

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 18, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 18, 2014 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schruppf, Don Amber and Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance were County Attorney Dan Sigler, Chief Deputy Auditor Vicky Schrader, Pamela Smith, Michael Barton, Brandon Forrester, Ben Beer, Scott Wagner, Tim Misiore, Joan Null, Stanley Crum, Mary Hartman, Katie Wagner, Bill Hartman, Dan Avery, Charles Heflin and Dave Sewell.

Chairman Schruppf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Dan Sigler, County Attorney reported that he conducted the appeal for the McKinney unemployment decision and is waiting for the determination. Attorney Sigler has had a few conversations with counsel for the Auditor with nothing to report. The Sheriff Association is requesting an ordinance prohibiting commercial profiting and Attorney Sigler will speak to the Sheriff on this matter as he is not sure that an ordinance is needed. Attorney Sigler has spoken to the attorney in reference to the Tri Lakes dispute. Mike Barton has been out and taken care of the problem.

IN THE MATTER OF ROAD 800 EAST: Dan Avery of NIRCC was present to discuss the vision for 800 East (County Line Road) and discuss working with Allen and Whitley Counties to fund the Liberty Mills & 900 intersection work. 800 East is a rural designed roadway that is becoming urban in nature. He reported that they are not looking at a four lane road at this time. Funding for north of Bass Road would be eligible for federal assistance through INDOT. If we requested assistance for reconstruction we would need to be precise about the dollar amount requested because we would be held to that amount. Most of the complaints received have been for the area around Liberty Mills, south of 14 and Dan's report is based on the condition of the road, but if we find that there are more complaints in another section Whitley County may want to start with that area. Commissioner Rethlake asked how the costs would be distributed among Allen and Whitley Counties. Dan said that we would need to work something out with the Allen County Commissioners; but again we could apply for federal funding. The Commissioners would like to thank Bill Hartman from the Allen County Highway department and the Allen County Commissioners for their work on this project.

IN THE MATTER OF AN ORDINANCE FOR REGULATION OF CLANDESTINE DRUGS LABS LOCATIONS: Scott Wagner of the Health department presented an ordinance for regulation of clandestine drugs labs locations for review and approval. Attorney Sigler wants to compare the proposed ordinance to state statute and make sure everything is encompassed. Attorney Sigler said that having a County ordinance would allow us to act more swiftly in these types of cases. There was a discussion on collection of fines. Adoption of an ordinance was tabled until the next meeting so Attorney Sigler can review & revise as necessary.

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANT AND ETHICS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: Charles Heflin, Emergency Management Director presented paperwork for signatures on a grant that we had qualified for which would pay 50% of the Emergency Management Director's salary. A motion was made to approve signing and submitting the grant paperwork by Commissioner Amber and was seconded by Commissioner Rethlake. The motion passed with a 3/0 vote. Charles reported that the name of the Hazardous Materials Team was changed by the board to Emergency Services Support Team. Charles will be using his personal cell phone rather than a County cell phone. Pam Smith will send out an email notification to the departments. Charles requested to receive a stipend for his personal cell phone use. A motion to approve the cell phone stipend was made by Commissioner Amber, seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Charles spoke about a recent fire in Columbia City and the assistance that was given to volunteers, fire fighters and the

involved family by providing ice water to all and contacting Red Cross on the family's behalf.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY REPORT: Mike Barton reviewed his discussion with Dan Avery, NIRCC and Bill Hartman, Allen County Highway. He reported that we are in good shape on the sealing project. Regarding the 800 project, Commissioner Schrupf asked about a round-about. Mr. Barton reported that A-Z said their plans are to put in a round-about. At this point in time there will be no restriction on truck traffic. Commissioner Amber had a question about a claim that was reviewed and asked Mr. Barton if billed prices are compared to the quoted prices. Mr. Barton confirmed that they are.

