

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**January 11, 2022**

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

The Bartholomew County Council met on January 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana.

Auditor Pia O'Connor called the meeting to order.

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

Auditor O'Connor opened the floor for nominations for President. Bill Lentz nominated Greg Duke. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the nomination which passed 5-1 with a Roll Call vote. Mark E. Gorbett was the dissenting vote.

*(Jorge R. Morales was able to join the meeting after technical difficulties)*

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**President Duke called for nominations for Pro-Tem. Greg Duke nominated Matt Miller as Pro-Tem. The roll call vote was 7-0.** Jorge R. Morales noted that he was unable to vote for President due to technical difficulties. Attorney Chris Monroe stated that even due to technical difficulties, he cannot vote for items that have been completed.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the meeting minutes for December 14, 2021. **Bill Lentz made a motion to approve the minutes with the 3 changes stated by Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item on the agenda was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Workforce Supplemental School Liaison Grant (8931) for the Nursing Division of the Health Department in the amount of \$330,000 as presented by Nursing Director Amanda Organist. Director Organist stated this is a grant from the State to help schools cope with COVID including recording of information as well as vaccine clinics. The State tells how many positions for each County and they deemed Bartholomew County to have 3. The money includes the staff of the 3 nurses as well as any and all equipment that will be needed including IT equipment. President Duke asked how they are currently handling this situation? Director Organist stated she has been doing the work herself. She has a promising lead for one of the positions. This is a contract position so no changes need to be made to the Salary Ordinance. Bill Lentz asked what is required? She would prefer an RN or RPN. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked if she had considered Ivy Tech. She stated the lead she has is from IUPUC. Matt Miller asked if she had reached out to the North for

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nurses that has lost their job due to not being vaccinated. She has not but will look into that. President Duke asked if there were any requirements to work with the local colleges. Director Organist stated no. FRHC has 2 schools, BCSC has 18 schools and there are 7 private schools. **Matt Miller made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$330,000.00 as presented. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item was a Request for a Transfer for the Health Department – Nursing Division in the amount of \$20,680 from Fund 8885-03-02-40 to Fund 8885-03-03-10 as presented by Nursing Director Organist. She stated that this was COVID money that she would like to move to cover contract employees. **Bill Lentz motioned to Approve the Transfer of \$20,680 as presented. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item on the agenda was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Highway Department Restricted Fund (1173) in the amount of \$350,000 as presented by Engineer Danny Hollander. This is for a new chip-sealer that came in earlier than expected. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked the life expectancy of the piece. Engineer Hollander stated that the one they are replacing lasted 35 years. There is only one vendor in the area for this piece of equipment. **R. Scott Bonnell made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$350,000.00 as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

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The next item was a Request for a Transfer for the Highway Department in the amount of \$30,000.00 from Fund 8885-03-02-40 to Fund 8885-03-03-10 as presented by Nursing Director Organist. Engineer Hollander stated that this money is to make the oil spreader fit the new equipment that was just approved. **Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence motioned to Approve the Transfer of \$30,000.00 as presented. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item on the agenda was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Family Recover Court (9211) in the amount of \$114,000 as presented by Grant Administrator Bobbie Shake. This will fund the position and benefits. This is from the Office of Indiana Court Services. **Mark E Gorbett made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$114,000.00 as presented. R. Scott Bonnell seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item on the agenda was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Veteran's Treatment Court (9201) in the amount of \$77,646 as presented by Community Corrections Director Brad Barnes. Director Barnes stated that this is through Superior 1 Court. The bulk of the money will fund the salary & benefits for the Case Manager. This is a Fiscal Grant from January 1, 2022 thru December 31, 2022. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence asked how many people will be graduating. Director Barnes stated they had 4 in August and will have 4 more in the upcoming graduation. **R. Scott Bonnell made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$77,646.00 as presented. Bill Lentz seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

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The next item on the agenda was a Request of Additional Appropriations for the Community Corrections Juvenile (9102) in the amount of \$24,468 as presented by Youth Services Center Director Anita Biehl. She stated this is a discrecenary grant. They had originally asked for about \$7,000 but the State told them they could do better. The break down is for \$11,050 for supplies, \$3,518 for services and \$9,900 for equipment. **R. Scott Bonnell made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriation of \$24,468.00 as presented. Bill Lentz seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of a 2022 Contract for Legal Services with Attorney Chris Monroe. Attorney Monroe stated that he used the numbers from Dalene. He did raise his hourly rate from \$150 to \$175. President Duke asked if they could table this until everyone has a change to review it. **Jorge R Morales made a motion to Table the Contract for Legal Services until the next meeting. Matt Miller seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of 2022 County Council Appointments.. R. Scott Bonnell stated that Roger Hackman and Eric Scheidt agreed to continue in their positions. President Duke read the list of Appointments/Liaisons that expired at the end of 2021.

