

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 3, 2016

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 3, 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 Schrupf, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Commissioner Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Tom Western from the County Council, Jennifer Christie from the JDAI Program, Chief Probation Officer Amy Motter, GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Fred and Ann Warner from Warner Holdings, Joan Null, Stanley Crum and Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Sigler reported to the Commissioners that the Whitehead case has been settled. In regard to the Wheeler case, it is still an ongoing process and it still needs an agreement done in writing.

IN THE MATTER OF A CREDIT CARD REQUEST: Jennifer Christie from the JDAI Program (Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative) is requesting a County credit card for JDAI business. They need equipment such as computers. Per the grant they are required to purchase lunch for meetings, a new projector screen and an abundance of travel for training they are required to attend. Jennifer is requesting a card so they do not have to use someone else's every week. All of the expenses are grant funded and have already been given approval for purchases. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the credit card request, seconded by Rethlake with discussion. Commissioner Rethlake asked if the computer maintenance would be funded by the grant and it will be. After discussion, the motion to approve the credit card request passed with all in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST: Chief Probation Officer Amy Motter presented a request to the Commissioners for additional funding. The request is for the CAGIT fund for institutional care. The Council in the past has approved \$150,000 for the institutional care line item but for 2016 they only approved \$70,000. The line item is in the negative and Amy is requesting an additional \$25,000 to get them through to the end of the year. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council to make the appropriation for \$100,000 which would be an additional appropriation of \$30,000. Commissioner Rethlake seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING CLASSIFICATION: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented an ordinance to the Commissioners amending a zoning classification from Warner Holdings, LLC. The request is to rezone a property located at the far southeast corner of the County. The proposal is to go from Agricultural District (AG) to General Commercial (GC) to allow for certain commercial uses to the property. The petitioner is currently requesting the amendment for zoning classification to have an automobile and restoration shop as well as a storage facility. The petitioners would be using existing buildings for this business. The vote from the Planning Commission was 7/1 with a favorable recommendation to the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Rethlake with discussion. Rethlake asked if there were any comments or concerns from the surrounding landowners and Nathan stated there were not. The motion passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY: GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold gave an update to the Commissioners for the County's aerial photography. Dan stated that there is a possible aerial flight scheduled for 2017. The photos from the 2015 flight were not to the County's standards so the company flew again in 2016 and the 2016 photos are on the internet now. The State is now deciding that they are going to fly for aerial photography for the Eastern part of the State in 2017 and counties can purchase it at a reduced price. In order for Whitley County to

purchase the State's 2017 aerials, the price would be \$20,234.91. He has been seeking funding from different departments for the State's aerial photos. The Sheriff and 911 have both contributed \$5,000, the Auditor contributed \$2,000 and the Assessor contributed \$3,500 for a total of \$15,500. Dan has a GIS implementation fund and he has also contacted the City and towns within the County for funding and they have taken it under advisement. In regard to the contract we are under with the aerial photography company, Dan would like to postpone their next flight until 2020 when the new high school is built. Dan recommended that a fund be set up for the GIS aerial photography to be paid for every three years. The Commissioners recommended that Dan have Attorney Sigler create inter local agreements to contribute funds to aerial photography with the City and towns. In regard to the contract with the State, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Dan to sign the contract if Attorney Sigler approves it, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SPEED LIMIT AND STOP SIGN ORDINANCES: Sigler stated that he has reviewed and approved the speed ordinances that were given to the Commissioners from Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester. Commissioner Rethlake stated that he had some concern over both ordinances. A similar request for a speed ordinance had been done in the past and the Highway Department, at the time, stated that the County is not able to control speed by a stop sign or a yield sign. Attorney Sigler stated that he would look into the statute regarding speed control. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to table the stop sign ordinance and the speed limit reduction ordinance, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the September 19, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction. Under "In the Matter of BIS Digital" the minutes read, "BIG Digital..." and it should read, "BIS digital...". Commissioner Rethlake seconded the motion and motion passed with all in favor. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY COORDINATOR: County Coordinator Pam Smith presented a request to the Commissioners to use County facilities from the Columbia City Fire Department for the Candy Giveaway on December 24, 2016 from 5:30 to 9:00 PM. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion for the request to be approved, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Pam presented the 4/2 Holiday Schedule to the Commissioners for the Sheriff's Department. The difference from the regular Holiday Schedule is they removed President's Day and added Easter. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the 4/2 Holiday Schedule, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote.

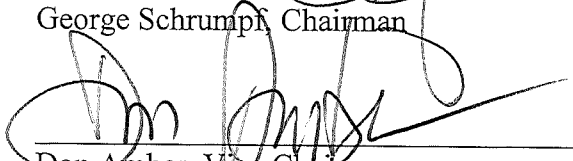
IN OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Rethlake reported that there are 78 people in Community Corrections and 114 in the Jail. Rethlake stated that he has some concerns with County credit cards. Commissioner Amber stated that he has some concerns for the homeless people around Whitley County. The Commissioners decided to ask the City Police to stop and talk to them and see if they can offer any assistance. In regard to BIS Digital, Commissioner Rethlake recommended that the County wait until next year to make a decision for the 2018 budget year. In regard to Veterans Day 2017, Commissioner Amber made a motion to ask the Treasurer to change the tax bill due date to November 13, 2017, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrupf presented a PTO policy to the Commissioners for approval. The Personnel Committee has created the policy and met with Department Heads twice to work out any issues the policy may have. After review, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the PTO policy effective January 1, 2017, seconded by Schrupf and passed with a 2/0 vote with Rethlake abstaining. Commissioner Amber recommended that the Commissioners purchase a box of sympathy, get well soon, thank you cards, etc. to send to employees. The Commissioners came to a consensus to allow Pam to purchase the cards.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting at 2:33 PM.

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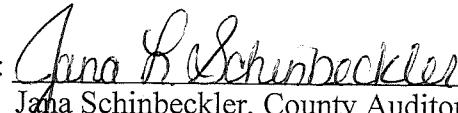
George Schrumpl, Chairman



Don Amber, Vice Chairman



Tom Rethlake

Attest: 

Jana Schinbeckler, County Auditor

