

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

December 27, 2021

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on December 27, 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. Attorney Grant Tucker and County Administrator Tina Douglas were present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was present via Zoom.

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

The first item was the Approval of minutes of December 20, 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 Claims. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the Claims as presented. Commissioner London 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 weekly permits report as read by Commissioner Kleinhenz:

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>12/20/21 to 12/24/21</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>\$1,728.00</i>	<i>\$254,920</i>

The next item was the Weekly Highway Crew Report as presented by Engineer Hollander (via Zoom) as follows: put up signs; cut trees; mowed in Clifty Township; fixed a washout on 700 W; and worked at the new Garage. Commissioner London asked how our salt supply is doing. Engineer Hollander stated that they are good. They will use straight salt for roads at this time. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated they had used 3-1 sand/salt mixture. The straight salt reduces the number of trips required over the same roads. It melts ice or snow. They are also using a salt-brine mixture prior to events that do not start with rain, as rain will wash the mixture off the road.

The next item was the Consideration of Right-of-Way Dedication for the Jeff Whittington Minor Subdivision as presented by Ashley Beckort (via Zoom) of the Planning Department as follows:

- *Jeff Whittington Minor Subdivision (MIP-2021-016)*
- *Request by Forrest & Vicky Whittington*
- *Create 3 new lots*
- *Total of 3 lots and R/W Dedication*
- *Total of +/- 3 acres*
- *Located in Hawcreek Township*
- *At 7972 N 825 E*
- *Dedicating 0.43 Acres on 825 E*

Commissioner Kleinhenz asked about the 1-acre minimum lot size yet 2 of these lots are less than one acre. Ms. Beckort stated that they have allowances for this if they have viable septic locations. It also is based on the area around it. This is a rare occurrence within the County. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept the Right-of-Way Dedication for the Jeff Whittington Minor Subdivision for 0.43 acres as presented. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Right-of-Way Dedication for the Jeff Barker Minor Subdivision as presented by Ashley Beckort of the Planning Department as follows:

- *Jeff Barker Minor Subdivision (MIP-2021-017)*
- *Request by Jeffrey Barker*
- *Create 1 new lot*
- *Total of 4 lots*
- *Total of +/- 78 acres*
- *Located in Jackson Township*
- *At 14531 West Lake Road*
- *Dedicating 0.20 acres on Lake Road*

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the Right-of-Way Dedication for the Jeff Barker Minor Subdivision for the amount of 0.20 acres as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Consideration of a Professional Services Agreement for Broadband Evaluation as presented by Attorney Grant Tucker as follows:

- *Contractor Agreement*
- *Scott Rudd from Rudd Consulting, LLC (Nashville, IN)*
- *Evaluate 2 Broadband Proposals rec' Monday, December 20th from Meridiam & AT&T*
- *Services Provided by Contractor include:*
 - *RFP Reviews*
 - *Mapping Strategy & Analysis*
 - *Funding Analysis*
 - *Short & Long-Term Action Plans*
 - *Provider Engagement*
 - *Community Collaboration*
 - *Ongoing Assistance & Services as needed & requested by the County*
- *Agreement Cost: \$125 per hour; not-to-exceed \$10,000*

Attorney Tucker stated that deciphering the proposals that they received are hard to do. Mr. Rudd is considered to be an expert in this field. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that one of the proposals was 150+ pages and the other one was over 100 pages. Due to that, he is very comfortable with this contract. Commissioner London stated that he did read the proposals and he does understand a little bit of it but there was a lot of them that he did not understand. Mr. Rudd was the Director of Broadband through the Lieutenant Governor's Office and is now doing consulting work. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated he will get us the best deal for our constituents. **Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Contractor Agreement with Scott Rudd as stated above. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion.** There was clarification as the spelling of the name and the amount. Commissioner Lienhoop seconded the motion. Commissioner London stated that the fees should be available to be paid out of the ARP funds. **The vote was called for and passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of an Amendment to the Grant Contract Agreement between the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) and Bartholomew County as presented by County Administrator Tina Douglas as follows:

