

## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

June 24, 2019

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on June 24, 2019, in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr and Larry Kleinhenz were present. Commissioner Lienhoop was absent. Attorney J. Grant Tucker and Auditor Pia O'Connor were also in attendance.

Chairman Flohr called the meeting to order and Commissioner Kleinhenz gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of minutes for the 6/17/19 Commissioners' Meeting. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to approve the minutes. Chairman Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

Next was the approval of claims. Chairman Flohr motioned to approve the bi-weekly and monthly claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kleinhenz read into the minutes the New Permit Report dated 6/17/19 through 6/21/19. Thirty-two (32) permits were issued with fees collected of \$2,905 and estimated construction costs of \$1,322,056.

County Engineer Danny Hollander gave the Highway Weekly Crew Report which included the following work: maintained high water signs; mowed in Harrison, Clifty, and Sandcreek Townships; dura-patched various locations; fixed shoulder washouts; cut trees; and cleared flood debris from roads.

Hollander also requested **ratification** of an invoice from Diamond Mowers (Sioux Falls, SD) totaling \$2,499.66 to replace a broken mower part. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to ratify the expenditure. Chairman Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

Next was consideration of proposals on **one (1) 25' flatbed trailer** for the County Highway. Three quotes were received: Mayes Trailer Sales (Whiteland) \$10,300; Nationwide Trailers (Odessa, TX) \$10,425; and Mail Trailer Sales (Seymour) \$10,999. Chairman Flohr motioned to accept the low bid from Mayes Trailers. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

The next item of business was updating the annual **2019 Covered Bridge Certification** required each year by the state. The commissioners confirmed the county has one covered bridge at Mill Race Park making the county eligible to receive state funding of \$1,850 for the maintenance of said bridge. Commissioner Kleinhenz moved to sign the certification. Chairman Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

Next was the second reading of an **ordinance authorizing the assessment of a real property endorsement fee**. The ordinance repeals Bartholomew County Ordinance 2007-08. With this ordinance, effective 7/1/19, the transfer fee increases from \$5 to \$10, and requires the owner to provide their tax identification number on any document to be recorded on the property. The fee is collected for the maintenance of County Plat Books. Content of the ordinance is inserted here.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ASSESSMENT OF A  
REAL PROPERTY ENDORSEMENT FEE**

**WHEREAS**, Indiana Code 36-2-9-18 authorizes County Auditors to collect a fee of up to Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each deed or each legal description of each parcel contained in a deed for which the Auditor makes a real property endorsement; and

**WHEREAS**, such fee, if collected, shall be placed in a fund of specifically dedicated for the purpose of maintaining County Plat Books; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bartholomew County Auditor believes that the citizens of Bartholomew County will benefit from the imposition of a Real Property Endorsement fee and has requested that the County Commissioners pass and Ordinance adopting such fee; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the Auditor's recommendation, the Board of Commissioners agree that said fee is needed and agree to impose it; and

**WHEREAS**, Indiana Code 36-2-9-18 also permits the Auditor to require a tax identification number identifying the affected real property to be placed on an instrument that conveys, creates, encumbers, assigns or otherwise disposes of an interest in or a lien on real property.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY, INDIANA AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That consistent with the provisions of Indiana Code 36-2-9-18, and as the same may, from time to time be amended, the Bartholomew County Auditor is hereby authorized to

collect a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each deed or legal description of each parcel contained in a deed for which the Auditor makes a real property endorsement.

2. The fee provided in paragraph one (1) herein shall be in addition to any other fee provided by law.
3. All revenue received by the Auditor pursuant to this ordinance shall be placed in a dedicated fund for the use of maintaining plat books.
4. The Auditor shall also be permitted to require a tax identification number identifying the affected real property placed on an instrument that conveys, creates, encumbers, assigns or otherwise disposes of an interest in or a lien on real property.
5. This Ordinance Repeals Ordinance 2007-08.
6. This Ordinance shall be effective July 1, 2019.

*End of Insert*

Chairman Flohr opened the meeting for public comment. There being no comments for or against the ordinance, he closed the meeting. Commissioner Kleinhenz moved to approve the ordinance on second reading. Chairman Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

County Auditor Pia O'Connor solicited bids for professional services in assisting with the annual preparation of **TIF neutralization worksheets** for the 1/1/19 assessment date. TIF (tax incremental financing) neutralization guards against the deterioration of the base values of properties within designated allocation areas when growth affects total assessed values due to trending. SEH of Indiana, LLC, submitted a proposal to complete the worksheets within 31 days for an amount not to exceed \$2,490. SEH has worked with the Auditor's Office in this capacity since TIF was adopted by the county. Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC, (fka Umbaugh) proposed to complete the work within 7 days for an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Chairman Flohr made a motion to sign the agreement with SEH of Indiana, LLC. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

Chairman Flohr read the **Animal Control Report** for May, 2019, signed by Animal Control Officer Mark Case. There were 105 cases, 17 animals were picked up, 128 audits, 2 violations, 1 fine, 3 bite cases, 2 door hangers placed, 2 reclaimed animals, and 4 traps loaned to the public. The two vans traveled a total of 3,496 miles. Chairman Flohr moved to accept the monthly report. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

Veterans Services Officer Larry Garrity read the **Veterans Services Report** for May, 2019. The Veterans Office processed 18 new applicants; conducted 136 scheduled, walk-in, and/or outside interviews; made 276 contacts by phone/mail; and made 19 trips to the VA Hospital. He said he was having a hard time keeping drivers due to their age and physical ability. Additionally, Garrity manned an informational booth at the Salute Concert and also attended memorial services at Veterans Plaza. Commissioner Kleinhenz moved to accept the report. Chairman Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. (2-0)

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, July 1, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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RICHARD A. FLOHR, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PIA O'CONNOR

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*Absent*  
CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER