

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

June 1, 2020

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met on June 1, 2020, in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Commissioners Carl Lienhoop, Rick Flohr and Larry Kleinhenz were present. County Attorney J. Grant Tucker was present. Auditor Pia O'Connor was present through Zoom meeting.

Chairman Lienhoop called the meeting to order.

A roll call was taken. In addition to the above listed people, the following were present at the meeting: County Administrator Tina Douglas, IT Director Scott Mayes and Tax Administrator Chris West of the Auditor's Office. Also in attendance via Zoom were: Veteran's Service Officer Larry Garrity, Maintenance Director Rick Trimpe, Highway Engineer Danny Hollander, Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Chris Lane and Captain Brandon Slate, Jon Nolting of Milestone, Jason Clapp of Dave O'Mara Contractors, Curt Burbrink of the Jonesville area, Mark Webber of the Republic newspaper and John Clark of White River Broadcasting. There were also 2 others connected by phone with the numbers of 565-5930 and 372-7811.

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

The first order of business was the approval of the May 18, 2020, Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Next item was the approval of payroll. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to approve the payroll as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The next item was the Ratification of approval of claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to ratify the approval of claims as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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

<i>Time frame</i>	<i>New permits</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>5/18/20 to 5/22/20</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>\$2,176.00</i>	<i>\$1,650,103</i>
<i>5/25/20 to 5/29/20</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>\$2,303.00</i>	<i>\$ 616,850</i>
<i>Monthly Total for May</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>\$10,979.00</i>	<i>\$5,342,765</i>

The next item was the County Highway Weekly Crew Report presented by Engineer Danny Hollander (via Zoom). The following work had been done: patched potholes; worked on signs; replaced 2 culvert pipes on 500 E; trimmed trees; mowed in Clifty, Rockcreek & Wayne Township; side-winded roads.

The next item was the Consideration of Proposals for the 2020 Road Overlay Program – Phase 2, as presented by Engineer Hollander. This will be done later in the meeting after Attorney Grant Tucker has had time to open the bids.

The next item was the Consideration of a Proposal for 1 replacement vehicle by the Sheriff’s Department as presented by Deputy Chief Chris Lane and Captain Brandon Slate (via Zoom). This is to replace a Dodge Charger that was in a wreck and was totaled out by the insurance. The bids were for a 2020 Jeep Cherokee Latitude 4x4 and were as follows:

<i>Dealer</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<i>Fletcher (Franklin, IN)</i>	<i>\$24,135.00</i>
<i>John Jones (Salem, IN)</i>	<i>\$24,935.00</i>
<i>Bob Poynter (Columbus, IN)</i>	<i>Original \$30,580.00</i>
<i>E-mailed they would take</i>	<i>\$25,223.00</i>

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to accept the low bid from Fletcher for \$24,135.00. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lienhoop stated that Curt Burbrink, a farmer from the Jonesville area, was on the phone (via Zoom) with a concern regarding a recent police chase. Mr. Burbrink had submitted a claim, paperwork and 3 videos to the Commissioners. He stated that during the chase, the driver was followed into farm fields by many police officers. It was about a 2-mile chase in the fields, all of which had crops growing in them and caused significant damage to the them. Their crop insurance has \$1,000 or \$2,000 deductibles. Five different farmers (Burbrink Farms by Curt Burbrink, Marshall Middendorf, James Mellencamp, Carolyn Alberring and Tony Bolte) had damage and they have put together a single claim for damages caused by this pursuit. Deputy Chief Chris Lane stated that he understands their pain. The suspect had run from the Columbus City Police Department. He had no regard for the safety of the public as evidenced by driving into the field with only 1 tire and three 3 rims. The car that was chased does have insurance on it, based on the State Police report. He is uncertain whether a claim can be filed through that car. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that they

have the claim and have seen the videos. They will turn this over to the County's Insurance provider. The provider will investigate it and most probably file a claim with the car's insurance company. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they had reviewed the reports and videos. He knows that no State Police cars left the roadway, as that is their policy. He is uncertain how many County cars left the roadway but this may be something that needs to be addressed at the Sheriff's Department. Attorney Tucker stated that the County will turn the claim over to our insurance carrier and allow them to investigate it to make a determination. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that they do recognize that there was damage done that resulted in a loss at no fault of the farmers. The Commissioners are supportive of trying to get compensation but are unaware as to who should pay. Curt Burbrink thanked them for their response. Mark Webber asked when this occurred. Chief Deputy Lane stated that it occurred May 16, 2020 in southern Bartholomew County and northern Jackson County. He will get a copy of the report and press release to the farmers that were involved. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that he believed there was a small article in the paper regarding this incident. It is believed that this started out as a test drive in Indianapolis and the chase started in Columbus.

