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**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**July 16, 2013**

The Bartholomew County Council met on July 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Members present were: President Jorge Morales, Pro-Tem Ryan Lauer, Jim Reed, Bill Lentz, Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Rob Kittle & Chris Ogle. Also in attendance were Chief Deputy Auditor Sandy Beatty and Attorney J Grant Tucker.

Chris Ogle gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes of June 11, 2013. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence noted the following changes: replace the word “**have**” with the word “**has**” on page 1, paragraph 4, line 6; replace the sentence “**This grant they have had since 1986**” with “**They have had this grant since 1986**” on page 3, paragraph 1, line 6; change the word “**they**” to “**the**” on page 4, paragraph 1, line 10; and remove the words “**that individual**” on page 4, paragraph 2, line 3. Bill Lentz motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a request for additional appropriations for the Prosecutors Office as presented by Office Administrator Brenda Mijares. The first request was for the STOP Grant (516) for \$43,599.00. Brenda Mijares explained that they have not received the confirmation of their grant. The number they have provided is what they had requested. The amount will be no more than the figure they have

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submitted. If it is less, then they will reduce it to the amount that is awarded. A lesser amount will not require further action by the Council if they approve the amount as presented. Ryan Lauer made a motion to approve the lesser of the amount of the grant or \$43,599.00. Jim Reed seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Brenda Mijares presented the APS Grant (524) for \$116,910.00. This grant pays for John & Brenda Deffler's positions. President Morales noted there was difference between the \$116,910.00 and a number of \$119,310.00 that he had in front of him. Brenda Mijares explained that the amount of \$119,300 included \$2,400 that they had received from Brown County last year and they were adding it to the grant amount for their budget numbers. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation for the APS Grant in the amount of \$116,910.00. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a Transfer of Funds of \$12,480.67 for the Co-op Extension as requested by Erika Bonnett, Interim CED. Erika Bonnett explained the transfer was of money that was left in the part-time secretary line item. They want to move this money to the Contract line item to pay a portion of the 61% educator that they have hired. They will then also need an Additional Appropriation of \$5,215.43 to reach the full amount required. Chris Ogle thought that the salary was paid by Purdue. It was explained that the money was required to cover the 61% educator. This will fund the previous Council decision. Rob Kittle made a motion to Transfer the \$12,480.67 from the part-time secretary position line item to the Contract line item as well as to grant the

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Additional Appropriation of \$5,215.43 to fund the 61% educator. Ryan Lauer seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the Transfer of \$95 in the Health Department as presented by Carla Wolff, Assistant Director of Nursing. Carla Wolff introduced Maggie Stephon as the new WIC Coordinator. The request is to transfer \$95 to the 04-40 due to having to purchase 2 new refrigerators to store vaccines. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence made a motion to approve the transfer of \$95. Chris Ogle seconded them motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a Salary Ordinance Amendment for the WIC for a part-time secretary. Due to the hours they were allotted by the State for a WIC secretary, they had to release a person, but they want to move the remaining amount of \$7,358 to a part-time line. The full-time person has left as she had to have full-time. Jim Reed made a motion to approve the amendment to the Salary Ordinance of \$7,358. Rob Kittle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the Transfer of funds for the Highway. County Engineer Danny Hollander was not present at the beginning of the hearing. Chief Deputy Auditor Sandy Beatty was unclear as to which fund was being transferred from. Engineer Hollander joined the meeting at this time. He clarified that the transfer was from the Cumulative Bridge Fund. Bridge #35 (100S between 400E & 475E) is not going to construction this year. He is requesting to move that funding to supplement the overlay projects as allowed near bridges. It was asked why Bridge #35 was not going to

