

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

May 17, 2021

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on May 17, 2021, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry S. Kleinhenz, Carl H. Lienhoop and Tony London were present. Auditor Pia O'Connor, Attorney Grant Tucker and County Administrator Tina Douglas were also present.

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

The first item was the Approval of the Minutes of May 3, 2021. **Commissioner London motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Approval of Payroll. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to approve the Payroll as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Ratification of Claims. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Ratify the Claims. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
05/10/21 to 05/14/21	51	\$6,338.00	\$2,757,400

The next item was the County Highway Weekly Crew Report presented by Engineer Danny Hollander. The following work had been completed last week: milled & wedged on Youth Camp Road; wedged on Grandview, 250 W & 1100 E; replaced culvert pipes on 700 S & 550 W; extended a pipe on 200 N; placed shoulder stone on 900 E; planted trees and bushes at the new garage; redid the grass at the new garage.

The next item was the 2020 Road Report as presented by Highway Engineer Hollander. The report listed all the overlay, chip-n-seal, wedging and crack sealing that was done in 2020. Some of it was items that were bid in 2019 but weren't done until 2020. This report is what was actually put on the ground in 2020. They paid \$81,000 per mile for hot mix. In 2016 they paid \$53,000 per mile. They increased the gas tax and started the Community Crossing Grants making more money available. In 2015 they did 11 miles. Last year they did 27 miles. Engineer Hollander stated they would have

to do 35 miles every year to be on a 20-year rotation. Commissioner Kleinhenz asked about 200 S as far as the County's portion. He discussed an issue on this road, but that is within the City jurisdiction. Engineer Hollander stated that everything from Terrace Lake to 11 is City with one exception of one house that was not annexed, leaving the County about 150'. State Street has been patched and will be milled and resurfaced later by the State.

The next item was the Consideration of a Local Roads and Bridges Matching Grant Agreement between the Indiana Department of Transportation and Bartholomew County (Contract # A249-21-LG210017) as follows:

- *Funds will pay for Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA)*
- *Overlay Minor Structural*
 - *Overlay of various roads throughout Bartholomew County with a 1 ½ in minor structural bituminous overlay for preventative maintenance.*
- *Also known as the Community Crossings Grant*
- *Maximum Federal Funding amount for this project was \$990,928.50 (50% of eligible project cost)*
- *Has been received*
- *County must provide matching funds*

Engineer Hollander stated that he had added roads to get as close as he could the \$1,000,000 maximum. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to accept the Local Roads & Bridges Matching Grant as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion.** Mark Webber asked when they could expect this work to start. It was stated that they are ahead of the work by having already replaced a majority of the culverts. They would hope work would start by middle to late June. **The vote was called for and passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Notice to Bidders for the 2021 Road Overlay Program – Phase I. Request for bids will be advertised on Thursday, May 20, 2021 and Thursday May 27, 2021. Bids will be opened on Monday, June 7, 2021. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to accept the Notice to Bidders as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Engineer Hollander will have a Phase II to bid out after they get the bids back on this Phase. Commissioner London asked how he comes up with the numbers that they apply for. Engineer

Hollander stated that he estimates the amounts then the State will award up to the request. If the bids come in less, then the State will only provide 50% of the lower amount. They worked on a project on Youth Camp Road last week.

The next item was Right-of-Way Dedication as presented by Ashley Beckort of the Planning Department as follows:

- ***MI/P-2021-007: Sam's Minor Subdivision***
- *Request by Eudell and Deborah Kelly*
- *Create 1 new lot*
- *Total of 1 lot and parent tract remainder*
- *Total of +/-51.31 acres*
- *Located at 3855 North Newbern Road in Clifty Township*
- *Applicant is required to dedicate right-of-way*
- *Dedicating 25' along Newbern Road for 0.22 acres*

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to accept the Right-of-Way Dedication as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was a Proposal by the Maintenance Department to purchase a new mower as follows:

- ***Purchase 1 new mower with larger deck***
- *Trade in 2017 Scag Patriot Zero Turn Radius with 363 hours on it*
- *Paid for out of Maintenance Budget*
 - ***Eudy Sales & Services (Columbus, IN)***