They returned to the Proposals for the 2020 Overlay Program. Attorney Tucker read the 2 bids as follows:

<i>Contractor</i>	<i>Total Bid</i>
<i>Dave O'Mara Contractor's</i>	<i>\$2,236,612.25</i>
<i>Milestone</i>	<i>\$1,684,381.68</i>

Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to take the bids under advisement. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Engineer Hollander stated that as this is a Community Crossings Grant, it will have to be awarded to one bidder; it cannot be broken out road by road. Mark Webber asked how many miles and when this would be done. Engineer Hollander stated it was for 18 miles and would be done as soon as possible. It is anticipated this will be done by the end of the year.

The next item was the Consideration of a Proposal for a fire suppression system company to check fire extinguishers and suppression systems of the County as presented by Maintenance Director Rick Trimpe (via Zoom). This is for all the County Buildings for three (3) years. The bids were as follows:

<i>Company</i>	<i>Bid</i>
<i>Koorsen Fire & Security (Columbus, IN)</i>	<i>\$ 8,858.00 annually</i>
<i>Grunau Company of Indiana (Indianapolis, IN)</i>	<i>\$ 7,278.59 annually</i>
<i>Johnson Controls (Indianapolis, IN)</i>	<i>\$21,299.00 annually</i>

Maintenance Director Trimpe suggested not going with the low bidder of Grunau Company of Indiana due to poor performance during the past contract. Commissioner Flohr motioned to award the bid to the middle bid as presented by Koorsen Fire & Security due to previous issues with the low bidder. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that there are State and local laws that they are required to meet with fire suppression equipment. As a previous business owner, he had to have inspections done of his equipment regularly. These inspections were to verify the equipment was working and up to the requirements. If the Fire Marshall appeared and the equipment was not up to code, then there were fines. This was not happening as it should have been with the previous company.

Commissioner Lienhoop jumped ahead to the Ratification of a water heater in the GOB building. Maintenance Director Trimpe stated that this happened right after the COVID-19 pandemic shut-down had started. Circle R Mechanical found this water heater in Indianapolis and was able to get it here the next day, causing the building to be closed for only 1 day. The cost was \$7,798.38. Commissioner Kleinhenz motioned to ratify the expense for the water heater with Circle R Mechanical for \$7,798.38 as presented. Commissioner Flohr seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the monthly Veteran's Report as presented by VSO Larry Garrity (via Zoom). He reported that for the month of April, there were no visits due to COVID-19. They had 88 phone calls and made 15 calls. The van did not make any trips, again due to COVID-19. There were 13 new claims done by phone which were signed by then meeting the clients outside for their signatures. Seven of the 13 were new claims. They filed 12 disability claims and 4 veteran's spouse claims. They had 1 miscellaneous claim. Commissioner Lienhoop stated that he expects May's report to be similar. The building is now open to the public by appointment only, as of today. Commissioner Lienhoop motioned to approve the Veteran's Monthly report as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was the monthly Animal Control Report as presented by Commissioner Flohr. They picked up 7 animals, placed 7 door hangers, 2 animals were reclaimed and they drove 2,600

miles. Commissioner Flohr motioned to approve the Animal Control Monthly report as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lienhoop presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Bartholomew County and the City of Columbus for COVID-19 advertising from March and April. The amount will be split 50/50, with the County portion of \$11,214.33. All future expenditures will be paid for by the City. Commissioner Flohr motioned to sign the MOU as presented. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Auditor O'Connor stated that this will be an expenditure that will be turned into for reimbursement through the State through the CARES Act Funding. She is also working with IT to try to get reimbursement for their added expenses due to COVID-19.

Commissioner Lienhoop stated that the County Offices will be closed tomorrow, **Tuesday, June 2, 2020** for the Primary Election.

There will be no Commissioners Meeting on **Monday, June 8, 2020**.

The next regular session of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Monday, **June 15, 2020** at 10:00 a.m. in the GOB Commissioners' Chambers.

Commissioner Lienhoop noted that he had received a call from Rick Hall of Barnes & Thornburg. Mr. Hall explained a program that they have put together to help Counties recover money from the COVID-19. Commissioner Lienhoop advised him to reach out to Auditor O'Connor and EMA Director Shannon Hinton. Auditor O'Connor stated that there are a lot of consultants that are pitching these types of services. Currently she and Shannon Hinton are performing this work and they will continue to.

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