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be done. Engineer Hollander stated they did not have enough total funds for that bridge. He further explained that they would do Bridge #35; they were just delaying the project a year. Ryan Lauer asked about the numbers for Bridge #35. The current balance is \$406,000 but on the expense account report the balance is \$331,000. The expense report shows a transfer of \$168,294 from this account. It was determined the \$168,294 was split up between several other line items. The bridge on 650N will have the bid letting Monday during the Commissioners Meeting. This will be the only bridge that is redone this year (2013). Chief Deputy Beatty confirmed that they had transferred the \$168,294 to different bridges. Chris Ogle asked how many miles we would be able to overlay this year. Engineer Hollander stated maybe 15 or 16 miles and Milestone was the contractor. Chris Ogle made a motion to Transfer the \$150,000 as requested. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion. Rob Kittle asked for a confirmation of the current balance of Bridge #35. Chief Deputy Auditor Beatty stated that the current balance of \$331,706.06 was different due to the submittal of the request having been turned in on June 28 and the report having been printed yesterday. Ryan Lauer asked if Bridge #35 would be budgeted for next year. Engineer Hollander stated yes. The vote was called for and it passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a request for an Additional Appropriation of \$200,000 for the Highway as presented by County Engineer Danny Hollander. Engineer Hollander explained that this money was from the change made in the past session by the State Legislature. This is money from the Gas Tax and had previously been divided up

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among other groups. He received a letter from the State Auditor stating the amount they would be receiving for the end of this year. They will use this for paving and this amount will provide us another 3.5 miles of paving. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence stated she had received a phone call from an upset taxpayer. The taxpayer had been approached by a person that stated they had been chip-n-sealing the county roads, they had extra material and they could do her driveway for a very cheap amount. Engineer Hollander explained that the County crews do the chip-n-sealing on the County roads and if they have extra on a given day, they go on to the next road until they run out. The amount that we can budget for next year will be \$400,000. The \$200,000 will start coming in monthly, but he has enough funds to do the work while the weather permits. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked the status of road 325W. Engineer Hollander stated that the Surveyor's Office had begun work on the legal descriptions for the Right-of-Way the County will need to lessen the sharp curves on that road. Ryan Lauer noted that the front of the paperwork for the Additional Appropriation had a date of April 9, 2013 for the Council Meeting. Engineer Hollander stated it was probably just copied and she forgot to change it. Rob Kittle made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation for \$200,000. Chris Ogle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

President Morales moved down to miscellaneous items. He received a letter from the Council Attorney Rod McGillivray resigning his position effective immediately. Attorney McGillivray stated it had been a pleasure serving the Council and the people of Bartholomew County. A member of the audience asked if the letter stated why he was

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resigning. It was stated that it did not and he would need to ask Attorney McGillivray as he had not provided that information. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence suggested that a letter of appreciation be written to Attorney McGillivray. Rob Kittle suggested that President Morales, Attorney Tucker and a few other Council members work together to determine the process in selecting a new attorney.

The next item under miscellaneous was a request from Community Corrections Director Brad Barnes for direction regarding the payment of insurance. Jim Reed stated that he would make a motion to allow the Commissioners to continue to pay the insurance, if that was the desire of the Council. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked Director Barnes if his department follows the County Personnel Policy. Director Barnes stated that they do, other than how soon they start to take their acquired time off. She asked if they cut back the personal days, would that help out the issue. Director Barnes stated that the issue they have is not with the pay or covering the hours, it is the cost of insurance. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence believes since it is a 24/7 facility, the personal days are creating a hardship. President Morales read a letter from Judge Heimann as follows:

*Council Members:*

*I am appointed to this Legislative Policy Committee. The first meeting this year is August 15, 2013. As you can see, an important topic is the funding of criminal just matters. This includes the proposal that we*

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*no longer will be able to send Class D felons to D.O.C. Thus the costs for those prisoners would fall squarely on the County.*

*Please get in touch with me if you have any thoughts on this.*

*Steve Heimann*

Attached to the bottom of the letter was a copy of the topics that the committee is charged with studying. He had highlighted item B sub item (v) that stated “*Study and make recommendations to the general assembly concerning just funding, including the cost to local government.*” Bill Lentz asked if Director Barnes knew how many Class D Felons we would have in a year. Director Barnes stated they probably average 106 to 206 annually and probably 50-60% are D Felons. His quick estimate would be 70 to 140. In the local system it varies from \$30 to \$50 a day. He believes the DOC rate is a little higher. President Morales asked what constitutes a Class D Felony. Attorney Tucker stated that there are some drug offenses, 2<sup>nd</sup> time drunk driving if it is within 5 years of date of arrest from date of sentencing, and some batteries. President Morales asked if these are people that will do harm to others. Attorney Tucker stated that in battery cases, they will but it is people they know, not usually strangers. Ryan Lauer asked if they send all of them currently to DOC. Director Barnes stated that by no means do they send them all. Attorney Tucker stated that if they are sentenced to serve time, then they must serve that time, usually at the DOC, unless stipulated by the judge. Ryan Lauer asked if the proposal becomes reality and an out of state person commits a Class D, would we have to

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house that person. Director Barnes stated no and there is also an Intra-State arrangement with the Counties within Indiana for individuals from other Counties within the State of Indiana.

