

**WHITLEY COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL
JOINT MEETING
January 20, 2015**

The Whitley County Commissioner and Council met in a joint meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 2:00 pm in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. In attendance were Chairman George Schrumpf, Commissioner Don Amber, Commissioner Tom Rethlake, Council Chairman Tom Western, John Barrett, Kim Wheeler, Bill Overdeer, Paula Reimers, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Eric Katts, Amy Motter, Sean Martin, Mark Hodges, Marcus Gatton, Jeff Hinen, Matt Rentschler, Jason Spencer, and Greg Hockemeyer.

Commissioner Schrumpf called to order this meeting for the Commissioners.
Council Chairman Western called the meeting to order for the Council.

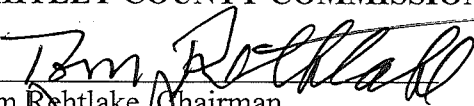
IN THE MATTER OF THE DLZ FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE JAIL AND WORK RELEASE FACILITIES: The DLZ reviewed what they had gone over with the Commissioners at the Commissioner meeting on December 15, 2014. They reviewed their correctional experience, the jail feasibility study, and the work release feasibility study. Eric Katts from the DLZ presented the average monthly inmate population to the Council and Commissioners for Whitley County. From 2009 to 2014, the inmate population has risen by around 40 inmates. He stated that the maximum occupancy rate for a jail should be 80%; Whitley County is operating at 114% occupancy. He projected that Whitley County will need 224 beds in the future and as of right now we have 100 rated beds.

There are two preliminary design concepts that Eric presented to the Commissioners and Council to eliminate our occupancy issue in the jail. The first design was a proposed addition to the current/existing jail. The addition would be built south of the existing jail and it would consist of 124 additional beds. The concern with this addition is that it will eliminate the parking area to the south of the jail. The alternative solution to this would be to build a completely new jail offsite. This would have to be on approximately a four to six acre lot and we would have to transport officers to and from the new jail that would be away from the downtown square. The Work Release facility proposal was to add an addition to the existing structure. This would allow for 40 additional residential beds, add an administrative area, a program classroom area, and it would require minimal renovation of the existing facility.

After all of the preliminary design concepts were presented, Eric gave the Commissioners and Council the probable project costs for the three concepts. For the addition to the existing Jail facility, the hard construction costs would be approximately \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000. This cost and addition again, does eliminate the parking area to the south of the Jail and it does not include a new parking area. Constructing a new Jail that would include 224 beds, Sheriff's office, one courtroom, and associated spaces would cost approximately \$13,500,000 to \$15,000,000. In regard to the Work Release facility addition, the addition would cost approximately \$750,000 to \$850,000. After Eric explained the costs, he presented the probable project schedule for a new Jail and the Work Release addition.

Chairman Western adjourned the Council portion of the meeting at 3:40 pm.
Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the Commissioner portion of the meeting at 3:40 pm.

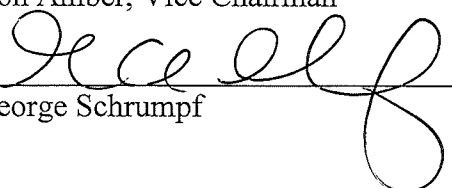
WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tom Rethlake, Chairman



Don Amber, Vice Chairman



George Schrumpf

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Tom Western
Tom Western, Chairman

Kim Wheeler
Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

ABSENT
Jim Bayman

ABSENT
Glen LaRue

ABSENT
John Barrett

William M. Overdear
William Overdear

Paula G. Reimers
Paula G. Reimers

Attest: Jana R. Schinbeckler
Auditor Jana Schinbeckler