

July 1, 2021

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

June 8, 2021

Name:	Representing:	Title:	Present:
Matt Miller	At Large		Not Present
Bill Lentz	At Large	Pro-Tem	Present
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence	At Large		Not Present
R. Scott Bonnell	District 1	President	Present
Greg Duke	District 2		Present
Mark E. Gorbett	District 3		Present
Jorge R. Morales	District 4		Present
Chris Monroe	- -	Attorney	Present
Pia O'Connor	Auditor	Secretary	Present

The Bartholomew County Council met on June 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

President Bonnell called the meeting to order.

Bill Lentz gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes for June 1, 2021. **Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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The next item was Consideration of Approval of the 2021 Comprehensive Community Plan of the Bartholomew County Substance Abuse Council as presented by Rachel Flohr-David, Drug Free Communities Program Coordinator as follows:

- *Prevention/Education:* \$14,564.00
- *Treatment/Intervention:* \$14,564.00
- *Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement:* \$13,445.00
- *Administration Allocation:* \$ 2,242.02
 - ***Total of:*** ***\$44,815.02***

Mrs. Flohr-David stated that the State had changed how they wanted the LLC to work. They wanted to see more collaboration with the community and they will be requiring more accountability as to the meeting of their goals. The agencies that receive funding must report quarterly to the LLC to prove that they are meeting their goals. The State made a change to the Fiscal Year. The new timeline made it impossible to come before the Council as the State had not approved the plan until just recently. The State no longer requires a breakdown of the funding as they get that information from the quarterly reports. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to approve the 2021 Comprehensive Community Plan of the Bartholomew County Substance Abuse Council in the total amount of \$44,815.02 as presented. Matt Miller seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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The next item was Consideration of Approval & Appropriation of the American Rescue Plan as presented by Auditor O'Connor passed around the ARP plan for their review before the next meeting. She stated that the Commissioners approved this plan at their meeting yesterday. The only change from last week was the "Other and/or Premium Pay". Greg Duke thinks with this much money; we cannot have too much public input. He has great misgivings about it. Mark E. Gorbett stated that this is just a "footprint" to get us started. This is just for the Council to say "Yes, Commissioners, proceed at this time", but it will be an ever changing document. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that is exactly what it is. The money for the Health Department is \$1,000,000. They know the purchase price, but they do not have a firm number on the renovation costs. Auditor O'Connor stated that she will have new quarterly reporting to the State & Federal government. The Council will be receiving this information as well. Jorge Morales stated that we have never received this kind of Federal funding, and there are things they may or may not like, but it will be changing all the time. This is a preliminary plan of an overall plan. Greg Duke stated that we are getting on the thin ice of supporting certain Not-For-Profits. People do not pay taxes to support Not-For-Profits. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated he agrees but the directive from the Federal government says that we should do this. Mark E. Gorbett noted that some of the people sitting here tonight may not be here when the final decision is made. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated that Greg Duke had a very valid point, as he himself was not happy when this first came out. Mark E. Gorbett stated that he appreciates Commissioner Kleinhenz commented that he would prefer not to do it,

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but they are stepping up and working through the Federal guidelines. Jorge R. Morales asked if the Premium pay was only to those that work. Auditor O'Connor stated that information is in the Federal guidelines but she has not had the time to delve into that particular item. Commissioner London stated that in order to spend the first dollar, we have to pass the plan. They are looking to purchase a larger building for the Nursing Department and as soon as it is passed, they can get that process. Mark E. Gorbett verified that we have only received the first half of the money at \$8,000,000. **Mark E. Gorbett made a motion to Approve the ARP Plan as presented. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion.** Jorge R. Morales stated it will be changed continually. Commissioner London stated that this money is to make us whole financially and to prevent issues in the future if we have events like COVID happen. There are many things in this Plan that they will continue to add to in the future. Matt Miller asked if the plan is to sell the old Nursing building. He is concerned that they will end up with 2 buildings. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated their plan is to sell it as soon as they can vacate the building. The Highway location will be a much tougher sale. Matt Miller asked if this is just like the CEDIT Plan and will be voted on when they spend money. Jorge R. Morales stated that the CEDIT Plan is appropriated by the Council and the Commissioners spend it as they need it without another Council approval. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated they will do whatever they need, but the concern is there are lost funds that need to be made almost immediately. Auditor O'Connor stated that is correct. The purchase of the building would be almost immediately and the Not-For-Profit such as the Fair that needs the money to operate this year. Matt

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Miller stated most of the items are unanimous but there are some items such as the Not-For-Profits. He stated that the Federal government has made it very clear that this is the Commissioners plan. At the end of the day, we have to put our trust in the Commissioners. We can continue to have discussions with them, but we have to trust our Commissioners. Jorge R. Morales stated that they have been doing this with the CEDIT Plan. Commissioner Kleinhenz stated the Commissioners would have no issue with the Council voting to approve the expenditures. Auditor O'Connor stated that administrative burden of this is overwhelming and we should not complicate the matter anymore than it already is. Commissioner London stated that the State Board of Accounts has made the process very clear. Greg Duke asked why his first vote was to spend millions of dollars and here we go again. Commissioner London stated that they are completely different plans with completely different rules. Greg Duke stated that he will not stop it from going forward. Mark E. Gorbett stated that in 6 days or 6 weeks, the Commissioners can change the plan. Commissioner London stated there were members of the public present if he wanted to ask them. Greg Duke stated that he does not have that authority. Matt Miller stated we need to trust the Commissioners to do their job. We have no further control of this. Mark E. Gorbett stated that the Federal government gave us this money and entrusted the local officials to spend it correctly. We could have sent the money back a month ago but that would have been ridiculous. Bill Lentz asked if something like a cure for cancer comes along, can we change the plan and put money toward it. Yes, they can change it at any time. **The vote was called for and passed unanimously.**

