

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

February 28, 2022

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on February 28, 2022, in the Commissioners Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Larry S. Kleinhenz, Carl H. Lienhoop and Tony London. Auditor Pia O'Connor, Attorney Grant Tucker, County Administrator Tina Douglas and Assistant County Administrator Brooke Bowers were also in attendance.

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

The first item was the Approval of minutes of February 14, 2022. **Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Minutes as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Approval of Claims. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Approve Claims 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>
02/14/22 to 02/18/22	11	\$2,771.00	\$1,858,449
02/21/22 to 02/25/22	15	\$ 736.00	\$ 92,705

The next item was the Weekly Highway Crew Report as presented by Highway Engineer Danny Hollander (via Zoom) as follows: ran ditcher on 525 S & 650 S; patched with the hot box; small ditch jobs on 650 E, Bonnell Rd, 650 S, Deaver Rd & 100 W; fixed washouts on 1050 S, 1100 S, & 620 N; put up signs; salted roads; cleaned up at the old shop; and washed trucks.

The next item was the January 2022 Monthly Highway Financial Report as presented by Engineer Hollander. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the January 2022 Monthly Financial Report as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was Proposals for the Highway Department for Power Line Relocation on 400 W for Bridges #188 & #189 as presented by Engineer Hollander as follow:

- *With Hoosier Energy (supplier for REMC)*
- *Estimated Quote for High Voltage Power Line Relocation*
- *Along 400 W on West side of road*
- *For Bridges #188 & #189*
- *Existing poles are NOT in County R/W*
- *Paid out of Bridge Fund – may have to cut something else*
- *Estimated Amount: \$169,360*

Engineer Hollander had talked with REMC and didn't think the movement of lines was necessary. However, on the other side of the road is Hoosier Energy with High Voltage Lines and their requirements will require them to be moved. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Approve the Proposal for the Highway Department in the estimated amount of \$169,360.00.** Commissioner Kleinhenz asked if they could have designed the bridge at a lower elevation. Engineer Hollander stated that they could not have. Hoosier Energy will reimburse us if the costs are less. **Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** Don Strietelmeier asked if the location of the new Lowell Bridge has been decided. They are thinking that the new bridge would be just South of the existing. Mr. Strietelmeier asked if they could keep the old bridge as a one way and the new bridge as the other direction. Engineer Hollander stated that they would not want to maintain 2 bridges to do the work of 1 bridge. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that he understands the idea. This is a Rural Project, not through CAMPO, but through the State. The cost to rehab the current bridge was only a little cheaper than the cost to build the new one. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that theoretically they could probably rip the current bridge apart and then put new abutments on the existing foundation. Dave Richter, of United Consulting, Inc., stated that they do not have information on the existing foundation of the bridge and could run into problems. Also, the purpose of the new bridge is to also coincide with improving the intersection on the West side of the bridge.

The next item was the Consideration of Annual Software Maintenance Renewals with Corrisoft, LLC as presented by IT Director Scott Mayes as follows:

- *Corrisoft* *\$5,658.00*
 - *Annual Maintenance Agreement*

- *IT Budget*
- *For 2022 Court Services, Youth Services & Work Release Case Management System*

Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Annual Software Maintenance Agreements for the total amount of \$5,658 as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion.

The next item was the Consideration of Annual Software Maintenance Renewals with InfoDynamics as presented by IT Director Scott Mayes as follows:

- *InfoDynamics* *\$3,098.00*
 - *Annual Maintenance Agreement*
 - *Prosecutor's Budget*
 - *For 2022 Intact Document Imaging Software*

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Approve the Annual Software Maintenance Agreements for the total amount of \$3,098.00 as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion.

The next item was the Consideration of a 2022 Court Grant Reform Agreement as presented by Grant Administrator Bobbie Shake (via Zoom) as follows:

- *Original Grant Reform Application*
- *Through the Indiana Supreme Court, Office of Judicial Administration and Indiana Office of Court Services.*
- *Was ran through Commissioners Meeting of 11/15/2021*
- *Submitted 11/29/2022*
- *For all 3 Courts*
- *Grant Request to be Awarded at this time:*
 1. *Improving Court Security – Safety & Security*
 - Replacing old x-ray bag scanner & install a*
 - Rapiscan 900M walk-through metal Detector* *\$6,000*
 - Restraint Systems* *\$5,000*
 - Hand Held Detection Wand* *\$1,000*

2. *Requested but NOT Approved*

- *Technological Innovation – Wayfinding/Kiosk system for Courts to improve customer services, process, case management or other aspects of Court Operations - \$120,000*

Grant Administrator Shake explained that there was so much interest for the Wayfinding portion that the State is going to commit more money for that and not award them at this time. **Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Accept the 2022 Court Grant Reform Agreement in the amount of \$12,000 as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Tree Removal at Heflin Park as presented by Park Director Rich Day (via Zoom) as follows:

Request as follows:

