

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 16, 2015

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 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 Don Amber and Tom Rethlake.

Commissioner Schrupf was absent. Others in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Treasurer Laurell Hodges, Scott Wagner from the Health Department, Council Chairman Tom Western, County Engineer Brandon Forrester, Sheriff Gatton, Janelle Schmitt and Jody Hollenbaugh from the Sheriff's department, Highway Director Michael Barton, Nick Rupert from the Post and Mail, Stanley Crum, EMA Director Amy Biggs, and Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library.

Chairman Amber opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: County Attorney Dan Sigler presented a lease agreement to the Commissioners for the parking lot on Van Buren Street with Billy Reffitt. Attorney Sigler stated that it needs to be given to the lessee to review and approve. He also spoke briefly about the Diamond Avenue property and he advised the Commissioners to look into what they can negotiate with the owner.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW CAD SYSTEM: Director of E911 Communications Janelle Schmitt informed the Commissioners that E911 needs a new CAD system. Janelle stated that she has received one quote from Spillman Technologies, Inc. The estimate is for a total of \$362,345.00 which includes software, professional services, and hardware. There is also a charge for second year estimated maintenance for the new CAD system. With this new system from Spillman, E911 would be able to see other County's information such as Allen County. The CISCO CAD system that the County has now is a version behind and they charge the County \$14,000.00 per year for maintenance. It is going to cost the County \$15,000.00 to upgrade to the newest version and there are other updates E911 is not able to do because it is not compatible with CISCO. The Commissioners requested that Janelle receive two more quotes and this matter will be taken under advisement.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT UPDATE: County Engineer Brandon Forrester gave the Commissioners a department update. Bridge 76 located at County Road 800 East, the Allen West County Line Road, has an estimated completion date of the second week of December. The invoice has been submitted to Allen County for the work done to date to be reimbursed 70%. Construction began on November 2, 2015 for Bridge 25 located at County Road 150 South and County Road 575 West. It will take about two to three months for completion depending on the weather and it will cost about \$306,424.00. In regard to bridge inspections, Brandon met with Engineering Resources and INDOT on November 12, 2015. Whitley County is compliant with INDOT and FHWA and we now have 87 bridges vs. 89 previously due to two bridges measuring less than twenty feet which does not categorize them as bridges. Brandon also gave an update on culverts and there are currently six installations complete and one pending. In regard to personnel, Meredith Hoffman is retiring as of January 1, 2016 and there are potential applicants. Brandon would like approval from the Commissioners to post the position. The Commissioners gave their approval to post the position.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Director Michael Barton gave an update to the Commissioners for the Highway Department. He informed them of their plans for next spring which will be quite a bit of sealing on many roads. Michael informed the Commissioners that he would like to purchase a one tandem axle dump truck, which could be ordered now, and possibly one mini excavator for 2016. The estimated cost of the mini excavator is around \$175,000.00.

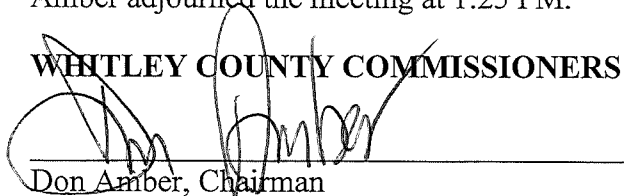
IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY COORDINATOR: County Coordinator Pam Smith informed the Commissioners that the personnel committee refactored a position in the Sheriff's department. There has been an increase in the salary for the position which has gone from Accounts and System Coordinator to Office Manager. Pam stated that she will be presenting this change to the Council for approval.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the November 2, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber, and carried with a 2/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber, and carried with a 2/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented two re-appointments to the Commissioners for the County Board of Health. The first re-appointment was for Mark Burkett, D.O. and the second re-appointment was for Russell Gilliom, D.D.S. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve both re-appointments, seconded by Amber, and passed with a 2/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Amber adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM.


WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Don Amber, Chairman

George Schrupf, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake

Attest: 

Jana Schinbeckler, Auditor