

June 10, 2015

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL
May 12, 2015**

Name:	Representing:	Title:	Present:
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence	At Large	President	Present
Bill Lentz	At Large	Pro-Tem	Present
Jim Reed	At Large		Present
Chris Ogle	District 1		Present
Laura DeDomenic	District 2		Present
Mark E Gorbett	District 3		Present
Jorge Morales	District 4		Present
Chris Monroe	- -	Attorney	Present
Barb Hackman	Auditor	Secretary	Not - Present

The Bartholomew County Council met on May 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

President Pence called the meeting to order.

President Pence gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes of April 14, 2015. **Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Laura DeDomenic seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item on the agenda was a Request for Transfer of Funds in County General in the amount of thirty-five-thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) for the Sheriff's Department as presented by Chief Deputy Auditor Sandy Beatty. Ms. Beatty stated this is a simple transfer from Salaries (01-11) to Legal Services (03-11). **Jim Reed made a motion to approve the Transfer of Funds in the amount of thirty-five-thousand**

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dollars (\$35,000.00) as requested. Jorge Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a Request for an Additional Appropriation for the Bartholomew County Public Health Preparedness Fund (009) in the amount of twenty-thousand four-hundred-ninety-five dollars (\$20,495.00) as presented by Collis Mayfield, Director of the Health Department. Director Mayfield stated they are seeking approval based on a fiscal Grant. **Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation in the amount of twenty-thousand four-hundred-ninety-five dollars (\$20,495.00) as requested. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Jorge Morales asked if they had posted the Assistant Director of Nursing open position. Director Mayfield stated that they had hired Amanda Organist from within the Health Department. They will be hiring someone to fill her current part-time position. It was asked that Amanda Organist come to a Council meeting or work session so that they can meet her.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of the Six Sigma Program as presented by President Pence. President Pence had received a note from Cummins that they have time available to put on another Six Sigma Project for the County. They need to see if any departments are interested. The next department head meeting is June 4, 2015. There was further discussion regarding Six Sigma. It was decided to present this at the Department Head meeting.

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President Pence asked for an update on the insurance. Chief Deputy Auditor Sandy Beatty stated that as of last week, they did not have much money in the account to pay claims, but they did have money in the Trust fund. Bill Lentz stated that they had shared with him that there was one (*I*) large claim they had not anticipated.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the 2016 Budget Calendar. There was discussion regarding the dates and department requests. Mark Gorbett would like the department heads to explain any increases over last year's approved budget amounts. Chris Ogle agreed that they should come in with what they had last year and be able to explain any increases; then the Council could use the money, if there is any left, for raises. Deputy Chief Auditor Sandy Beatty explained that we must advertise high because we cannot grant any amounts higher than what is advertised. Jorge Morales believes we need to wean ourselves out of the CREDIT Fund. Chris Ogle stated that there just needs to be a clear message to all the department heads. Chief Deputy Auditor Sandy Beatty explained the funds available and what the financial status of the County should be at the end of this year, barring any unforeseen expenses. Council Attorney Monroe suggested not giving out a set number for anticipated raises. Laura DeDomenic is against any new employees or even filling vacancies. Chris Ogle stated that he is against any new employees, but when it comes to replacing people, the department heads have cut their operations to the bone and they know what it takes to get the jobs done. Laura DeDomenic stated that maybe Six Sigma could help with this situation. Jorge Morales stated that the Youth Services Center has full staff but only a few kids in the

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facility. Chris Ogle agreed with Jorge Morales but stated they have argued this for years. Mark Gorbett asked how many of the Council members fully understand the Work Release Center funding. Attorney Monroe stated that they might want to speak with Shelby County as they have their youth held in Johnson County. Jorge Morales stated that unless the Council takes the initiative, no changes will occur. Mark Gorbett believes we need to bring Community Corrections Director Brad Barnes in and have him explain how all the different funding works. Attorney Monroe stated that in the jail, staffing depends on how many “pods” are open at a time. Jorge Morales also believes they should look at the Extension Office. Laura DeDomenic stated that she agrees with that as she is a Purdue employee also but would like a better explanation of the Extension Operations. Attorney Monroe stated that one of the biggest meetings they had was when they did not want to re-hire the Extension Director during the hiring freeze. Mark Gorbett would like to bring Director Barnes in for an explanation of his revenue stream. Jorge Morales stated that he would rather do this at an actual Council meeting instead of a work session so that the conversation is recorded. There was some thought that they would get more open responses in a work session setting. Attorney Monroe added that the change with the Class 6 Felonies could affect the Jail. Class 6 Felonies are lower than Class 1 Felonies.

The next items on the agenda were updates by the Council members regarding their respective Board and Commission appointments as follows:

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Jim Reed – Sheriff’s Merit Board – The Sheriff’s Department had two (2) openings with fifty-three (53) applicants. Jorge Morales stated that it takes ten (10) months to get a Deputy on the road. Mark Gorbett (*former Sheriff*) stated that it can take three (3) months to sixteen (16) months depending on previous training and experience. Jim Reed believes the remaining applicants appear to be qualified. The Sheriff’s Department had one-thousand (1,000) hours of training in the first quarter. The Deputies are trying to re-write the personnel policy from the bottom up. They are trying to get the Deputies to pay dues to the FOP (*Fraternal Order of Police*) to be able to provide defense attorney’s to police officers when needed. It was explained that the attorney would only be for wrongful terminations. They are going to a one-hundred-sixty (160) hour – twenty-eight (28) day shift. They met regarding the Sheriff’s Pension and they will not have to add any money this year. There are several sources from which the funding for the pension is received. The return on investment has been over seven percent (7%) recently.

Mark Gorbett – Had nothing to report.

Jorge Morales – No County Plan Commission last month or this month. Economic Development Board met last week in conjunction with Rotary. They heard that we probably will not see any raise in the interest rates as the economy is still not strong enough.

President Pence – Park Board met last week. Restitution workers are helping out with mowing and weed eating the parks. The restrooms at Dunn Stadiums first quote

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came in at three-hundred-fifty-thousand dollars. They are looking at changes to reduce the costs.

Bill Lentz – Nothing to report.

Laura DeDomenic – Data Board met last week with routine items. All the things that are being done with video are taking up a lot of storage space so they are looking at adding more storage.

Chris Ogle – Solid Waste is building a new cell.

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

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, President

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Chris Ogle, Member

By: _____
Laura DeDomenic, Member

By: _____
Jorge Morales, Member

By: _____
Mark E. Gorbett, Member

By: _____

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Jim Reed, Member

ATTEST: _____
Barbara J. Hackman, Auditor
Bartholomew County