

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 15, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, September 15, 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 Schrupf, Don Amber, and Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance were County Attorney Dan Sigler, Scott Wagner, Mark Jesse, Gene Heckman, Joan Null, Donna Bowers, Mary Hartman, Pete Mallers, Bob Egolf, Johnnie Tom, Donna Tom, and Katie Wagner.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: In regard to the Cedar Bridge lawsuit, Attorney Sigler emailed Cedar Bride's attorney to inform them that we accept the payment plan and he has not heard back from the attorney.

IN THE MATTER OF COESSE SEWER PROJECT: Scott Wagner from the Health Department and Mark Jesse from GAI Consultants came before the Commissioners to explain the plan for the Coesse Sewer Project. Mr. Jesse provided the Commissioners with the entire plan for the project and stated that they are ready to move forward. This project would allow them to start the process and to allow for the future build out. The project would potentially be funded by Redevelopment funds. This affects between six and eight homes in Coesse. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass from the Commissioners to the Council seconded by Commissioner Rethlake. The motion passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SALE OF THE OAKS FACILITY: Attorney Pete Mallers represents Parkview Health System and Whitley Memorial Hospital. He presented the sale of the Oaks Facility to the Commissioners and the buyer is Miller's Merry Manor. Attorney Mallers hopes that they will close on the property by November 1, 2014. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the sale and it was seconded by Commissioner Amber. The motion to approve the sale passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR 300 N: Commission Amber explained that the citizens that live on 300 N are concerned with the truck traffic on 300 N. The road was just redone recently and there has been an increase in truck traffic. This is due to concrete trucks using it as a short cut rather than using the highway to get to their destination. The citizens would like the Commissioners to consider a "No Thru Truck" sign or a type of Ordinance that covers a specific weight limit on the road. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion and requested that this decision be tabled until the next meeting and to see Noble County's Ordinance for this situation. Commissioner Amber seconded the motion and it passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY UPDATE: Michael Barton, the Highway informed the Commissioners that they are working on safety issues around town. They are getting the roads striped and getting some other roads redone. At the next meeting he is going to provide them with a list of the 23 or 24 miles of road that they want to mill one more time and add 3 to 4 inches of stone to it. Commissioner Schrupf brought up the issue on needing a new snow blower. They asked if the highway would have time to cover the parking lots that need to be cleared when there is snow and they do not. They also suggested they have someone on call to do the additional parking lots that need cleaned off when there is snow.

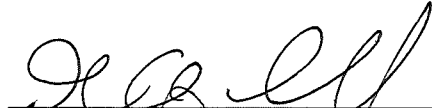
IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: When reviewing the minutes from September 2, 2014 in the matter of a cell phone stipend, it stated that MaryAnn McClusky had been using her County cell phone. This should read that she is using her personal cell phone for County business. The second correction in the matter of resolution for combat related traumatic brain injuries, it should read "hyperbaric" not "hyperbolic" oxygen treatment. After no further discussion Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Commissioner Amber. The motion to approve passed with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the claims and Commissioner Amber

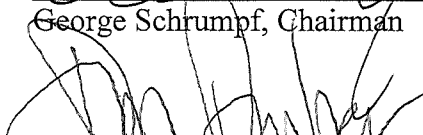
made a motion to approve the claims. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and it passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: County Coordinator Pam Smith discussed flu shots for County employees. Any full time employee and part time employees that are part of the County insurance and/or the wellness plan is able to get a flu shot paid for by the County. After discussion, the Commissioners decided to make a motion to keep it the same as last year. Commissioner Rethlake made the first motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler brought a utility permit to present to the Commissioners from Brandon Forrester. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the right-of-way permit and it was seconded by Commissioner Amber. The motion to approve the permit passed with a 3/0 vote. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler also requested that the Commissioners appoint someone to fill out their claim forms for payroll. The Commissioners made a motion to appoint Pam Smith, the County Coordinator. The motion was made by Commissioner Amber, seconded by Commissioner Rethlake, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber brought up the resolution requested by Mr. Hicks at the September 15, 2014 meeting. He discussed this with the Whitley County Veteran Office, Gene Rohrer and stated he is not comfortable passing the resolution just yet. Commissioner Amber also stated that someone is interested in purchasing County property. He asked Commissioner Schrupf and Rethlake whether they want to sell the parcel or not. The decision to sell the property was tabled until the next meeting with a motion made by Commissioner Amber. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Whitley County resolution associated to the problems caused by domestic violence was passed with a motion from Commissioner Amber. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrupf discussed with issues with not having a water softener at the Government Center Building. It would prolong the life of the new pumps if we had a water softener to reduce the lime build up. It just recently cost the County \$12,473 to replace the pumps. To install a new water softener would cost the County \$5,585 so the Commissioners want to obtain three quotes. Commissioner Amber made a motion to table this until there are three quotes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrupf also state that dispatch needs new flooring because it is in bad shape. Commissioner Amber would like to take a look at the flooring to inspect it. Mark Sturtevant would also like to purchase gutter guards for the Museum and it would cost the County \$3,400 for gutter guards. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to not do gutter guards at this time and it was seconded by Commissioner Amber. The motion passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Rethlake stated that the Community Corrections building on the work outside has been postponed another two weeks. Gene Heckman, Thorncreek Township Trustee, thanked the Commissioners for the new well at the park. Also, on Saturday, September 27, 2014 they are acknowledging those who have helped restore the cemetery in Thorncreek Township.


There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrupf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Tom Rethlake

Attest: 
Jana Schinbeckler, Auditor