▪ <i>One lawn mower</i>	<i>\$6,399.00</i>
▪ <i><u>Less trade-in</u></i>	<i><u>\$2,000.00</u></i>
▪ <i>Total cost</i>	<i>\$4,399.00</i>
 - ***Grass Luvers, Inc (Columbus, IN)***

▪ <i>One lawn mower</i>	<i>\$8,800.00</i>
▪ <i><u>Less trade-in</u></i>	<i><u>\$3,250.00</u></i>

▪ <i>Total cost</i>	<i>\$5,500.00</i>
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This mower will be used for the property on 25th Street. **Commissioner London motioned to accept the low bid from Eudy Sales & Service for a total amount after trade-in of \$4,399. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Appointments to the Economic Development Commission as follows:

- *County Council created an Ordinance creating the Commission*
- *Commissioners appointment*
 - *Kevina Schumaker*
 - *3-year term*
 - *Expires 2-1-2025*
 - *Appointed by the Commissioners at the April 19, 2021 meeting*
- *County Council nomination*
 - *Greg Duke*
 - *2-year term*
 - *Expires 2-1-2024*
- *City Council nomination*
 - *Michael Kinder*
 - *1-year term*
 - *Expires 2-1-2023*
- *Once appointed, an Organizational Meeting is required*
 - *For the swearing in and naming of officers*
 - *Must happen within 30 day of appointments*
 - *Made at a time and place picked by the County Commissioners (36-7-12-12)*
 - *Will allow for the 3 EDC members to attend*
 - *Jason Hester will also attend the meeting*

Commissioner Kleinhenz explained that this is a new committee that has never met. The Commissioners appoint the 3 positions, one recommended by the County Council and one

recommended by the City Council. Commissioner London read the names of the County and City Council recommendations. **Commissioner London motioned to approve the appointments as recommended by the County Council and the City Council as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion.** Jorge Morales questioned if they needed to also appoint Kevina Schumaker. It was clarified that they had appointed her in April. **The vote was called for and passed unanimously.** Jorge Morales stated that this committee would not meet until there were funds available for and projects were needed.

The next item, under Miscellaneous, was the Consideration of the Proposal/Agreement for Appraisal of 2625 Foxpointe Drive with Chitwood Appraisal Service (Indianapolis, IN) in the amount of \$2,450. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that the Commissioners are looking at a property at Foxpointe. In order to purchase the property, they must have 2 appraisals completed. After doing so, the 2 appraisals were so far apart that they wanted to get a 3rd appraisal to see which number was more accurate. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to approve the Agreement with Chitwood Appraisal Service in the amount of \$2,450 as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Mark Webber was asked by his editor regarding the control of health issues during COVID. There has been recent legislation regarding this but they have heard that Bartholomew County got it right. They wondered what they had done. Commissioner London stated that he was an outsider at the start of this but he believes the COVID Task Force that included City and County officials. Everybody talked with each other and there was no one unit/person that tried to control all of it. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that there was never enough of a disagreement that caused issues. Attorney Tucker stated that you learned as you went with this whole process. Commissioner Kleinhenz was in Pennsylvania when he was talking to the Mayor about issuing mandates. He believes that their sentiment helped to tone down the situation. They were more into issuing good guidelines and he feels that allowed the citizens to govern themselves. Businesses have the right to post “Mask required or not required” as that is their business. Mark Webber stated that he had heard that things had run smoothly in Bartholomew County by Senator Walker and Representative Lauer through conversations. The Commissioners gave credit to the City, the Health Department, Dr. Nebalski, the school systems and Columbus Regional Health. The County was always the outlier but did participate in the process. Jorge Morales agreed with the statements. He believes that the main difference with this county was that we did not mandate nor did we identify “essential employees”; we made recommendations. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that this is still not over. The CDC put out

guidelines last week continuing the ongoing pandemic. The airlines still mandate masks the entire time you are in the terminal as well as on the plane. Down the road, international flights are still requiring testing for some countries prior to flights and after landing. To have “herd immunity”, we have to have 70% to 75%. That will be difficult to get to do to the slowdown of vaccinations.

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, May 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

TONY LONDON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O’CONNOR