The Bartholomew County Council met on February 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

Pro-Tem Bill Lentz called the meeting to order as President Miller was unable to attend.

Bill Lentz gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of meeting minutes of February 12, 2019. **Jorge R. Morales made a motion to approve the meeting minutes.** **R Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).**

The next item on the agenda was a Request for a Salary Ordinance Amendment by the Highway Department. The request is being tabled until a later meeting.

The next item on the agenda was a Request for an Additional Appropriation for the LIT Correctional Facility Fund (114) in the amount of $70,330 for the SAS Contract for
the cameras and doors at the Jail as presented by Jail Commander John Martoccia. This was originally budgeted out of the General Fund but as they are now paying it out of the LIT fund they had to again request approval. Laura DeDomenic made a motion to approve $70,330 in the LIT Correctional Facility Fund (114) as requested. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).

The next item on the agenda was the Request for an Additional Appropriation for the Court Improvement Grant (675) in the amount of $12,375 as presented by Bobbie Shake. Ms. Shake explained that this is a Circuit Court Juvenile Division. They have received this Grant before, but this year it is a draw down Grant. It funds Adoption Days and Family Court. Jorge R. Morales made a motion to approve the Court Improvement Grant for $12,375 as presented. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).

The next item on the agenda was a Presentation of the Bartholomew County Solid Waste 2018 Annual Report as presented by Director Heather Siesel. In 2018, the landfill took in 75,747 tons of refuse. This was mostly commercial. Since opening in 1999, the average per year is 74,885 tons. They took in $1,700,000 in fees in 2018. They plan to close 5 acres in 2019 and do not plan on opening a new cell until 2022. As for the Recycling Center, they diverted 2,179 tons of refuse from the landfill. Of the amount taken in, 32% of it was cardboard. This saves a great amount of space in the landfill. They took in $207,332 from the sale of recyclables. The Commercial Cardboard and Office Paper Program is the second highest diversion program from the landfill. They diverted
3,300,000 pounds from the landfill. The program is getting near its capacity and will be something they will have to look into in the future. The Reuse portion diverted 145 tons of items from the landfill. The Education Outreach Coordinator educated 3,375 residents during the past year. They diverted 11,668 tons of material through their yard waste program. The Household Hazardous Waste program diverted 10.9 tons from the landfill which was properly disposed of. They had a vendor that helped them dispose of mercury for free last year. They diverted 60.18 tons of electronics from the landfill. They took in about 200 tons of construction/demolition waste. Jorge Morales asked if there had been any discussion of a recycling program for County residents outside of the City. Director Siesel has not heard of any such discussions. The landfill contract is up as of January of 2020. They are starting to look at it. They have had no issues regarding the current contract.

The next item on the agenda was the Request for an Additional Appropriation for the Prosecutor’s IV-D Incentive Fund (681) in the amount of $13,776.99 as presented by Prosecutor Bill Nash. He is asking for the appropriation that is an incentive based on Child Support collection efforts within Bartholomew County. In the past it has gone directly into a fund and they have written out checks from the fund without it being appropriated. They have changed the process and they are now required to receive approval from the County Council. Bartholomew County is in the top tier regarding the collection of Child Support within the State. **Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the $13,776.99 as requested.** Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0).
Auditor O’Connor stated that she handed out a new 2020 Budget Calendar today. Jorge Morales made a motion to approve the 2020 Budget Calendar as presented. Laura DeDomenic seconded the motion which passed unanimously (6-0). (See Attached)

Commissioner Larry Kleinhenz presented an update on the County Highway Garage. He distributed information that showed a proposed drawing as well as a timeline. They hope to break ground in June or early July. They are going to break the project into smaller bids to allow local companies an opportunity to bid on the projects. Jorge Morales asked about the final Council approval for the bond amount. The Council is looking at a total bond of $6,000,000 and then they will see if there is any money they can use to reduce that amount. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they are anticipating higher costs than they had originally planned. They have cut the project by $700,000 to $800,000 and plan to stay within the $6,000,000 bond amount. They will have to bump some other projects such as the HVAC system at the Jail to allow them to use the CEDIT Fund money toward the new garage. Laura DeDomenic asked if they could use the LIT Correctional Fund money for the HVAC at the Jail. Auditor O’Connor stated that there is proposed legislation to only allow LIT Correctional Facility Funds for maintenance/repair of facilities, not operating costs as we have set it up. If it passes, we would still be grandfathered in. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated they have several projects at the Court House including windows and limestone repair. They are hoping the total garage project will be about $7,500,000 with $6,000,000 from the bond and the rest they will come up with. They
believe they can meet this with existing revenue, not requiring more tax dollars or more assistance from the County Council. Auditor O’Connor stated that the bond would be paid for out of CEDIT Revenues.

Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that the Commissioners have had some real issues regarding drainage recently. He attended the Drainage Board meeting last night and praised the board for doing a nice job. He stated that the County has many older subdivisions. He can name probably 12 of those that have drainage issues. Most of these were created from farm ground and it wasn’t because these were high producing areas of agricultural ground. With the advent of code enforcement, there are rules in place that would prevent the issues that now exist in these older subdivisions. Homeowners can purchase Flood Insurance even if they are not located in a Flood Plain. The Commissioners are requesting Special Legislation to allow cheaper interest for an Urban Drain Project.

Commissioner Kleinhenz complemented Auditor O’Connor and Chief Deputy Pattingill regarding their work in their new positions. He stated that the Commissioners have met with Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence regarding the parks. He feels that they need more people for the parks. He also knows that there are going to be many requests for additional employees, including E911, during the 2020 budget session.

Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that the Data Board is looking at a new phone system which will be coming through probably in the next couple months. The IT Department is now at full staff.
Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they had pulled the request regarding the Highway Department for tonight’s Council meeting after there were some questions from the Council regarding the request. They will review this and see if there are other ways to solve the problem with call-out employees.

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

**R. Scott Bonnell:**

- *County Extension Bd* – nothing to report
- *Solid Waste Management District Bd* – nothing to report
- *Health Bd* – nothing to report

**Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence:**

- *County Parks & Recreation Bd* – looking for a full-time position
- *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

**Bill Lentz:**

- *Job Review/Classification Committee* – nothing to report
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**Personnel Administrative Committee** – nothing to report

**Cols Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Bd** – nothing to report

**Matt Miller:**

**Personnel Administrative Committee** – not present

**Job Review/Classification Committee** – not present

**Jorge R. Morales:**

**County Plan Commission** – tomorrow morning

**Sheriff’s Merit Bd** – Thursday morning

**Cols Economic Development Bd** – nothing to report

**Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission** – April 8, 2019

**Laura DeDomenic:**

**Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission** – nothing to report

**Greater Columbus Economic Development Bd** – nothing to report

**ASAP** – nothing to report

**Mark E. Gorbett:**

**Emergency Management Bd** – nothing to report

**It Council Emergency Dispatch Services** – nothing to report
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**Community Corrections Bd** – nothing to report

**Data Board** – nothing to report

**Drug Epidemic Committee** – nothing to report

Jorge Morales has someone that will take a picture of the Council at the next regular meeting.

**R. Scott Bonnell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Gorbett and passed unanimously (6-0).**

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**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**

By: NOT PRESENT

Matt Miller, President

By: 

Bill Lentz, Pro-Tem

By: 

R. Scott Bonnell, Member

By: 

Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: 

Jorge R. Morales, Member

By: 

Laura DeDomenic, Member

By: 

Mark E. Gorbett, Member

ATTEST: 

Pia O’Connor, Auditor

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