

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

March 12, 2020

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in Special session on March 12, 2020, in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Rick Flohr and Larry Kleinhenz were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker was present. Chris West was present representing the Auditor's Office.

Commissioner Flohr called the meeting to order. Commissioner Kleinhenz gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of the March 9, 2020, Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).

Next item was the approval of claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the normal claims as well as the monthly claims. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously (2-0).

The next item on the agenda was the Ratification of Expenditures for the Highway Department as presented by Tracy Curry. The items were as follows:

Reading Equipment & Distribution, LLC (Louisville) - Truck #19 - \$3,444.71

PECO (Cols) - New spline shaft to fit gear for paving machine - \$3,760.00

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to ratify the two purchases as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously (2-0).

This concluded the items on the agenda. Mr. & Mrs. Dickey were present to discuss the Sloan Branch Drain. They introduced themselves and explained that they wanted to meet the Commissioners. They have already met and spoken with Commissioner Lienhoop. They have concerns with the Sloan Branch Regulated Drain being extended to include the drain on their property. They feel that they have maintained it very well and do not want to have to pay additional money on their property taxes for someone else to maintain it. They asked if the upcoming road and bridge improvements on Talley Road were dependent on this extension? Commissioner Flohr is not positive but he does not believe so. He stated that they need to address this question to the City as this is a City road project. The Dickey's

asked if this was a reverting or non-reverting road project. Again, they were told they would need to ask the City this question. Attorney Grant Tucker explained that the City petitioned the Drainage Board to make this portion a Regulated Drain. There are no other agencies involved other than the City and the Drainage Board. The Commissioners do not have any authority over the Drainage Board. It is his opinion that the bridge project has nothing to do with the drain project. He believes that it is just coincidental that they are occurring at the same time. However, this is something that needs to be addressed to the City and the Drainage Board. The Drainage Board has specific criteria that has to be met to create a Regulated Drain. If it meets the requirements, then they are within their right to create the drain. If the Drainage Board decides to create a regulated drain, any challenge to that decision would be through the court system.

The next regular session of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Monday, **March 23, 2020** at 10:00 a.m. in the GOB Commissioners' Chambers. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

RICHARD A. FLOHR, MEMBER

ATTEST:

PIA O'CONNOR