

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 19, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 19, 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 County Attorney- Dan Sigler, Auditor Jennifer McGuire, Pam Smith- County Coordinator, Brandon Forrester- County Engineer, Michael Barton- Highway, Kelley Sheiss – LWC, Gayle Bloom, John Bloom, Craig Wagner – Planning & Building, Fred Warner, Ben Eisbzt, Mary Hartman, Jim Becher, Joan Null and Christine Workman – Post & Mail.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the pledge.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: County Attorney, Dan Sigler, updated the Commissioners on the litigation with the County Recorder April Whetstone and her deposition for their vendor Fidler for use of recorded records in Whitley County and charges for their use. Attorney Sigler has reviewed the Request for Proposal for dispatch radio consoles, transmitters and mobile and portable radios for the Sheriff's department and dispatch. Some language needed corrected but now is ok for signatures from the Commissioners. After discussion a motion by Amber to sign the Proposal with advertisement dates of May 28 and June 4, 2014. The sealed Proposals will be opened during the June 16, 2014 Commissioner meeting, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The contract with SRI Incorporated to perform the 2014 County Tax sale on October 16, 2014 was approved by Sigler for signatures. A motion by Rethlake to sign the 2014 Contract with SRI, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Sigler is still in contact with the Cedarbridge facility that we contracted with to house juveniles. The facility closed earlier in the year and the County has not received the \$10,000 back for the payment of housing juveniles and wishes not to use the other facility recommended by Cedarbridge at this time. The small Torte Claims will have to be processed through our insurance, Travelers, to reach a determination of payment before decisions can be made on the amounts to be paid.

IN THE MATTER OF EBETINO PROPERTY: Craig Wagner, Planning and Building, informed the Commissioners that the property owned by Ebetino has still not complied with the original order for work to be done at the location. With the bad Winter weather, the 60 days were not enforced and Wagner feels at this time it would be best to start the Notification procedure over so all legal notices will be correct with the due process. A notice will be mailed and also attached to the front of the house. This will allow for the bids to be processed for the demolition of the structure in a timely matter in compliance with the statue guidelines.

IN THE MATTER OF LEADERSHIP WHITLEY COUNTY: Kelley Sheiss, Director of LWC, made a presentation to the Commissioners for the benefit of having County employees participate in the Leadership Whitley County program. The program has been in existence for 14 years and gives great Leadership skill building, networking and knowledge for participates. The tuition fee is \$750 for the program for each participate, but in line with other Leadership skill seminars throughout the area. Kelley would like to see the County support two scholarships for participation from County employees. After discussion, a motion for a favorable recommendation will be given to the County Council for the request was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. A final determination will have to be made from the Council on whether to fund the request and what fund the expense will be paid from.

IN THE MATTER OF TRUCK TRAFFIC ON 800 E: John Bloom and Fred Warner both gave power point presentations to the Commissioners on the truck travel on county road 800 East. They have fifty signed petitions from property owners requesting that semi-tractor vehicles being operated for commercial use be prohibited from traveling on 800 East between the intersection of US #24 to County Road 500 S or Bass Road. The power points showed the dangerous hills, narrow roadway, no berms, commuter traffic, speed limit not enforced, deer crossing, left hand turns and narrow bridges on the route. They would like the truck traffic re-routed to 500 East. No changes will be made at this time but Commissioner Amber addressed them stating there is a committee that

is working on the issue of the trucks being on County roads. A representative from SDI was at the meeting and will also work with the complaint issue.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY HIGHWAY: Michael Barton, Highway Supervisor, explained the damage on 800 E was not from the truck traffic but from an existing Nipsco gas line that runs under the roadway. The 2013 Annual Highway Report was submitted for approval to the Commissioners. A motion to sign was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Highway will start Summer hours next week with Monday – Thursday hours will be 6:30am to 4pm and 6:30 am – 10:30am on Fridays for the department. The new Highway truck will be coming next week to have equipment put on at WA Jones and then be put in service.

IN THE MATTER EXPENDITURES: The Commissioners reviewed a proposal from the Maintenance department from VanAm Seal & Striping for parking lots the County owns. After discussion on the lots and usage a motion to allow the work on 1) crack fill at County Building for \$620, clean, seal fill and re-strip at the west Drive at Courthouse for \$890.00 and the lot and drive south of the jail for \$2380.00. A motion by Amber to approve these expenditures from the Maintenance budget, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. A request for some building repairs at the Community Corrections building was discussed and the maintenance of the yard at the Plaza drive location. This subject was tabled for further research until the June 2, 2014 Commissioner meeting by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Minutes from the May 5, 2014 Commissioner's meeting were reviewed, Amber made a motion to approve as presented with a change of "do" to "due" in the third paragraph, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The disbursement of claim reports for May 19, 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. The Commissioners want a breakdown of the \$70,000 expense for the Extension office.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR: Pam Smith submitted two Requests to Use County Facilities. The first was from Cindy Baker for the United Way campaign banner and thermometer to be place in the Courthouse lawn from May 20, 2014 until Friday May 30, 2014. A motion to allow the request was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The second Request to Use County Facilities was from Savannah Butler for Friday May 30, 2014 for a wedding ceremony at the gazebo at 4pm. A motion to allow the use was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Pam announced that the County will be joining with the City on the use of a VIP day at Costco on May 31, 2014 and employees will be allowed the discounts for the day.

Commissioner Rethlake left the meeting at 3pm.


IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST: Commissioner Schrupf had received a letter requesting the amendment of the current Golf Cart Ordinance. The letter wanted the Ordinance to be amended to allow for children under the age of six to be allowed in the carts. After discussion "NO" change will be made at this time. A second request was from Bill Jennings for the use of his driveway on State Camp Road being used by the Highway Department for a turn around when plowing the snow. The Commissioner's will address this issue with the Highway and add a turnaround in the Camp Samaritan property. The invoice for the Flower Donation came from the City in the amount of \$500.00 for 2014, after discussion a motion to pay was made by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 2/0 vote.

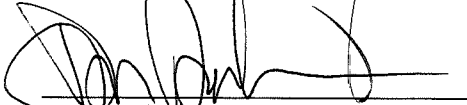
IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR BIDS: The Commissioners opened sealed bids for the work at the Community Corrections building for replacing the windows and siding at the Plaza Drive location. The first bid was from Schwartz Construction for \$48,601.00, second from T & L Construction for \$47,557.00 and the third from Hoosier Windows & Siding for \$48230.00. All the bids will be reviewed and a decision will be announced at a future public Commissioner meeting. The second request for bids was for the construction work for the lobby at the jail facility. The three sealed bids were Tim Smith Construction for \$16,425.00, D & C Construction for \$13576.00 and Felderman Design & Build for \$22480.00. All of these bids will be taken under advisement and a determination will be announced in a public Commissioner's meeting.


IN OTHER BUSINESS: Patty Cook will be retiring from the Prosecutor's office on May 30, 2014. Commissioners discussed with Jim Becher from Microage on the need of a full-time IT position for the County. A reappointment to the Peabody Library will be approved at the June 2 meeting. Commissioner Amber updated the Commissioners on the EMA department. Loren Kravitz has resigned from the Region III-A office. Discussion among the Commissioners of the need for a lift in File Management for safety purposes and the weight of each box will be discussed with the Department.

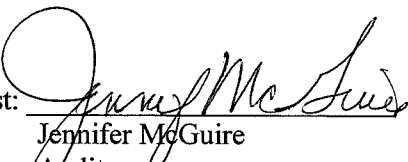
With no further input from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrupf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Tom Rethlake

Attest: 
Jennifer McGuire
Auditor

