

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 16, 2015

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Tom Rethlake, Don Amber and George Schrupf. Others in attendance were County Attorney Dan Sigler, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Mark Parker, Michael Barton, Marcus Gatton, Jody Hollenbaugh, Brandon Forrester, Stanley Crum, Mary Hartman, and Kathy Shively.

Chairman Rethlake called the meeting to order.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Sigler discussed the Inmate Healthcare contract renewal with Sheriff Gatton. Sigler has reviewed the contract and suggested to the Commissioners that they approve the contract as it is. It is for up to three years and nine months and they request a \$15,000 payment up front rather than monthly. This payment would be considered a deductible and they are just changing how it is credited. After review, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Inmate Healthcare contract, seconded by Schrupf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Attorney Sigler also informed the Commissioners that he has been in contact with Cedar Bridge's lawyer and he is hoping to receive something from him by Tuesday. In regard to the ordinance for food trucks in Whitley County, Attorney Sigler has reviewed it. He has also received approval from MaryAnn McClusky and Dr. Lisa Hatcher from the Health department that the ordinance does not violate any health regulations. After discussion, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-01 for Food Trucks, seconded by Commissioner Schrupf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Attorney Sigler stated that he has reviewed the FMLA policy and every employer that he talked to uses the same wording. He recommended that the Commissioners not make any changes to the policy. The next item on the list for Attorney Sigler was the Amendment for the Maximus Contract and he approves the amendment to the contract. After discussion, Commissioner Schrupf made a motion to approve the amendment, seconded by Commissioner Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF BRIDGE PLAN DISCUSSION: County Engineer Brandon Forrester presented his bridge plan discussion to the Commissioners. The sufficiency rating as of today is 86.2 and with that there are 47 bridges with an SR greater than 90 and zero bridges with an SR less than 30. We have gradually gotten to this point where we can say that Whitley County has zero bridges with an SR less than 30. Since at least 1999, we have replaced two bridges per year, 33 total. Brandon explained that we are losing funding for our Cum Bridge fund which would not allow him to replace the bridges that need replaced. For the last six years, average revenue for the Cum Bridge fund is down \$130,000 from the previous five years which amounts to \$780,000 in lost revenue. Per the replacements and repair recommendations from our inspection consultants, if we complete the work they recommend, we will be about \$450,000 in the red after two years. Brandon is requesting that the Commissioners look into some additional funding to replace bridges for the year 2015. After discussion, the Commissioners stated that there is nothing that they can do at this time. Commissioner Rethlake suggested that Brandon take this bridge plan discussion to the next Council meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Director Michael Barton gave the Commissioners a highway update. They are currently in the season of fixing potholes and they are using a patcher at this time to fix the shallow potholes. Commissioner Amber requested that the highway department put a warning sign up for the pothole on Anderson Road. He stated that if there was a warning sign in advance, we can prevent someone from hitting it.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the March 2, 2015 Commissioner meeting were reviewed. After discussion Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Schrupf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. After review and discussion, a motion to approve the claims was made by Commissioner Schrupf, seconded by Commissioner Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: County Coordinator Pam Smith presented requests for permission to use County facilities. The first was for Bart's BBQ for their Grand Opening with a band. They would like to use the Courthouse Gazebo for the band on Friday, May 1, 2015 from 5pm to 8pm. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request with the condition that the area is cleaned afterwards, seconded by Schrupf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second was for the Main Street Association for their event named Taste of the Town Whitley County. The event is being held on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 1pm to 10pm. Commissioner Schrupf made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote. The last request was for the Old Settlers Day Committee to use the Courthouse Square for their Old Settlers Day Festival. They would like to use it from Monday, June 22, 2015 to Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 6pm to midnight. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Schrupf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Pam also discussed the comp time for the public

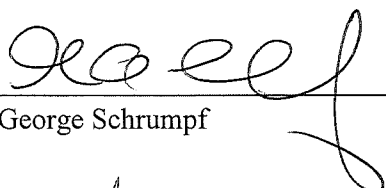
safety and non-public safety employees. The change discussed was that all of the Whitley County employees would get a standard 40 hours comp time rather than having a difference between public safety and non-public safety employees. After discussion, the Commissioners requested that Pam send out an email asking how a change in the comp time policy would affect the departments. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to table the comp time discussion until their next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented a utility permit for Frontier to bore under Anderson Road for telephone service. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the utility permit, seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber stated that there is a parking lot in town that has "Parking for County Employees Only" signs. The parking lot is not being used much and the Commissioners would like to possibly sell it. Commissioner Rethlake stated that he would speak to Mayor Daniel to see if they would like to purchase the parking lot. Rethlake also reported that the Council approved the purchase of a new X-Ray machine for the Courthouse security. The purchase price is going to be \$16,192.00. Coordinator Pam Smith requested she attend a human resources meeting that is being held by the Association of Indiana Counties. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Pam also requested a \$25 claim be paid for Junior Achievement that the Commissioners approve every year. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the payment, seconded by Commissioner Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote. For the records in file management that need caged, Mark Sturtevant from the Maintenance department received two quotes. Option 1 was for \$3,336 and Option 2 was for \$3,186. The only difference between the two was for Option 1, they were using a 9 gauge wire and for Option 2, they were using an 11.5 gauge wire. After review, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Option 2, seconded by Schrumpf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Mark Sturtevant also gave the Commissioners an update on the future maintenance expenses for the Annex, Museum, Courthouse, Government Center, Work Release, and the Jail. The Commissioners also reviewed the 2015/2016 CEDIT Plan. After the Commissioners discussed each of the projects, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the CEDIT plan, seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

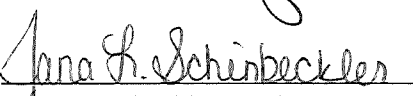
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Tom Rethlake, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman


George Schrumpf

Attest: 
Jana Schinbeckler, Auditor