

## WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 20, 2016

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 20, 2016 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 Schrumpf, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Commissioner Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pamela Smith, Brittney Bireley, Zac Bireley, Joan Null, Stanley Crum, Treasurer Laurell Hodges, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold, Debra Darr from Whitley County Council on Aging and Highway Director/Engineer Brandon Forrester.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY:** Attorney Sigler stated that the work continues for Restoration Medical Polymers to get their bond work completed. July 6, 2016 is the date for the bond inducement by the Council. Sigler stated that he will not be at the Commissioner's meeting on July 5, 2016. Sigler has reviewed the truck lease for the Highway Department and gives his approval for the Commissioners to approve it. There have also been some deed issues in the Auditor's Office; Attorney Sigler stated that if the deed is not accurate, the Auditor's Office needs to reject it. In regard to the agreement with Umbaugh, Attorney Sigler also gives his approval to the Commissioner's to accept the document. He has spoken with Marcia McNagny in regard to the Wheeler property and there have been discussions but no detail at this time.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE GRANT SIGNATURE:** Debra Darr from Whitley County Council on Aging presented a grant request to the Commissioners for their approval. It is the same grant that the Council on Aging receives every year. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-06 for the grant, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Council on Aging has a total of fifteen vehicles which includes vans, trucks and buses. Debra also informed the Commissioners that Council on Aging will go outside of the County if the transport originates in Whitley County.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY/ENGINEERING UPDATE:** Highway Director/Engineer Brandon Forrester presented a request to the Commissioners for Kevin Alexander. Due to the Highway Department being excessively busy with changes, he is requesting that Kevin receive an extension to take three days vacation. He will use the three days vacation within the next two weeks. Commissioner Amber made a motion to allow the extension, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Brandon gave an update on the roads and the status of chip sealing the roads. In regard to the truck lease, Attorney Sigler approved the truck lease and the Highway department has been invoiced for the Selking portion of the trucks. The lease is set up as a three year lease with three payments of \$67,091 per year. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Brandon reported that Niblock has begun the work on 600 east and he has sent an email to the EDC requesting them to notify the businesses of the road closure. In regard to the bridge grant with the State, they have given an extension to apply for the grant. The State is changing the rules and each County that applies must have an asset management plan and it must get approved by LTAP. Brandon reported that Kevin Alexander's job description will be going to the Personnel Committee to be re-factored at their next meeting. Commissioner Schrumpf requested to Brandon that the Mowrey drain not be sprayed for a few years. The walls are caving in and Schrumpf would like to see some plants grow to aid in holding the walls. They have tried cement to hold the walls but it is not holding and the banks need cut back. Brandon stated that the vendor plans to spray the drain between now and July 15<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Schrumpf requested that Brandon wait to spray the drain until this issue can go through the Drainage Board to make a decision.

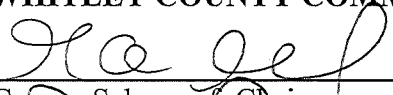
**IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** The minutes from the June 6, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by

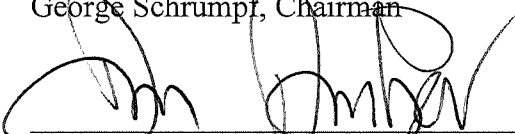
Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** Brittney and Zac Bireley presented a request to the Commissioners in regard to a driveway issue. There is private driveway located in an unapproved right-of-way. Brittney and Zac stated that they would maintain their own driveway and the County would not be responsible for it. With the Commissioners approval, it would give them physical access to their property. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request and Rethlake seconded the motion with discussion. This is the way that the property has always been accessed and it is family owned. The Bireley's presented pictures to the Commissioners to show them the property they were referring to. They just need the official approval to put an improvement in the public right-of-way. There are no sewer issues with the property and with it being a private road; it is at the landowner's expense. The Commissioners completed the motion and it passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Rethlake reported that there are 73 occupants at the Work Release facility and 113 at the Jail. He also reported that the sprinklers have been replaced and work is completed at the Work Release facility. Commissioner Amber stated that there was a safety committee meeting. The majority of the discussion was about Community Corrections. The person at the door is vulnerable to the outside and anyone can see the person inside. There were suggestions, such as increase the exterior lighting, to help protect the person at the door. Commissioner Schrupf reported that there are some issues at this time with the EDC. He will report to the Commissioners when he knows something further. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented a request to the Commissioners to approve the agreement with Umbaugh to help with budgeting for the 2017 budget year. Attorney Sigler has approved the agreement. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners recommended putting the fees for Umbaugh into the 2017 budget. Commissioner Schrupf stated that the exterior lighting at County Line Road, 800 East, has been paid for monthly by the Redevelopment Commission. The Redevelopment funds can no longer fund the monthly bill and either the County has to begin paying the bill or they need to look at other options. The Commissioners decided to table it at this time. The Economic Development Corporation will be presenting their 2017 budget at the next Commissioner meeting. Stanley Crum made a few suggestions/comments to the Commissioners in regard to the drain issue.


There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting at 3:05 PM.

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
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George Schrupf, Chairman

  
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Don Amber, Vice Chairman

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Tom Rethlake

Attest:   
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Jana Schinbeckler, County Auditor