

## WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 21, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 21, 2014 at 1:00pm in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrupf, Don Amber and Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance, Auditor Jennifer McGuire, Scott Wagner-Health Department, Mary Hartman – Peabody Library, Sheriff Hodges, Scott Jones, Kathy Shively, Cindy Barnett – Extension, John Woodmansee, Emmertt and Maureen Boyd, BE Bogdon, Dawn Boyd, Aaron McClure, Dave Vining, Suzette Begue, Brandon Forrester- County Engineer, Adam Hurley & Ted Hurley- J & K, Robert Lang, Todd Storm, Katie Wagner- Busco News and Christine Workman – Post & Mail.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the pledge.

**IN THE MATTER OF TABLED PETITION TO VACATE:** The Petition to Vacate Public Right of Way that was tabled from the April 7, 2014 meeting was revisited with new survey drawings. The new survey addresses both issues that adjoining landowners objected to in the prior meeting. It allows the homeowner of Lot #9 access to her back lot from the platted Cedar Street and allows homeowners to the South of the Vacation still have access to the Tri-Lakes Park. After reviewing the amended vacation survey and verifying with all property owners, Rethlake made a motion to all the Petition to Vacate, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Ordinance #2014-02 was signed and will be recorded for change of records by Dawn Boyd for the property owners.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY:** County Attorney, Dan Sigler, updated the Commissioners on three current Torte Claims filed against the various County offices for Medical care of an inmate to a small claim for a broken windshield during the Winter storms against a Highway truck driver. Sigler discussed the closure of the Juvenile detention center, Cedarbridge, that the County has a Contract with for services. At this time Sigler is working with Chief Probation officer Amy Motter in getting the funds returned to the County that were not used. The County Recorder received a subpoena for improper use of data from our recording Vendor Fidar and will require a deposition by phone next week to address the issue. Ordinance #2014-01 for the Vacation at Loon Lake was approved for signatures by the Commissioner's. Attorney Sigler addressed a complaint against the County for an Ordinance Violation regarding Junk and Trash removal of the Shaw property. Sigler stated that the final order came from the Courts and no Motion to Correct Error from the 2012 violation was filed in a timely matter. Attorney Sigler reviewed the Ordinance #2014-02 from the petition and approved the signing by the Commissioners.

**IN THE MATTER OF 700 E TRAFFIC SIGNAL:** Brandon Forrester, County Engineer, addressed the drafted letter to INDOT in regards to the traffic signal located at the intersection of US #30 and County Road #700 E in Whitley County. INDOT will pay for all the expense in removing the signal heads only. The current traffic study verified the cause for the removal. A motion by Amber to allow the letter be sent for the removal, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:** Sheriff Hodges, Scott Jones and Kathy Shively presented a Request for Proposal for the County Radio Project. The project entails upgrading dispatch radio consoles; simulcast radio transmitters, mobile and portable radios. After many meetings and reviewing all the information, Sheriff Hodges is ready to move forward on the project and go out for bids at this time. Discussion of whether this needs to be conducted as a Public Works project with the cost being more than the allotted \$150,000 and if sealed bids would have to be taken. A motion by Amber to proceed with the project but have Auditor McGuire address IC #5-22.6 in the matter it should be conducted, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Final acceptance will have to come with funding by the County Council on this project and the Commissioner's want the breakdown of the two projects in a Lease option for the entire cost over a period of five years.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY EXTENSION:** Cindy Barnett, Extension Director, introduced the new Extension Educator, John Woodmansee. John will be shared with Noble County for his services in the Extension offices. He brings eighteen years of experience in Extension background working both in Agriculture and Education fields.

**IN THE MATTER OF WELL VARIANCE:** Scott Wagner, Health Department, presented a Water Well Variance that will be located at 7749 North Arnold Road, currently owned by Aaron & Rhonda McClure. The Release states the Well will be closer than 10' to the structure, but will be placed in a sealed manhole that has been approved by the State. The Well will be accessible and serviceable at this new location. After discussion a motion to approve the Well Variance was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF EMA TRAILERS:** Cathy Broxon-Ball came before the Commissioners requesting the titles for two trailers at the EMA Department be signed over to Wabash County. Broxon-Ball was previously the District #3 Element Leader, but now the position is held in Wabash County. An email stating the acceptance of the trailers by Wabash Commissioner's was reviewed and a motion by Rethlake to allow the transfer, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** Minutes from the April 7, 2014 Commissioner's meeting were reviewed, Rethlake made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 2/0 vote, Commissioner Amber abstained. The disbursement of claims' report for April 21, 2014 was reviewed. After discussion on some of the claims, a motion to allow the claims was made by Rethlake seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF ALCOHOLIC BOARD:** A Certificate of Appointment by the Commissioners to the Alcoholic Beverage Board came from Gary Gordon. After reviewing the Certificate and commending Gary for his continued service a motion was made by Amber to approve the Appointment of Gary Gordon to the 2014 Alcoholic Beverage Board from the Whitley County Commissioners, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

Commissioner Rethlake reported on the Safety Committee for Whitley County. Evacuation diagrams will be framed and placed in all County buildings for safety. The Highway will participate in Lifting and Chainsaw Safety training with Allen County on May 8, 2014. Sheriff Hodges and deputies Gatton and Spencer have worked with the County schools with lockdown procedures and safety for the students. Safety films have been ordered for brush cutting and flagging procedures for the Highway personnel for Summer projects.

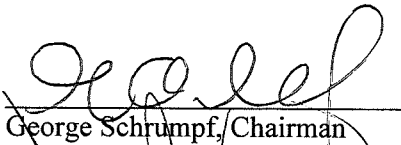
Commissioner Amber reported that the EMA Advisory meeting has changed the focus back to Whitley County and not the State interaction on projects. Some of the programs will be cut. The SDI signage committee will reconvene due to the number of complaints of trucks still traveling on the County Roads.

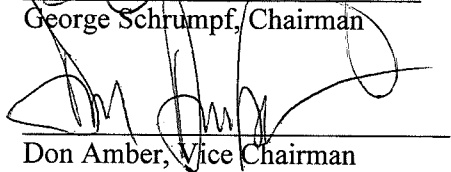
Commissioner Schrupf presented a letter from FEMA showing the new maps for the Flood Plans in Whitley County. The USDA Forrest service will be applying an aerial treatment for bacterial caterpillars in two applications seven days apart. Complaints about the speed limit signs around the lake areas in Whitley County and that they are not all consistent. A review of a traffic count can be done at the 700 North locations if from the Highway wants to address the issue if it becomes necessary.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** Commissioner Schrumpf is currently reviewing three quotes for Print Management Services for the entire County and also reviewing IT services for the 2015 year. Discussion with Extension office for the high cost of printing the Newsletters was addressed and if the printing needs to be contracted out again to save on cost and not be included with the printing program for the County. The monthly Profit & Loss Statement from the Humane Society was reviewed. The March 2014 Vehicle Report was reviewed by the Commissioners from the Sheriff's Department. Auditor McGuire presented the County-wide totals for the 2014 Circuit Breaker report and how it will impact the tax collection for the different taxing units throughout the County.

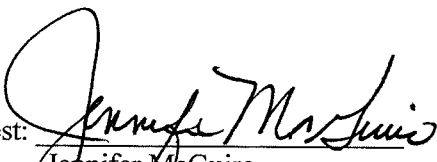
With no further input from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting.

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
George Schrumpf, Chairman

  
Don Amber, Vice Chairman

  
Tom Rethlake

Attest:   
Jennifer McGuire  
Auditor

