

## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

March 22, 2021

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on March 22, 2021, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry S. Kleinhenz and Tony London were present. Commissioner Carl H. Lienhoop was absent. Attorney Grant Tucker and County Administrator Tina Douglas were also present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was in attendance via Zoom meeting.

In addition to the above listed people, the following were present at the meeting:

IT Director Scott Mayes	
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In attendance via Zoom were:

Tax Administrator Chris West, Auditor's Office	Engineer Danny Hollander
County Assessor Ginny Whipple	County Recorder Tami Hines
GIS Coordinator Jeff Lucas, Surveyor's Office	Ashley Beckort, Planning Department
Councilman Jorge Morales	John Clark, White River Broadcasting
Mark Webber, The Republic	

Commissioner London gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item was the Approval of the Minutes of March 8, 2021. **Commissioner London motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Approval of Payroll. **Commissioner London motioned to approve the Payroll as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Ratification of the Approval of Claims. **Commissioner London motioned to ratify the approval of the Claims as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the weekly permit reports as read by Commissioner Kleinhenz:

*Time frame*

*New permits*

*Fees*

*Value*

03/08/21 to 03/12/21	23	\$3,614.00	\$2,142,792
03/15/21 to 03/19/21	37	\$6267.74	\$4,819,416

The next item was the County Highway Weekly Crew Report presented by Engineer Danny Hollander. The following work had been completed over the last two weeks: patched with durapatcher & hot box; crack sealed on Seymour Road; hauled millings from airport to new garage site; installed bollards at new garage; hauled stone to Clifford project; and put up signs.

Engineer Hollander presented the February 2021 Crew Report and the February 2021 Monthly Highway Fund, Local Roads & Streets Fund and the Cumulative Bridge Fund Report.

The next item was the Consideration of an Indiana Department of Transportation Letter of Understanding for the Unofficial Detour due to the Closure of SR 11 as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

*SR 11 will be closed due to small structure replacements (culverts) 4.61 miles North of I-65 with Contract #B-40090, DES #1600663. Locations will be closed from April 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021.*

*The Official Detour will utilize SR 11, I-65 and SR 46.*

*The Unofficial Detour will be CR 650 S, CR 100 W and CR 800 S.*

*Bartholomew County will be responsible for signing any weight restrictions on the Unofficial Detour.*

**Commissioner London motioned to accept the Letter of Understanding with INDOT for the SR 11 Project. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Consideration of Amendment #1 to a Contract (EDS #A249-19-L180129) with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) for Railroad Protection at CR 800 N, CR 650 N and CR 950 S (Jackson St) as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

*This Amendment is adding two additional Railroad Crossings to the current contract that was originally signed September 10, 2018 with only the one crossing at CR 800 N.*

*The two additional crossings are: CR 650 N and CR 950 S (Jackson St).*

*This is a project coordination contract with INDOT for Railroad Protection. The project is through the local safety program which offers Federal Funds through INDOT to be used to pay 90% of the project costs.*

*Project estimated total: \$739,399.92*

*The Maximum Federal Funds allocated to the project from INDOT – 90%           \$665,459.92*

*The remainder 10% of the project costs plus any overage paid by Hwy           \$ 73,942.00*

*This will make a total of eight (8) Railroad Crossings that have been updated. Equipment is already at the above mentioned three (3) sites, ready to be installed.*

Commissioner London asked Engineer Hollander to recap what the project entails. Engineer Hollander stated that they are putting in the arms and flashing lights at crossings with 400 or more traffic counts per day at the crossings. He had \$38,000 budgeted per crossing but the new agreement is coming in at about \$24,000 for our costs. County Road 550 N and Spear Road are already under contract to be upgraded. **Commissioner London motioned to accept the Amendment to the Contract with INDOT for Railroad Protection as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Consideration of Notice to Bidders for Hot Mix, Cold Mix and Liquid Asphalt. This is the Annual Spring bids and will be advertised by Karen Stoner of the Highway Department as presented by Engineer Hollander as follows:

*Item #1 – Hot Mix Bituminous Paving Materials*

*Item #2 – Cold Mix Bituminous Paving & Patching Materials*

*Item #3 – Liquid Asphalt*

*Advertised: Thursday, March 25, 2021 & Thursday, April 1, 2021*

*Bids Opened: Monday, April 12, 2021*

**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the Notice to Bidders as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).** Commissioner Kleinhenz asked when he anticipated they would be in the new garage? Engineer Hollander stated that they are anticipating by May.

