Hackman	Auditor	Secretary	Present

The Bartholomew County Council met on April 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

President Laura DeDomenic called the meeting to order.

Chris Ogle gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes for March 21, 2017. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence had noted a few changes and gave them to Chris West before the meeting.

Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted changes. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

The next items on the agenda were Requests for Additional Appropriations for the Courts. Judge Coriden, Judge Benjamin and Judge Worton approached the table to discuss the need for additional employees in each of their offices. Judge Coriden started

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by handing out charts showing income generated versus caseloads for the last three (3) years. On her docket tomorrow there are one-hundred ninety (190) cases scheduled. Pam, in her office, had one (1) person plead out on seven (7) cases. Normally it would have taken twenty (20) minutes to log the information into the computer but it took an additional forty-five (45) minutes with the new Odyssey System. Mark Gorbett asked if the additional workload with Odyssey also then equates to money not being brought back in due to the time lost. Judge Coriden stated yes. Chasing dollars is the least of her priorities. Mark Gorbett stated that he understood that not only was there the issue with Odyssey but also there is another new requirement of E-Filing coming later this year. Laura DeDomenic stated that she thought the E-filing would reduce the scanning workload. Judge Benjamin stated that there would be many pages that would still need to be scanned. Judge Worton explained that any new evidence that is presented in the Court Room would have to be scanned. They must also maintain all original documents that are presented as well as scanning said documents. Laura DeDomenic asked if Odyssey has been back to review the processes and see if there is anything else they can do to streamline the work. Judge Benjamin stated that they have been very attentive. They answer the helpdesk calls and they even came back an extra day to review everything. Judge Worton stated that the scanning of motions and evidence collected in Court Room will cause more time consumption. President DeDomenic asked if they had to keep both the scanned copy and the original. Judge Worton stated yes, they had to maintain both. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if every County was having the same issues with

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Odyssey. Judge Worton stated that some are doing better and some are doing worse. Judge Coriden stated that some counties didn't have a computer system. She feels we have moved back to the ice age. Bartholomew County is among the top 11 busiest counties for court cases. Jorge Morales asked if we are busy enough to have another Court. Judge Coriden stated that they had tried that through the State Legislature. It would have passed but they would have been required to raise traffic tickets by an additional twenty dollars (\$20). Judge Worton explained that the case load is continuing to increase. Bill Lentz stated that he had contacted Odyssey today. Odyssey stated that they would provide additional training and send someone down if it was needed. Judge Worton stated that they do not need training. It is a good system but it requires more work from the staff. Odyssey provided two (2) weeks of training and then stayed an additional week. They have also been and continue to be very responsive to all their questions. Judge Benjamin stated that they have just been pummeled. There were one-hundred-sixty-one (161) CHINS cases in 2016 and so far in 2017 there have been three-hundred-fourteen (314) cases. Drug therapy requires one and a half (1.5) years for treatment of the parents, yet they are to place the kids back with the parents after one (1) year of separation while treatment is still ongoing. Jorge Morales stated then it appears they need more staff, not more Judges. Judge Coriden stated their immediate need is staffing. They are not asking for another Court to be funded. Mark Gorbett stated that he did not want to see us lose experienced employees because of overwork and under pay.

Mark Gorbett made a motion to approve the sixty-five-thousand five-hundred-thirty dollars (\$65,530) total as requested by the three (3) Courts.

Bill Lentz asked why the amounts being asked for by each Court were different. Auditor Hackman stated they had prorated them for the remaining part of the year and Judge Worton explained that one position was currently part-time and would go to full-time. Matt Miller stated he has talked to many people in the Court House, from staff to attorneys. He asked what, if any, inefficiency there was. He heard from fifteen (15) to twenty (20) people who consistently stated that they just need more help. One month ago the Council voted to help a department that was already in financial crisis when they came before them. The Judges have come to the Council before they are in the same predicament.

That is why he seconds the motion made by Mark Gorbett.

Chris Ogle asked if the employee that Clerk Jay Phelps had reduced from his staff had been doing some of this work. Judge Coriden stated yes, they had. Bill Lentz stated this may pass today but he hates to be the one to tell other departments to cut five-percent (5%) or ten-percent (10%) from their 2018 budgets to pay for this. Matt Miller stated that the County employees are our greatest asset and need to be the priority. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if the upcoming E-filing would require more employees. Judge Worton stated that at this time, he does not believe so. Judge Benjamin stated that she had not heard any complaints on the E-filing system. She has just heard complaints about Odyssey. Mark Gorbett asked the Court personnel in the audience to stand, state

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their name and their number of years with the County. President DeDomenic asked for any other input.

