

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 2, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 2, 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, Mary Hartman- Peabody Library, Nicole Trier – Troy Center, Judi Huffman, Dave White, Don Langeloh, Katie Wagner- Churubusco News, Joan Null and Stanley Crum.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the pledge.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: County Attorney, Dan Sigler, updated the Commissioners on the Cedar Bridge Contract for Juvenile confinement. No payment has been returned after the facility closed and a letter will be drafted by Attorney Sigler stating a violation of the contract and requesting the refund of the \$10,000 immediately. If no response then he will start the legal proceedings to collect along with interest and any Attorney costs that may be incurred. The recent letter submitted to Correct Error in Court from Drapinski in reference to a Tax Sale property was denied by the Judge. An investigation by Travelers for the EEOC claim filed by the discharged deputy from the Sheriff's department is under review. Sigler gave a brief description of his interpretation for IC #36-1-20-2 on Nepotism for County employees. The Camp Samaritan property has not been addressed by the State and Attorney Sigler feels they have waived any claim to the property so the County may proceed with any maintenance at the location for clean-up and use of the property.

IN THE MATTER OF LIBRARY APPOINTMENT: Mary Hartman, Peabody Library, requested that the Commissioners re-appoint Gregory Hockemeyer to the Board of Trustees for the Peabody Library. Greg is currently serving on the Board since June 2011. The term will expire on June 30, 2014. After discussion a motion by Amber to appoint Hockemeyer for another four year term through June 30, 2018, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF LINCOLN POINTE: Dave Sewell, Planning and Building, presented a plat for Lincoln Pointe Section #4 development. The new plat has 28 new residential lots. To move forward with the project a Letter of Credit done with IAB Financial Bank for the infrastructure in the amount of \$500,000 estimated by the Developer and engineers for Site Inc. was presented. The plat has met all the requirements to be recorded at this time. Roads will be inspected by the Highway and Engineering offices throughout the phases. After further discussion a motion by Rethlake to approve the Letter of Credit for the project, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 2/1 vote with Amber voting against.

IN THE MATTER OF TROY CENTER: Nicole Trier gave an End of the Year report for the 2013/2014 school year of the Troy Center. There were 45 students enrolled throughout the year, 147 credits earned and there will be 7 students graduating with diplomas. The partnership contracts will still be with Churubusco and Whitko Schools for the 2014/2015 school year and at this time 19 students will be returning in the Fall. Attendance is still the biggest struggle for the program. Other discussion was the new Suspension Services, staffing and transportation of the students.

IN THE MATTER WOOD LANDS & LAKES: Stanley Crum, appointment from the Commissioners for the Wood Lands and Lakes Conservation, gave a brief overview of the program and "Thanked" the Commissioners for their continued support of the program. He will have Minutes from the meeting for the next Commissioner's meeting to review. After discussion Amber made a motion to approve the \$400 appropriation again in the 2015 Commissioner budget for the program, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Minutes from the May 19, 2014 Commissioner's meeting were reviewed, Amber made a motion to approve as presented with a change to the re-route being 600 East not County road 500 East, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The disbursement of claim reports for June 2, 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 JAIL LOBBY BIDS: After reviewing the three sealed bids for the construction at the Jail for the work in the lobby, the contract will be awarded to D & C Construction. Half of the cost for project will be funded with Jail Commissary and the other half will be paid from Cumulative Capital or CEDIT. A motion to give the appropriation a favorable recommendation was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 for the County Council to decide which Fund to use.

