

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 20, 2017

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 20, 2017 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, Commissioner Don Amber and Commissioner Thomas Western. Others in attendance were County Attorney Matt Shipman, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Council Chairman John Barrett, Barbara Hohenstein, Orry Cummings from SmartWatt, Kim Erdly from the Assessor's Office, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Stanley Crum, Joan Null, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, EMA Director Amy Biggs, Jay Lockett from the Post & Mail, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, Scott Wagner from the Health Department, Dave Hall and Nina Rodocker.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Matt Shipman received the contract extension from the Extension Office for the Extension Educators. This is an amendment to the original contract and the only thing that changed was the amount but the Commissioners stated that they would like for Matt to see the entire contract. Commissioner Amber made a motion to table the contract until the Attorney could review it, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to InWelligent, Attorney Shipman stated that the paperwork is ready to be filed and by next week he should have some updated information. In regard to Solstice Medical, Matt stated that we will get funds back but it may not be the entire amount because the attorney they hired is working on dissolving the company.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REASSESSMENT BID: Kim Erdly from the Assessor's Office had a corrected page for the Accurate Assessments bid for the Commissioners to review. The total for the four year contract is \$520,036.00 and the County Attorney has reviewed the contract and given it his approval. Commissioner Amber made a motion to accept the Accurate Assessments bid and contract, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BID OPENING FOR JUNK & TRASH PROJECT: Scott Wagner from the Health Department presented five quotes to the Commissioners for the junk and trash project on Division Road. The first quote was from C & W Excavating, LLC on behalf of Mike Wilcoxson. The quote was for \$3,400.00 to clean up and remove trash and debris on the home site. They will use dumpsters to haul away vehicles and scrap. The second quote was also from C & W Excavating, LLC on behalf of Cory Coffelt with the same expectations. The amount of the quote was for \$4,750.00. The third quote was from Columbia City Iron & Metal, LLC in the amount of \$17,800.00 per the Health Department's specifications. The fourth quote was from Pulver Asphalt Paving, Inc. for \$19,450.00. The last quote was from Tiny Builders and Excavating in the amount of \$48,000.00. Whoever the project is awarded to, they will have 90 days to complete it. Commissioner Amber made a motion to accept the low bid of \$3,400.00 on behalf of Mike Wilcoxson, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLAT APPROVALS: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented two plats for approval to the Commissioners. The first plat was for Windwood Estates and the Plan Commission has already reviewed and approved the plat. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the Windwood Estates plat, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second plat was for J.S.T. Acres and the Plan Commission had approved this plat as well. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the J.S.T. Acres plat, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR FUNDING: Emergency Management Director Amy Biggs came before the Commissioners with a request for a project in regard to AEDs that we house at some of the County facilities. It was the recommendation of the Safety Committee that we move forward and pursue this project to add AEDs to all of our facilities, which is eleven total. Amy sent in a request to the Whitley County Community Foundation for funding of this project and they sent a letter back stating that the request was determined to be outside of the current funding priorities of the Foundation at that time. She then went on to pursue a grant possibility with Parkview through the Parkview Foundation. Parkview stated that they would consider the project but not as a bundled project and they would do it through attrition; about every two years they would potentially replace or add to the AEDs we currently have. She received a letter from Parkview

