

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

November 1, 2021

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on November 1, 2021, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry S. Kleinhenz, Carl H. Lienhoop and Commissioner Tony London were present. Auditor Pia O'Connor, Attorney Grant Tucker and County Administrator Tina Douglas were present.

Chris West, Tax Administrator for the Auditor's Office, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item was the Approval of minutes of October 18 and October 25, 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 Payroll as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the weekly permits report as read by Commissioner Lienhoop:

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>10/25/21 to 10/29/21</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>\$2,104.00</i>	<i>\$1,762,876</i>

The next item was the Weekly Highway Crew Report as presented by Engineer Hollander (via Zoom) as follows: patched roads with dura-patcher & hot box; side-winded shoulders; worked on signs; cut trees from storm damage; replaced a culvert pipe on 1000 E; mowed in Flatrock Township; picked up trash in right-of-ways; and Milestone paved Presidential Way and 640 N. The Commissioners asked that Engineer Hollander attend a meeting on Wednesday in Franklin regarding Community Crossing Grants. He stated that he would. Mark Webber asked if they would be able to pave Marr Road between 500 N and 600 N. They are going to try to make it a little wider.

The next item was the Consideration of a Contract with Smithville for Permanent Fiber at the new Foxpointe Building for the Public Health Department – Nursing Division as presented by IT Director Scott Mayes as follows:

Contract with Smithville for Foxpointe Building

- *Non-Recurring Charges* \$2,700.00
- *Monthly Recurring Charges* \$ 800.00

Temporary Internet Service Contract for 6 months signed with Smithville on August 23, 2021.

Director Mayes stated that they had entered a temporary contract with Smithville to get the new building up and running. This is the Contract for the permanent connection. The numbers are in line with expectations and the recurring monthly amount is actually less than we are paying currently on the existing Foxpointe location. Auditor O'Connor believes all of this is payable from the ARP funding for the next few years. **Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Contract with Smithville as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Columbus, Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation, Columbus Regional Hospital and Bartholomew County, Indiana Regarding Funding for a County Wide Radio Communication System as presented by EOC Director Todd Noblitt as follows:

On-going Inter-Local Cooperation Agreement

- *Originally signed November 2, 2015*
- *6-year Agreement (2022 to 2027)*
- *For on-going Maintenance & Upgrades to Radio Tower at Carr Hill Road*
- *Performed by ERS Wireless (Emergency Radio Services – merged with Owens Communications)*
- *Corresponding communication system for each participant*
- *Between:*
 - *Bartholomew County, Indiana – E911*
 - *Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation (BCSC)*
 - *City of Columbus*
 - *Columbus Regional Health (CRH)*
- *Increased from \$8,200.80 Annually*
- *Difference of \$1,123.20 per year per entity*

- *New Annual Amount of \$9,234*
- *ERS will directly bill the City of Columbus*
- *City of Columbus will make direct payments of \$37,296 to ERS*
- *City of Columbus will bill \$9,234 to remaining participants in January of each year*

Director Noblitt stated that the 2015 Inter-local Agreement for the tower that houses the backup for all of Bartholomew County Public Safety. This is a service Contract with ERS to maintain the equipment at this location. The cost is split equally between all 4 participants. He has moved this to the EOC budget for 2022 from the Commissioners budget. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** EOC is not fully staffed at this time. He is having the same issue with finding qualified staff as everyone is.

The next item was the Consideration of an Annual Memorandum of Understanding between the Bartholomew County Health Department – Nursing Division and the Bartholomew County Sheriff’s Department presented by Director Amanda Organist as follows:

Annual MOU with the Sheriff’s Department

- *Sheriff’s Department agrees to supply generator powered refrigerator & freezer space to the Bartholomew County Health Department to store vaccinations in the event of a power failure at the Health Department location.*
- *Mandatory requirement by the State.*

Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Annual Memorandum of Understanding as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Under Miscellaneous, Nancy Ray, asked if they Commissioners had had time to look at her proposals for the tethering and sheltering of animals. She stated a case of a dog that was tethered to a chain for 8 years. She believes that Animal Control had been called on this animal multiple times. With cold-weather coming, we also need more specific sheltering rules that can be acted on. The group “Change for Bartholomew County Animal Advocacy” that she belongs to has 736 members with most of those members residing in Bartholomew County. Commissioner London thanked her for sharing her thoughts. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that there will always be outliers that exist. He is not

certain that he is in favor of putting a lot of specifics in. Christine DeLaRosa, a member of the group, understands that it takes a lot to change an ordinance. She would like the group to consider that communication and training goes a long way. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they had read the 2-page e-mail and she made very good points in it. She stated that when the Ordinance says shelter, what is the specific definition of the word shelter. She called on a dog that was licking rain water off his dog house. Animal Control stated that there was a bowl out there and it was raining into the bowl. She thinks an addendum needs to be added with specific definitions. Commissioner London thanked her for sharing her thoughts. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that we have 1 full-time employee and 1 part-time employee. He suggested that whenever this group sees something that is incorrect, they have the right to send that individual a letter. He knows that they are wanting someone with a badge and authority to go out to the situation. Ms. DeLaRosa stated that 20 years ago, she would have agreed with that, but in today's society, it could result in devastating issues. Ms. Ray stated that had occurred with a dog named Thor and that owner has made threats. It needs to be a person of authority.

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, November 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

TONY LONDON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O'CONNOR