**Appointments:**

- ***Parks & Recreation Board***
    - *Expires 12/31/2023*
  - ***Alcoholic Beverage Commission (ABC)***
- Brian Webber (R)*

- Expires 12/31/2022 *Phyllis Apple*
- **County Board of Zoning Appeals**
  - Expires 12/31/2024 *Eric Scheidt*
- **Columbus Economic Development Commission**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Roger Hackman*
- **Parks & Recreation Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2023 *Brian Weber (R)*
- **Property Tax Adjustment Board of Appeals**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Barb Dunlap*

**Councilmember Appointments:**

- **Member to County Plan Commission**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Jorge R. Morales*
- **Member to County Extension Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *R. Scott Bonnell*
- **Member to Parks & Recreation Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence*
- **Member to Office of Emergency Management Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Greg Duke*
- **Member to Job Review/Classification Committee**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Greg Duke*
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Matt Miller*
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence*
- **Member to Personnel Administrative Committee**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Matt Miller*
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *Bill Lentz*
- **Member to Solid Waste Management District Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 *R. Scott Bonnell*

- **Member to Youth Services Center Advisory Committee**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence
- **Member to Greater Columbus Economic Development Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Matt Miller
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Jorge R. Morales (proxy)
- **Member to County Redevelopment Commission (BCRC)**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Jorge R. Morales
  - Expires 12/31/2022
- **Member to Joint Council of the Emergency Dispatch Services**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Greg Duke
- **Member to Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Org Bd (CAMPO)**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Bill Lentz
- **Liaison to Health Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2024 Bill Lentz
- **Liaison to Sheriff Merit Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 R. Scott Bonnell
- **Liaison to ASAP Board**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Mark E. Gorbett
- **ASAP**
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Mark E. Gorbett
  - Expires 12/31/2022 Jorge R. Morales

**Jorge R Morales made a motion to approve the 2022 County Council Appointments/Liaisons as presented. Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

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The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of a 2022 Agreement for Services with the Greater Columbus Economic Development Board as presented. Auditor O'Connor stated it is the same as in previous years. The Commissioners approved this in their January 3, 2022 meeting. **Jorge R. Morales made a motion to Approve the Agreement for Services with the Greater Columbus Economic Development Board as presented. Mark E. Gorbett seconded the motion which passed unanimously via roll call.**

Auditor Pia O'Connor stated that we received the Budget Order for 2022 late Friday or early Monday. She showed the Tax Rate Comparisons that indicate for the most part that the Tax Rates have decreased. The City of Columbus was down by 2.5%. The County Rate has gone down as displayed in the graph she presented. She will be evaluating it in more detail. She will e-mail the packets to those that are not present. Bill Lentz asked if the assessed value went up or the spending went down. Auditor O'Connor stated that is what they will be evaluating in the near future. President Duke thanked her for this as it was clear and concise.

Auditor O'Connor hopes to schedule a work session on January 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss the Salary Study. President Duke polled the members. At least 2 of them were unavailable. Auditor O'Connor asked if the night of February 1<sup>st</sup> would be okay. Matt Miller stated he believes he should be back by then. The consensus was to tentatively set February 1<sup>st</sup> as the work session. Mark E. Gorbett asked if they would have any documentation prior to



that meeting. Auditor O'Connor stated that information would be forthcoming prior to the meeting. She also wants to get Kent Irwin of WIS to attend, hopefully in person but based on COVID, it may be via Zoom. Assessor Whipple asked if it would be made available to office holders prior to the meeting. The Council stated that they would review it and then disseminate it.

The next items on the agenda were updates by the Council members regarding Boards and Commissions as follows:

**R Scott Bonnell:**

County Extension Bd – nothing to report

Solid Waste Management District Bd – nothing to report

Health Bd – nothing to report

**Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence:**

County Parks & Recreation Bd – nothing to report

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Youth Services Center Advisory Committee – nothing to report

**Bill Lentz:**

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

Personnel Administrative Committee – nothing to report

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Cols Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Bd – nothing to report

**Matt Miller:**

Personnel Administrative Committee – nothing to report

Economic Development – our Region won a grant between 18 & 20 million dollars

Job Review/Classification Committee – nothing to report

**Jorge R. Morales:**

County Plan Commission – nothing to report

Sheriff's Merit Bd – nothing to report

Greater Cols Economic Development Bd (proxy) – nothing to report

Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – met January 3<sup>rd</sup> with same officers re-elected. They will be meeting in February which will include discussion regarding a stoplight at US 31 & 800 N.

**Greg Duke:**

Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – no report

Greater Columbus Economic Development Bd – no report

ASAP – no report

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**Mark E Gorbett:**

Emergency Management Bd – nothing to report

Jt Council Emergency Dispatch Services – nothing to report

Community Corrections Bd – nothing to report

Data Board – nothing to report

Drug Epidemic Committee – nothing to report

There being no further business to come before the Council, **Mark E. Gorbett** made a motion to adjourn. **Bill Lentz** seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY COUNCIL**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Duke, President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Miller, Pro-Tem

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
R. Scott Bonnell, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evelyn Strietelmeier Pence, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jorge R. Morales, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Lentz, Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mark E. Gorbett, Member

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pia O'Connor, Auditor  
Bartholomew County