

## WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 21, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 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 Schrumpf, Don Amber and Tom Rethlake. Other in attendance County Attorney Dan Sigler, Auditor Jennifer McGuire, Pam Smith- County Coordinator, Michael Barton, Mary Hartman, Greg Hockemeyer, Brandon Forrester, Tim Misiara and Charlie Hefflin.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the pledge.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY:** Dan Sigler, County Attorney, was contacted by Pete Mallers from Beers, Mallers and McNagny out of courtesy to update the County Commissioners on the sale of The Oaks on behalf of Parkview. The unemployment appeal for the County has been postponed in the McKinney case, and the discrimination claim will be handled by the insurance company. The current tort claim filed against the Whitley County for an accident on State Road #109 was actually for a Noble County deputy, and Attorney Sigler will notify the attorney's office to correct this matter. A contract has been reviewed for the Probation department in regards to contracting for PSI transcripts. It is only for a renewal and rate increase and okay for the Commissioners to sign when presented by department head Amy Motter. Attorney Sigler has filed the lawsuit against Cedar Bridge for the \$10,000 contract payment they received and then they closed the facility. The Demand will require a statutory response and the case is filed in Whitley County. Further contracts will be reviewed for better compliancy to prevent this situation. There is no contract for the juvenile service now in Pierceton. Commissioner Amber spoke in regards to a new Ordinance for truck travel on 300 North between State Road #205 and US #33. It will be reviewed so that it is understandable and enforceable, specific to that area and a good reason to change.

**IN THE MATTER OF SEWER EASEMENT ISSUE:** Greg Hockemeyer presented a sewer easement issue for Douglas and Jan Snyder's property located in the Tri-Lake Sewer District. The request is to move the current sewer line into a County ingress/egress easement from the center of Spear Addition lot #4. From the plot plan all the setbacks have been approved by the Planning Department, Surveyor and County Health Department. County attorney Sigler gave consent to allow but noted that all changes need to be recorded for the easement to be allowed. The cost for the change will be paid by the Tri-Lakes Sewer District and the property owner.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** The Minutes from the July 7, 2014 Commissioner meeting were reviewed. A correction to a misspelled word was noted, then a motion to approve was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber with a correction to the work "jack" braking to "jake" breaking and carried with a 3/0 vote. The July 21, 2014 distribution of claims was reviewed by Commissioner Schrumpf. He would like to see a better review of the fuel consumption at County gas pumps for record keeping. Commissioner Schrumpf wanted to "Thank" Jana Akers for the great job she is doing on reviewing the claims for payment. A motion to approve was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF EMA DIRECTOR:** Commissioner Amber introduced the new EMA Director Charlie Hefflin to the Commissioners. Goals for the EMA department over the next year will focus more on Whitley County programs. Hefflin will be meeting with the volunteers and all the fire chiefs for Whitley County and get acquainted with the area. The EMA cell phones need to be located and then Hefflin will have a choice to have a stipend for the current phone he uses or take over the previous phone.

**IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMITS:** Two Utility Permits from CenturyLink were reviewed by the Commissioners. The first one requested placing buried cable on Ruckman Road north of Old Trail for a length of 330 feet and the second requested burying cable on County Road 700 North just West of County Road 250 West (Loon Lake Road) for a length of 431 feet, Amber made a motion to approve both permits, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Auditor McGuire will copy the Permit Requests so the company requesting the permit shows for the Commissioners to review.

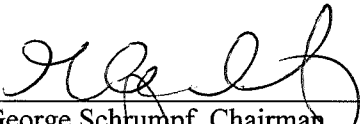
**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR:** Pam Smith reported that the Employee Cookout will be Friday on the Courthouse square from 11-1pm. There will be a County recognition day at Dairy Queen on July 30, 2014 with 10% off entire order. The Safety Committee worked with File Management for a Crown Lift to help with the lifting of boxes to the higher shelves of the File Management areas. The cost will be \$16,453 and the Commissioners gave a favorable recommendation for the purchase with a 3/0 vote.

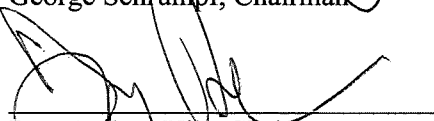
**COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:** Commission Rethlake reported that there are 87 clients at the Community Corrections building and 30 on Home Detention. Rethlake wanted to know how the County Auction went with the vehicles but Auditor McGuire had not received any information yet. The final appraisals are coming in on the lot besides the Community Corrections building and Right of Refusal guidelines will be addressed. Commissioner Amber noted that the new director for the Region IIIA will be Jessica Grossman. Commissioner Amber will be representing the Commissioners for the Lincoln Highway Association. Ben Romine from the Columbia City Council will be the City appointment to the EDC Board. Notice from IDEM of an Air Permit for Chromasource for the County records. Amber will keep an eye on the Huntertown waste water decision regarding the Eel River drain. A report of the temporary CEDIT plan was discussed for the 2015 year.


**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** Auditor McGuire presented the assessed valuation growth quotient for property tax levies from the State Budget Agency. It will be 2.7% for 2015. Sheriff Hodges distributed the Commissary Report for the dates of Jan 1-June 30, 2014 showing transactions for training, supplies, computer equipment, uniforms, awards, kitchen repairs and patrol vehicle equipment totaling expenditures of \$62,655.14.

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