IN THE MATTER OF SPEEDING AT LOON LAKE: Two representatives from the Loon Lake Association, Judy Huffman and Dave White, addressed the Commissioners with their concern of the speeding traffic on County Road 700 around the lake. They would like Stop signs installed to slow the traffic down through this stretch of roadway. After discussion, a decision was made to conduct a study for the area by using a sign board or speed strips for a two week period. Michael Barton from the Highway will get the equipment and report back the findings. The Commissioners do not want to install additional Stop signs at this time to control the speed. County Engineer, Brandon Forrester, presented the MUTD that state "Stop" signs should NOT be used for speed control.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC UTILITY PERMIT: A public utility permit was presented for approval from Nipsco. The location will be at County Road 50 E at 1491 South State Road #9 to install a regulator station and 10' of 2" plastic gas main to restore service. County Engineer, Brandon Forrester, will only allow the work if bored under the roadway. After discussion, a motion to approve the permit with the amendment to bore under the road was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR: Pam Smith submitted a Request for a Salary Amendment from the Personnel Committee. It will change the Prosecutor office manager from a COMOT 1 to a PAT and increase the administrative level and wages by \$4314.00 and the job description has been revised. One Request to Use Facility was presented for approval from DeMoney Grimes for "A Walk to Remember" on Friday August 8, 2014 from 7:30-8:00 am. A motion by Rethlake to allow the use, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. There are currently three positions hiring in Whitley County, EMA position, a Dispatch position and a Deputy position. Also the two part-time positions for the Administrative Assistant at Community Corrections will now be a full-time position.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BUILDING: Commissioner Rethlake addressed the three sealed bids that came in for the work at the Community Corrections building for the siding, windows and water damage from the heating/ac units. The recommendation is to accept the bid from T & L Construction and pay for the cost from CEDIT funding out of Project #8. After discussion a motion by Rethlake to give a favorable recommendation to the County Council to proceed with the expense out of CEDIT in the amount \$47,557, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Other work at the Community Corrections building will be for the bathroom vents and fans to eliminate moisture. A motion to allow the expenditure out of the County General appropriation was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF LAND APPRAISALS: Commissioner Rethlake submitted two land appraisals for the adjoining lot next to Community Corrections. The first was from Paul Reith for \$200,000 and the second was from Geyer showing a price of \$194,000- 259,000. This work is being done for the mandated statue changes for sentencing that is going to affect the confinement limits for inmates. Rethlake reported as of this morning there were 77 clients at the Work Release facility and 117 inmates at the jail. Any funding assistance for the statue change has yet to be determined by the State. DLZ will conduct a study for the criminal building to give the County recommendations with a 20 year forecast on any new jail additions.

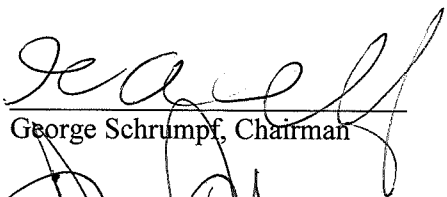
IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY IT SERVICES: Commissioner Schrupf wants to move ahead with contracting with Preferred IT for the entire County on IT services. The initial evaluation will cost \$10,000 and then be credited toward any invoices for future charges. After discussion a motion to submit a "favorable" recommendation to the County Council for the \$10,000 evaluation and move ahead with contracted County IT services with Preferred IT was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The IT expenses will be further reviewed as the 2015 Budget process starts next month.

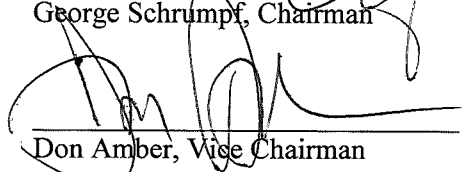
IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE: Commissioner Schrupf invited Chad Burch and Patton Cox to the June 16, 2014 Commissioner's meeting to discuss County Healthcare changes for the 2015. The increase for the County looks like an increase of 8.92%. Discussion of any changes to the policy and increase for employee contributions are being looked at for the 2015 Budget sessions.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: The Request for Proposals on the Dispatch Radio Consoles will be opened in the June 16, 2014 meeting. Auditor McGuire presented a Compliant Summary of Findings from the Legislative Services Agency and Department of Local Government and Finance. The 2015 Ratio Study was approved by the Department of Local Government and Finance for tax billing. The Historical Society has requested an appointment from the Commissioners to their board, Rethlake made a motion to appoint Don Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

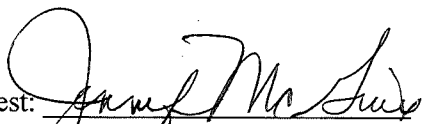
With no further input from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrupf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Tom Rethlake

Attest: 
Jennifer McGuire
Auditor