Removal of 27 Ash Trees in lower & upper part of park

Cleaning of overhanging limbs on upper drive

Remove all brush from area

Cut trees into 6'-8' sections & place them in upper park

- *Frank's Tree Service* *\$6,000.00*
 - *To clear upper drive of low hanging limbs* *\$ 800.00*
 - *Total* *\$6,800.00*
- *Henry Hoover* *\$5,500.00*
 - *Can only remove 22 of 27 trees due to location*
- *Adam's Tree Service* *No response*
- *Zach Wray (Treedom)* *\$15,000.00*
 - *Based on 4 full days on site*

Director Day stated that this is the annual Ash tree removal. The Parks Board recommends going with Frank's Tree Service due to past performance and being able to complete required. **Commissioner London motioned to Approve the Agreement with Frank's Tree Service, as they were the lowest bid that could complete all the required work, in the amount of \$6,800 as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Animal Control December 2021 Monthly Report as prepared by Director Mark Case and presented by Commissioner London as follows:

December 2021 Monthly Report

<i>Action</i>	<i>Dogs</i>	<i>Cats</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Picked Up</i>	9	7	0	16
<i>Audits</i>	0	0	0	98
<i>Violations</i>	1	0	0	1
<i>Fines</i>	1	0	0	1
<i>Bite Cases</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Door Hangers</i>	0	0	0	6
<i>Animals Reclaimed</i>	2	0	0	2
<i>Traps Loaned</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Total Cases</i>	50	11	11	72
<i>Mileage for the month</i>	<i>Van 1 =</i>	<i>1,342</i>	<i>Van 2 =</i>	<i>1,900</i>

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

The next item was the Veteran's December 2021 Monthly Report combined with the 2021 Yearly Report and January 2022 Monthly Report as presented VSO Larry Garrity (via Zoom) as follows:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>EOY 2021</i>
<i>In Office Interviews</i>	26	626

<i>Out of Office Interviews</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Walk-ins</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>607</i>
<i>Incoming Phone Calls</i>	<i>226</i>	<i>2,828</i>
<i>Outgoing Phone Calls</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>883</i>
<i>Outgoing Mail</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>221</i>
<i>Incoming Fax</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>176</i>
<i>Outgoing Fax</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Trips to VA Hospital</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>Mileage on Van</i>	<i>970</i>	<i>17,329</i>
<i>New Claims Filed</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>204</i>
<i>Veteran Disability Compensation Claims Filed</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>281</i>
<i>Veteran/Surviving Spouse Pension Claims</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>All Forms Filled Out for Veterans</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>1,556</i>
<i>Miscellaneous (see below)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>25</i>

<i>Item</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>YTD</i>
<i>In Office Interviews</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Out of Office Interviews</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Walk-ins</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>70</i>
<i>Incoming Phone Calls</i>	<i>236</i>	<i>236</i>
<i>Outgoing Phone Calls</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>109</i>
<i>Outgoing Mail</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Incoming Fax</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Outgoing Fax</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Trips to VA Hospital</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Mileage on Van (589 miles on the new van)</i>	<i>879</i>	<i>879</i>

<i>New Claims Filed</i>	5	5
<i>Veteran Disability Compensation Claims Filed</i>	3	3
<i>Veteran/Surviving Spouse Pension Claims</i>	3	3
<i>All Forms Filled Out for Veterans</i>	50	50
<i>Miscellaneous (see below)</i>	1	1

- *Miscellaneous – Traded old van for new 2022 Chrysler mini-van*

Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the Veteran’s December 2021 Monthly Report, the 2021 Yearly Report, and January 2022 Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Clerk’s Monthly Report for the Month of December 2021. **Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Accept the Clerk’s Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Consideration of Resolution No. 2022-03 Adopting a Capital Improvement Plan for Utilization of Economic Development Income Tax Funds as presented by Commissioner Kleinhenz follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03

RESOLUTION ADOPTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR UTILIZATION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCOME TAX FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Bartholomew County, Indiana wish to adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for the utilization of Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Funds during calendar years 2022 and 2023.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY, INDIANA to adopt a Capital Improvement Plan pertaining to the utilization of the County’s portion of the EDIT Funds during calendar years 2022 and 2023.

1. *During calendar years 2022 and 2023 up to the sum of Five Million Five Hundred and Twenty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$5,529,000.00) (Encumbrances) will be used for costs and expenses related to current and upcoming building projects; (i.e.) New Highway Facility, New Court Services Center, Public Health building, and any other County projects or improvements.*
2. *During calendar year 2022, up to the sum of Eight Hundred and Eighty-Seven Thousand and Two dollars (\$887,002.00) will be used for improvements to County buildings, up to Two Hundred and Three Thousand Dollars (\$203,000) will be used for improvements other than Buildings, and up to Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) will be used for the purchase and repair of Machinery and Equipment.*