President Morales stated that the Commissioners provide the health insurance costs but it will affect the Trust amount. Another option is that Director Barnes may have the funds, but he does not have that information at this time. The third option is that if the grant is not self-sustaining, then we do not accept the grant and no longer continue the service. They had talked in the work session as to whether Director Barnes should proceed or wait until October at the first reading to see the status of the funding. Director Barnes clarified that his request is for the remainder for 2013 for the 6 positions that are paid by Project Income and he is asking that they wave the reimbursement of the insurance Trust that would roughly be \$31,000 (3 family and 3 single plans). They have 19 additional positions in Community Corrections alone that they pay the insurance costs of. It is only direction on these 6 positions that he is requesting. Rob Kittle stated that it appears, based what was presented by Judge Heimann, those positions will be even busier. His suggestion is to have Director Barnes continue as he has been and revisit this. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence agreed with the suggestion and reviewing it in October. Ryan Lauer asked if they are seeking additional grants for this lost funding. Director Barnes stated that an agreement the Commissioners recently signed allows for additional funding to come in. He is hoping that will make up the difference. The contract signed with the State is a set amount for 2 years. He hopes to see additional money coming in after the



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decisions are made. It is a two part answer. The Legislatures will have to earmark the money and then the DOC will have to divide up the funding. President Morales has no problem waiting until October at the first reading of the budget. Then, they will have to see where we are and what we have available. Ryan Lauer noted that it is important to keep the benefits and total compensation within the department budgets that are responsible for them. President Morales stated that the consensus is to continue as we are right now and have Director Barnes report back in October so they can determine what the status going forward will be.

Engineer Hollander had followed up with Dwight Smith, Highway Superintendent, who stated that there had been an individual contractor that was using the County as a reference even though he was not doing work for the County. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if we were paying for the materials. Engineer Hollander stated no, the County was not. Rob Kittle suggested they make the highway crews aware of the situation.

The next item on the agenda was updates of Boards and Commissions by the Council members.

Jim Reed reported that the Health Board had met to discuss their budget. They have cut a lot of money to the smoking cessation programs due to its ineffectiveness. He also reminded the members about the WIC situation and the building issues.

Ryan Lauer had nothing to report.

Bill Lentz had nothing to report.

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President Morales reported that there had not been a meeting of the County Plan Commission as of this year. Tomorrow there is to be a joint City/County Plan Commission.

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence stated the Park Board meeting for July was cancelled and the Youth Services meeting would be later on.

Rob Kittle stated that the Local Emergency Plan Commission (LEPC) had worked in conjunction with IUPUC, Columbus City Police and the Sheriff's Department and had held an "Active Shooter Drill" on campus. It was a very successful training. Economic Development had a meeting with Jason Hester and a Commissioner or 2.

Chris Ogle stated that SWMA had held a meeting but it was rehashing the same information as the last meeting.

Real Estate & Tax Billing Administrator Chris West of the Auditor's Office, stated that there were 3 CF-1 Forms that President Morales (*prior to his leaving tonight*) needed to sign based on the consensus of the Council.

Tom Heller, from the audience, came forward with a concern that he could not find the agenda for the Council Meeting for tonight. He stated that there is no such listing on the website nor could he find a page for the Council. Chris West stated that it is under the C's in departments on the main page of the County website. Ryan Lauer asked what operating system he is using. Mr. Heller stated that he is using Chrome on Windows 7.

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Ryan Lauer wanted to congratulate the Fair Board for an excellent job on the just completed fair.

President Morales recognized former Judge Chris Monroe was in the audience.

Rob Kittle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Reed seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jorge Morales, President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Lauer, Pro-Tem

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Ogle, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rob Kittle, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Lentz, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Reed, Member

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor  
Bartholomew County