The next item was Right-of-Way Dedication of MI/P-2020-015: Heeger Minor Subdivision as presented by Ashley Beckort of the Planning Department as follows:

*This is a request by Brandon Heeger to create 1 new lot, for a total of 2 lots over +/- 40.00 acres. The subject property is located at 6335 Lowell Road in Columbus Township. The applicant is dedicating 0.01 acres of Right-of-Way along Lowell Road.*

**Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the Dedication of Right-of-Way as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was a Proposal for the Notice of Mailing Form 11's as presented by County Assessor Ginny Whipple as follows:

*Notice of Assessment of Land and Improvements for the 2021/2022 tax year. The legislated mailing deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid an extended appeal time, beyond the standard 45 days, ending June 15<sup>th</sup>.*

- **Midwest Presort (Indianapolis, IN)**

- *Estimated Postage Deposit* *\$10,459.68*
- *Estimated Services Fee* *\$ 3,805.91*
- **Total** ***\$14,265.59***
- *2 Year Agreement*
- *If requested, they will insert additional informational pieces into each Form 11 envelope*

- **L & D Mail Masters (New Albany, IN)**

- *Estimated Postage Deposit* \$
- *Estimated Services Fee* \$ 3,854.46
- ***Total*** \$

- ***The Master's Touch (Spokane, WA)***

- *Estimated Postage Deposit* \$11,471.95
- *Estimated Services Fee* \$ 3,806.30
- ***Total*** **\$15,278.25**

Assessor Whipple stated that she put out bids for 2 year contracts as opposed to the standard 1 year contract. The postage has to be paid no matter what so the price to look at for comparison is the Service Fee amount. She is recommending the low bid of Midwest Presort of Indianapolis. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the low bid of \$14,265.59 from Midwest Presort. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Consideration of a Professional Services Agreement with Schneider Geospatial (formerly 39 Degrees North) for GIS Services as presented by IT Director Scott Mayes and GIS Coordinator Jeff Lucas as follows:

***For Elevate Solution and any related professional services for a six (6) year agreement:***

- *Year 1 – Jul 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2020* \$32,544 (previously paid to 39DN)
- *Year 2 – Jan 1, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021* \$65,088
- *Year 3 – Jan 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2022* \$65,088
- *Year 4 – Jan 1, 2023 to Dec 31, 2023* \$65,088
- *Year 5 – Jan 1, 2024 to Dec 31, 2024* \$65,088
- *Year 6 – Jan 1, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025* \$65,088

*Elevate/Beacon/Public.net Portal Development – Development of a publicly accessible web-based property information porta featuring land assessment, taxation, CAMA and digital map data utilizing existing real estate and GIS datasets provided to Professional by client.*

*Cost Split between:*

- *Bartholomew County IT:* *\$22,215.00 (for Surveyor & Highway)*
- *County Assessor:* *\$ 2,100.00*
- *Columbus City Engineer:* *\$12,357.00*
- *Columbus City Utilities:* *\$12,357.00*
- *City/County Planning Department:* *\$12,357.00*
- *City of Columbus MPO:* *\$ 3,456.00*
- *City Community Development* *\$ 246.00*

*NOTE: County Assessor and City Community are paying only for applications specific to their departments. The other six departments pay an equal share when factoring in the amount MPO pays to ESRI for GIS Licensing and \$2,500 for the County providing the SQL Server Licensing.*

IT Director Mayes stated that 39 Degrees North was acquired by Schneider Geospatial last year. The Commissioners gave credit for the excellent County GIS to Jeff Lucas and his crew. Mr. Lucas has also been able to provide information from the GIS for the Broadband Initiative. The amounts were stated and the Assessor amount has not increased. **Commissioner London motioned to approve the Agreement with Schneider Geospatial as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Consideration of an Agreement with Smithville for the new Bartholomew County Highway Garage Facility Fiber Connection to the County Network as presented by IT Director Mayes as follows:

*Contract with Smithville, who is our current provider for all other County buildings, to install dark-fiber between the new Highway Garage building to Immedion (Data Cave).*

*Smithville (connectivity to County buildings main hub)*

- *Dark fiber connection (non-recurring charges)* *\$25,000.00*
  - *2 fibers for 8 miles = 16 miles of fiber*

- *Paid out of the Telecommunications fund*
- *Monthly recurring charges* \$ 825.00
  - *Paid out of IT Budget*