3. *During calendar years 2022 and 2023, up to the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) per year will be used to obtain two (2) seats on the Columbus Economic Development Board. One membership shall be utilized by a Bartholomew County Commissioner and one membership shall be utilized by a Bartholomew County Council member.*
4. *Up to the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) will be utilized during calendar year 2022 for County Road Improvement projects other than overlay and chip and seal.*
5. *During calendar year 2022, any EDIT Funds received in excess of those amounts specifically listed above and up to all Edit Funds on account from prior years will be utilized for the Maintenance and repair of County roads and/or the replacement of, or improvements in County Highway structures or infrastructure.*
6. *During calendar years 2022 and 2023, up to Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) per year will be used to make the principle and interest payments on the Highway Garage Bond. Fifteen (15) year Bond (2019-2034).*
7. *During calendar years 2022 and 2023, up to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) per year will be used for Lease payment on the New Court Services Building. Fifteen (15) year Lease. (2022-2036)*
8. *Upon passage of this resolution and proper appropriation by the Bartholomew County Council, the Bartholomew County Auditor is authorized to distribute the County's portion of the EDIT Funds consistent with the provision of this Capital Improvement Plan.*
9. *That this Resolution and Capital Improvement Plan shall be effective immediately upon its passage.*

Dated this 28th day of February, 2022.

*BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY, INDIANA*

Carl H. Lienhoop, Chairman

Larry S. Kleinhenz, Member

Tony London, Member

ATTEST:

Pia O'Connor, Auditor

Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that it is very similar to plans of the past. He reviewed each item. As this is a Resolution, there is no Public Hearing is required. **Commissioner London motioned to Adopt**

the Resolution 2022-03 Adopting a Capital Improvement Plan for Utilization of Economic Development Income Tax Funds as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the Consideration of a Letter to Bartholomew County Township Trustees and Township Fire Departments for Appropriation of American Rescue Plan Funds as presented by Commissioner Lienhoop as follows:

- *Letter to Bartholomew County Trustees and Township Fire Departments for an Appropriation of American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds to give each “Township (Volunteer) Fire Department” funds that will cover all 12 Townships in Bartholomew County, listed below in the amount of \$100,000 specifically to be spent on Fire Protection Services. The funds are to be given to 10 Volunteer Fire Departments located in the County. \$100,000 for each Township served.*
 - *Twelve Townships*
 1. *Clay Township*
 2. *Clifty Township*
 3. *Columbus Township*
 4. *Flatrock Township*
 5. *German Township*
 6. *Harrison Township*
 7. *Hawcreek Township*
 8. *Jackson Township*
 9. *Ohio Township*
 10. *Rockcreek Township*
 11. *Sandcreek Township*
 12. *Wayne Township*
 - *Ten Volunteer Fire Departments total with Twelve Townships:*
 1. *Clay Township FD*
 2. *Clifford FD*

3. *Columbus Twp FD*
4. *Elizabethtown FD*
5. *German Twp FD*
6. *Harrison Twp FD*
7. *Hartsville FD*
8. *Hope FD*
9. *Southwest FD*
10. *Wayne Twp FD*

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to Sign and Send the Letters to Bartholomew County Township Trustees and Township Fire Departments for Appropriation of American Rescue Plan Funds as presented. Commissioner London seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Don Strietelmeier asked if there was an area of the County that is not well served by fire protection at this time that might need one established. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that there probably are. He stated that several areas have gone together to provide protection. Commissioner London stated that when he had a fire at his house, 4 departments showed up. They all have Mutual Aid Agreements with each other to assist when needed.

The next item, under Miscellaneous, was an Amended Proposal for the new Court Services Center for Office Furnishings. It needs to be Amended from Great Architectural Products Group to Trendway Corporation. Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to Amend the name. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Nancy Ray asked what “audit” meant on the Animal Control Report. It was explained that they were investigations.

Mr. Don Strietelmeier wanted to discuss Solar Farms. He has land across the street from him that have signed up to become part of a solar farm. He thinks it should be referred to as Solar Industry as “farm” is land used to produce food. He is concerned with setbacks to roads and adjoining properties. Commissioner London asked for clarification on his point. Mr. Strietelmeier stated that he is concerned as to what the setbacks are to adjoining properties especially as the field across from him drains into a legal drain. Three-quarters of that drain is still private drains that feed into the legal drain. He asked if they would be fenced. He also asked how it would be classified and taxed. Commissioner London stated that it is still classified as Agricultural. All the equipment would be taxed as personal property.

Assessor Ginny Whipple stated that the land would be priced at 5,500 per acre once the panels go on the property. The panels will be assessed by the State as a utility. Mr. Strietelmeier asked how it would affect the land taxes. Assessor Whipple stated that currently it is being assessed at 1,250 per acre. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that the Plan Department is currently working on a draft to deal with everything that has been brought up. He wants the audience to know that the Commissioners have chosen not to meet with any of the Solar Companies and will continue not to meet with them. Mr. Strietelmeier asked if the Commissioners were the body that would make the final decision as they are an elected body, rather than the Plan Commission. He does not want to see the State make the decision. He also stated that we need to work on getting younger people involved in local government. Jorge Morales stated that to add to the comments, the Executive Committee of the City and County met last week and they are watching the Solar Energy issues. He believes there will be a proposal brought before the Commissioners in the future.

Joe Gruszczynski introduced himself. He is a Business Development Manager with Envoy which is a Construction Management Company.

The next Commissioners Meeting will be **Monday, March 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

TONY LONDON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O'CONNOR