- *Amended Grant Agreement with ICJI*
- *For Bartholomew County COVID Response Grant*
- *Bobbie Shake, Grant Administrator, filed for the extension*
- *Extension to buy additional COVID related items*
- *Amendment extends the Grant for 6 months*
- *Will now terminate June 19, 2022*
- *Judge Kelly Benjamin signed the Original Grant Agreement September 10, 2021*
- *Commissioners will sign Original & Amendment*

County Administrator Tina Douglas stated that when this grant was received, it was later determined that they could not use the money within the constraints. They have been allowed to change the use and this will allow us time to spend the remaining \$40,000. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve Grant extension as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Veteran's November 2021 Monthly Report as presented Veteran's Service Officer Larry Garrity (via Zoom) as follows:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>YTD</i>
<i>In Office Interviews</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>600</i>
<i>Out of Office Interviews</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Walk-ins</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>560</i>
<i>Incoming Phone Calls</i>	<i>199</i>	<i>2,602</i>
<i>Outgoing Phone Calls</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>806</i>
<i>Outgoing Mail</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>214</i>
<i>Incoming Fax</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>175</i>

<i>Outgoing Fax</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>Trips to VA Hospital</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>Mileage on Van (Odometer 50,443)</i>	<i>883</i>	<i>16,359</i>
<i>New Claims Filed</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>189</i>
<i>Veteran Disability Compensation Claims Filed</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>268</i>
<i>Veteran/Surviving Spouse Pension Claims</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>All Forms Filled Out for Veterans</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>1,469</i>
<i>Miscellaneous (see below)</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>25</i>

11-03-2021 POW-MIA Meeting

11-11-2021 Veteran's Program at the Courthouse for Veteran's Day

11-29-2021 Getting Quotes for new van & trade-in of current van

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the Veteran's November 2021 Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Treasurer's November 2021 Monthly Report as prepared by Treasurer Barbara Hackman. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept the Treasurer's November 2021 Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Animal Control November 2021 Monthly Report as prepared by Director Mark Case and read by Commissioner Lienhoop as follows:

<i>Action</i>	<i>Dogs</i>	<i>Cats</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Picked Up</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Audits</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>82</i>
<i>Violations</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Fines</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Bite Cases</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Door Hangers</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

<i>Animals Reclaimed</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Traps Loaned</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Total Cases</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>Mileage for the month</i>	<i>Van 1 =</i>	<i>1,182</i>	<i>Van 2 =</i>	<i>925</i>

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to accept the Animal Control November 2021 Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Auditor O'Connor had gone for COVID test this morning and was really proud of the new facility they were able to purchase with the drive-thru setup. Commissioner Kleinhenz thanked her for her efforts this year.

The next item, under Miscellaneous, was Lynda Ziegler (via Zoom) wanted to discuss issues with her parents at their farm on 450 N. They have had trespassers on the property that are making false claims regarding the care of animals at the farm. Commissioner Kleinhenz asked her to be more specific. She stated that Nancy Ray and Julie, 2 members of the group Change for Bartholomew County, have been trespassing on the property. They have stated that the dog is not cared for, has no shade and is not being fed. The house was destroyed by a dump truck several years ago. Her parents rebuilt their house on the other side of the farm. Her dad is at the location at least 2 times a day taking care of the animals. She and her daughter also help out taking care of them. There have been continual posts on Facebook. Animal Control Director Mark Case was out in February, and the last couple of weeks, even today and said the animal was being taken care of. They have filed a report with the Sheriff's Department. The deputies came out and stated that the dog was well cared for. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they had received her e-mail this morning. Animal Control has been out and found no issues. Director Mark Case stopped there this morning and there is absolutely nothing wrong with the situation. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that there is no one that would take better care of livestock than her father Don Burton. He also stated that it is not the wild west and that people should not be trespassing on other people's property. He and Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they are sorry for the harassment they have had to endure. Commissioner London stated that this is one of the things that people misunderstand – the difference between the City and the County. He had received the pictures of the animal and it looked just like dogs he had as he was growing up. A lot of people want the County to create Ordinances just like the City, but the two are very different. They do not want anyone abusing animals, but there is a difference. This is a classic example of this.

Reminder that **all County Offices will be closed this Thursday, December 30 and Friday, December 31 for New Year's.**

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, January 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** for their Organizational Meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, CHAIRMAN

CARL H. LIENHOOP, MEMBER

TONY LONDON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O'CONNOR