Mark Gorbett restated his motion to approve the request for all three (3) Courts for a total amount of sixty-five-thousand five-hundred-thirty dollars (\$65,530). Matt Miller seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

Chris Ogle made a motion to amend the Salary Ordinance as necessary for the previous motion. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

The next item on the agenda was a Request for an Additional Appropriation for County General Information Services (001-41) for seventy-five-thousand dollars (\$75,000) as presented by Director of Information Technology Scott Mayes and County Commissioner Carl Lienhoop. Commissioner Rick Flohr was in the audience. Commissioner Lienhoop explained that they are requesting the seventy-five-thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be split as sixty-four-thousand nine-hundred-eighty-two dollars and eighty-one cents (\$64,982.81) for the balance of the Sharp contract and the remaining ten-thousand seventeen dollars and nineteen cents (\$10,017.19) for any additional consulting work needed for the remainder of the year. The Sharp contract will end September 13, 2017.

Mark Gorbett made a motion to approve the request as presented with the money coming from the Rainy Day Fund. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

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Commissioner Lienhoop stated that at the end of the contract, the cost will be ten-thousand four-hundred-seventy-three dollars (\$10,473) per month as compared to the beginning of the contract that was nineteen-thousand nine-hundred-ninety dollars (\$19,990).

Director Mayes discussed the reorganization of the IT Department. He believes that by optimizing the current systems, four (4) employees will be sufficient for the department. However, with that he hopes that he can get the salaries to be more competitive. He wishes to adjust the job descriptions and duties as well as changing all the IT positions to exempt. Auditor Hackman stated that they would need an amendment to the Salary Ordinance to Exempt for the three (3) employees as well as update all the job descriptions and the elimination of the fifth (5th) position.

Jorge Morales made a motion to accept the three (3) positions as submitted, eliminate the fifth (5th) position from the Salary Ordinance, set all IT positions to exempt, and revise the job descriptions as determined. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lienhoop praised the work that Director Mayes has done. He stated that since the last time he was employed here, he has really matured.

The next item on the agenda was a Request for an Additional Appropriation for County General Cooperative Extension (001-23) for six-thousand five-hundred dollars (\$6,500) as presented by Director of Cooperative Extension Elisabeth Smith. Director

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Smith explained that this money has to be accepted by the Council as it is a donation from the 4-H Council for their summer intern.

Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the request as presented for six-thousand five-hundred dollars (\$6,500). Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

The next item on the agenda was an Appointment to the Library Board by the Council as presented by Council President Laura DeDomenic.

Jorge Morales made a motion to re-appoint Gary Gron to the Library Board. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

The next items on the agenda were updates by the Council members regarding Boards and Commissions as follows:

Chris Ogle:

County Extension Bd – nothing to report

Solid Waste Management District Bd – nothing to report

Bill Lentz:

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Personnel Administrative Committee – nothing to report

Cols Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Bd – nothing to report

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence:

County Parks & Recreation Bd – meeting was cancelled

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Youth Services Center Advisory Committee – nothing to report

JDAI – nothing to report

Affordable Housing Meeting – nothing to report

Laura DeDomenic:

Liaison to Health Bd – nothing to report

Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – nothing to report

Columbus Economic Development Bd – nothing to report

Consultants – She is working with Auditor Hackman and Umbaugh regarding information for the 2018 Budget Session. They are still waiting to see a few of the final determinations on bills at the State House. They have met with the Sheriff and he has updated his Capital plan regarding the number of people and cameras/tasers. Matt Miller has had one comment made to him in favor of the cameras and five comments against them. President DeDomenic stated that she had been at a meeting where most of the people there were in favor of the cameras.

Jorge Morales:

County Plan Commission – nothing to report

Liaison to Sheriff's Merit Bd – nothing to report

Cols Economic Development Bd – nothing to report

Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – nothing to report

Mark Gorbett:

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Emergency Management Bd – nothing to report

Emergency Dispatch Services – nothing to report

Community Corrections Bd – nothing to report

Data Board – nothing to report

Matt Miller:

Personnel Administrative Committee – nothing to report

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Hearing no other business, Jorge Morales made a motion to adjourn. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Laura DeDomenic, President

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

By: _____
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: _____
Jorge Morales, Member

By: _____
Mark Gorbett, Member

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By: _____
Matt Miller, Member

ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County