Director Mayes stated that this will be the same way the other buildings are connected. They provide the dark-fiber and we provide the switches. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the Agreement with Smithville for the new Highway Garage for the buildout amount of \$25,000 as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0). Commissioner London motioned to accept the recurring monthly amount of \$825. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was a Proposal/Agreement with Security Pros for the new Bartholomew County Highway Garage Facility Access Control Deployment as presented by IT Director Mayes as follows:

- *Proposal/Agreement with Security Pros for Access Control Deployment*
  - *Door locks as the new Highway Garage* \$28,709.72
  - *Paid out of CEDIT (Hwy Fund)*

IT Director Mayes explained that this is for the new garage for door security. This started out at almost \$60,000 but they have worked it down to this amount for 23 doors. He requested bids from 2 companies, Security Pros & Koorsen, but received no bids from Koorsen. **Commissioner London motioned to approve the Agreement with Security Pros for \$28,709.72 as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Consideration of a Proposal/Agreement for Professional Appraisal Services as presented by Auditor Pia O'Connor as follows:

***Separate Appraisal Reports for 2 office buildings located at the following properties:***

1. *2675 Foxpointe Drive*
  - a. *County currently owns*
  - b. *4,945 square feet*
  - c. *2,905 square feet used by Health Department – Nursing*
2. *2625 Foxpointe Drive*

a. Rick Agnew currently owns

b. 5,100 square feet

○ **Appraisers, Inc. (Belinda Graber of Columbus, IN)**

- Estimated date of completion: April 15, 2021
- Not-to-Exceed cost of: \$6,000

○ **Don R Scheidt, Co, Inc. (Columbus, IN)**

- Estimated date of completion: April 15, 2021
- Cost \$6,500

Attorney Grant Tucker stated that they are required to have 2 appraisals as they are considering purchasing a facility. Auditor O'Connor stated that at the current Foxpointe Health Department they are also running a clinic for COVID. The facility they are looking at had a renter move out and they are at a point that they need more space. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that while we own 4,945 feet, we have 2 long term tenants that rent a total of 2,000 square feet. The available property is immediately adjacent to it is now available. They are looking at either selling the current building or trade it for the purchase of the new building. Commissioner London stated that this would get the County out of the landlord business. It would also be paid for out of the CARES Act so it is a win-win for Bartholomew County. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that Auditor O'Connor had brought this to their attention and still believes this is a good use of CARES Act. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the bids as presented by Appraisers, Inc. and Don R Scheidt, Co., Inc. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Consideration of a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Bartholomew County, Indiana Expressing Support for Local Control of Land Use Decisions as presented by Attorney Grant Tucker as follows:

*The Commissioners are opposing House Bill (HB) 1381 and express their support for the rights of individuals and families living in a community to direct their own future through land use decisions. The Bill has now been assigned to the Senate Utilities Committee and is now eligible for consideration in this committee and, if enacted, such Legislation would disenfranchise the*



*citizens of the ability to determine the conditions under which Wind Energy and Solar Energy projects would be allowed in the County.*

*Fifty-seven other Counties have all passed the same above Resolution opposing HB 1381.*

County Administrator Tina Douglas stated that the Commissioners had sent a letter in support of this. Attorney Tucker stated that this bill would eliminate local control over Wind and Solar energy facilities. Commissioner London stated that it has passed the House and is now going to a committee. He is adamantly against this bill as these decisions should be made locally. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that Mark Webber had written an article that was in yesterday's paper. Mr. Webber stated that the State would take over a lot of control regarding where these "farms" would be located. The County has planning for the County already in place, which the State has no knowledge of these plans and would do as they want. These would be adhoc decisions. Commissioner London stated that the local people can have their voices heard with local control but would have to have a group of 25 people and hire an attorney to protest it with the State. Mark Webber stated that Senator Walker knows of no other item that requires 25 people and an attorney to protest. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that if this bill does not pass the Senate, but you are a friend of green energy, they could have sited "farms" without local input. Commissioner London believes it may cost the developers more to deal with each County, but the County's know their plan for the areas. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that when we did the new landfill, he proposed an Impact Fee to the State Legislature that surrounding property owners within a certain area would receive a yearly amount. Councilman Jorge Morales has contacted his representatives that this should remain in local control. Commissioner London stated that Solar Fields are not regulated. They are not under any control to put their power on the grid. **Commissioner London motioned to accept the Resolution Opposing HB 1381 as presented above. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).**

The next item was the Treasurer's Monthly Reports for January 2021 and February 2021 as prepared by Treasurer Barb Hackman. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the January and February 2021 Treasurer Reports as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, March 29, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

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LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT  
CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
TONY LONDON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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