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The next item was the Consideration of the Acquisition of Real Estate for the Nursing Department. Auditor O'Connor stated that the current building worked great until COVID broke out and it was woefully undersized for the needs. The day they take possession, they can start using it as a vaccination site. If approved, they will close as soon as title work can be completed. Mark E. Gorbett asked if they would have to put any money into the old building to sell it. They will not. **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the Acquisition of Real Estate. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request for Additional Appropriations for Immunization/Vaccine Grant (8882) in the amount of \$168,567.00 as presented by Nursing Director Amanda Organist. She explained that the State has found more money for immunizations, including but not limited to COVID vaccinations. Mark E. Gorbett referenced the last item and asked about furniture for the new building. The Commissioners and Auditor stated that they have that taken care of and factored in. Director Organist stated that she included money in this grant for dorm refrigerators in each room as well as money for additional staff. **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the request for \$168,657.00 as presented. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Request for Additional Appropriations for COVID Testing Site Grant (8885) in the amount of \$100,000.00 as presented by Nursing Director Amanda Organist. This grant is for the continuation of COVID vaccines. They have started out

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working 2 evenings and a Saturday doing testing. When the vaccine rolled out, they added 2 additional evenings and Sunday. Currently, Bartholomew County is at 54% fully vaccinated. Two weeks ago we were at 44.7% and before that we were at 33%. They have partnered with WinRose to utilize their mobile vaccination clinic at various rural locations and the County Fair which will be at the Sheriff's tent. They are working to hit the target areas in the rural areas. **Mark E. Gorbett motioned to approve the Grant request in the amount of \$100,000. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a Transfer of Fund for the Immunization Program Fund in the amount of \$227.68. This is from equipment (8920-20-04-40) to supplies (8920-20-02-40). **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the Transfer in the amount of \$227.68 from equipment to supplies. Mark Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a request for an Additional Appropriation for the Interpreter Grant (8926) in the amount of \$1,000 as presented by JDAI Coordinator Bobbie Shake. This is due to additional funding they have received. **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$1,000 as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was a request for an Additional Appropriation for the Juvenile Title II Grant (9213) in the amount of \$39,735.00 as presented by JDAI Coordinator Bobbie Shake. This is a grant from the Robert Kennedy Foundation. **Jorge R. Morales motioned**

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to approve the Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$39,735 as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next item was an Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$6,733 for the Alcohol/Drug User Fees (2501) as presented by Community Corrections Director Brad Barnes. This is for Position #1. They had missed the missed the salary scale set by the State. This will cover the pay as well as the FICA and PERF. **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the \$6,733 as presented. Bill Lentz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was in regards to the previous request in that it was a request to change the Salary Ordinance. This will be done later in the meeting as there are other changes that need to be made.

The next item was a request for the County General Co-Op Extension (1000-23) in the amount of \$500.00 as presented by Auditor Chief Deputy Dalene Pattingill. They had received \$6,700, not the \$6,200 that they had approved at the last meeting. This is to cover the addition \$500. **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the request in the amount of \$500. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

The next item was the Salary Ordinance Update as presented by Chief Deputy Pattingill. The changes are highlighted in red and consist of the request earlier by Brad Barnes as well as the change for IT that was done at the last meeting. **Jorge R. Morales motioned to approve the Salary Ordinance updates as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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The next item was an update of the Bartholomew County Economic Development Committee as read by Greg Duke. They met for the first time on June 7, 2021. The officers selected were: Ms. Schumaker as President, Mr. Duke as Vice-President and Mr. Kinder as Secretary. Discussion of purposes was led by Jason Hester. From this point forward this report will come to the Council in January. Jorge R. Morales stated that both this and the BCRC only have to meet once a year unless there is some activity.

Mark E. Gorbett asked about the difference of the Juvenile Title II Grant (9213). The motion was for \$39,735 but the paperwork shows \$39,736. Do they need another motion? No they do not, the \$39,735 is correct.

Auditor O'Connor stated that the Council needs to develop a Resolution to allow Council members to attend via electronic attendance. She will send the information to Attorney Monroe. Jorge R. Morales was in favor of this to get more involvement from the public. Auditor O'Connor stated this was not about the public, but rather it was about the electronic attendance of Council members.

A member of the audience asked if the Fair is not-for-profit? The Fair Board is a 501C3 which is a not-for-profit.

The next item was an update from the Job Review Committee's recent meeting. They will discuss this at the next meeting

The next meeting will be on June 29, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

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There being no further business to come before the Council, **Matt Miller made a motion to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Jorge R. Morales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
R. Scott Bonnell, President

By: _____
Bill Lentz, Pro-Tem

By: _____
Matt Miller, Member

By: _____
ABSENT
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: _____
Jorge R. Morales, Member

By: _____
Greg Duke, Member

By: _____
Mark E. Gorbett, Member

ATTEST: _____
Pia O'Connor, Auditor
Bartholomew County