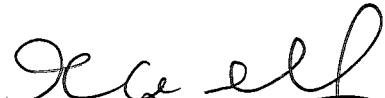
IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the August 4, 2014 Commissioner meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Amber. Commissioner Rethlake seconded the motion but noted an error in a sentence under Other Business. The sentence should read "Commissioner Rethlake is working on Community Corrections". The motion to approve the minutes as corrected passed with a 3/0 vote. The August 4, 2014 and August 18, 2014 claims distributions were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber asked for clarification of why payroll claims were now included for review. Chief Deputy Auditor Schrader explained that during the annual audit by State Board of Accounts the auditors stated that payroll claims were to be reviewed and signed off by the Commissioners. Commissioner Rethlake questioned the need to pay a professional tree trimming service for work done at the jail. The Commissioners wanted to thank Chief Deputy Auditor Schrader for her additional duties. A motion to approve the claims was made by Commissioner Amber, seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a vote of 3/0.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Dave Sewell reported that the matter of a subdivision may be presented at the next Commissioner meeting. The developer's financial institution does not provide letters of credit and the developer may request that a personal check be accepted as a guarantee of the project. The Commissioners discussed the possibility of naming a fund to deposit these types of checks in. Commissioner Amber reported that the LPA survey needs to be done online and that he is waiting for information on accessing the online survey. Pam Smith and Brandon Forrester assisted in providing information for the survey. Mike Barton reported that the 20 mph speed signs have been posted at Loon Lake. A member of the public asked who is responsible to pay for clean-up regarding property used for drug lab if the person ordered by judgment to pay doesn't do so. Scott Wagner reported that the County always pays for the clean-up and then seeks repayment. Commissioner Rethlake reported that Mr. Weatherly has not changed what he is asking for the property being looked at for Community Corrections. In regard to a feasibility study for enlargement of the Community Corrections building and jail, pricing greatly differs for the vendors: \$6,000 for one and \$23,500 the other. Pam Smith, County Coordinator presented a request to use facilities (gazebo) by the Main Street Association on September 13, 2014 from 5 - 11 pm for Movie on the Square. A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Rethlake, seconded for discussion by Commissioner Amber and after discussion passed with a 3/0 vote. Another request to use facilities (gazebo and Courthouse lawn) by the Main Street Association on December 5th and 6th, 2014 from 6 - 8 pm for Live Nativity. A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Amber, seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Pam Smith spoke about having new credit cards issued. Commissioner Amber stated "if there is a Whitley County Government card in Don Amber's name, Don Amber should hold that card". He suggested checking with other counties to see what they do in regard to credit cards (who the cards are issued to). Commissioner Amber also suggested that the credit card log be reviewed to determine who new cards should be issued to. The Commissioners would like to thank Jody Hollenbaugh for her help regarding the credit card issue. Commissioner Schrupf reported that Council has asked the Commissioners to look into whether other departments would have any funding available to help purchase the lift truck for the Records and Maintenance departments. Commissioner Schrupf reported that in regard to the Citrix Software for Dispatch the pricing was read incorrectly and another \$2,000 is needed from CREDIT funds. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council to request the additional \$2,000 from

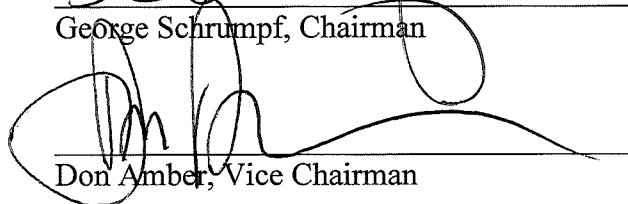
CEDIT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrupf reported several items slated for 2016 CEDIT funds-new vehicles for County Drainage Project Coordinator and Health Department Sanitarian, and a snowblower/mower for the Maintenance Department. He also reported that Todd Samuelson from Umbaugh is checking into the possibility of paying off the Government Center building and whether it is prudent to do so. Commissioners are also looking into the possibility of purchasing Whitko School Corporation bonds.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting at 3:10 pm

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS




George Schrupf, Chairman



Don Amber, Vice Chairman



Tom Rethlake

Attest: 

Vicky Schrader, Chief Deputy Auditor