asking her to apply for a partnership funding and the application opportunity closes on November 22, 2017. Amy stated that the quote is a great price for the AEDs with a total of eleven for \$10,962.60. In the Government Center and Courthouse, the AEDs are only on one level at each building. The Highway Department does not have an AED at this time and neither does the Annex Building or Community Corrections. Amy is requesting permission to proceed to the next step which would be County Council funding approval to support this project. Commissioner Schrupf stated that before Amy moves forward with the request from Parkview, he is on the Whitley County Community Foundation board and he will speak with them. He believes that there is funding available specifically for the County from the Community Foundation.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY UPDATE & QUOTES: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester presented three quotes for a new pickup truck and plow to the Commissioners for the 2018 budget. The first quote was from City Ford in Columbia City in the amount of \$36,495.25 for the pickup truck. The second quote was from Bob Thomas Ford Lincoln in the amount of \$36,108.55. The third quote was from Advantage Ford L- Sales in the amount of \$37,368.59. Commissioner Amber made a motion to purchase the 1 ton pickup truck from City Ford in the amount of \$36,495.25, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the plow for the truck, the first and second quotes were from W.A. Jones for a Boss Steel Power Vee plow in the amount of \$6,193.00 and a Wester Model Plow for \$6,281.00. The third quote was from Hoosier Trailer and Truck Equipment, Inc. for a SnowDogg Plow for \$5,975.00. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the purchase of the Boss Plow from W.A. Jones for \$6,193.00, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Brandon presented the notice to bidders for the annual major supplies for 2018. This is for review and he will be presenting it for approval at the next Commissioner meeting with the bid opening on January 2, 2018. In regard to the LPA bridge contract, INDOT agreed to the breakdowns and Brandon is presenting the same contract but with a little bit different numbers. Due to the numbers being different from the first time the contract was approved, he needs the Commissioner's approval again. Commissioner Amber made a motion to accept and sign the LPA bridge contract, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Brandon informed the Commissioners that the Highway Department had 200 tons of salt delivered and still have some salt left over from last year so they should be ready for winter weather. In regard to the Drainage Board, there are two terms that are up at the end of the year which are David Johnson and Richard Kyler. They have both agreed to each serve another three year term and Brandon recommends their reappointments to the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to reappoint David Johnson and Richard Kyler to the Drainage Board, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF SMARTWATT: Orry Cummings from SmartWatt made a presentation to the Commissioners in regard to an energy savings contract. SmartWatt is a design and build firm, not a manufacturer and they are a Department of Energy qualified energy service performance contractor. Orry stated that the amount of money saved making energy changes to the County facilities, will pay for the projects that they recommend and it will potentially lower the County's utility bills. Orry stated that they have a guaranteed savings which means that shortfalls are reimbursed and there is no direct "out of pocket" costs. Some different examples of how they would conduct County facility improvement measures would be LED lighting upgrades, HVAC system and repairs, emergency generators, energy management systems, water conservation, end of life equipment replacement, solar and geothermal, etc. Orry also gave examples of the amount of funds they saved in Fulton County, Montgomery County and the Town of Minden. The Commissioners thanked Orry for his presentation and stated that they would review his handout.

IN THE MATTER OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT REQUEST: A right-of-way permit request was presented to the Commissioners from NIPSCO. They are requesting to relocate gas facilities for public improvement for construction of the roundabout on County Road 800 East. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the November 6, 2017 regular meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioner's reviewed the payroll claims. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from November, 2017 through November 20, 2017 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

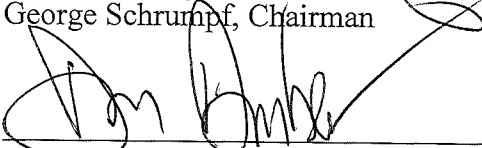
IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: In regard to the permission to use County facilities request for the Whitley County Community Christmas Celebration, the request originally was for December 8th and 9th but should have been for December 1st and 2nd. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the date change for the Whitley County Community Christmas Celebration, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schruppf brought up the discussion in regard to the Department of Child Services. They would like to rent the entire Whitley County Annex building but then the County would need to decide where the office space for the Extension Office would be. Schruppf asked if one of the Commissioners would be interested in creating a committee and being part of solving the issue and how to move forward. Commissioner Western stated that he would be willing to work with the Department of Child Services, the State and the Extension Office to find a resolution. In regard to the aquariums in different County buildings, Commissioner Amber stated that he understands the Immunization Clinic has them to entertain the children that come in for vaccinations and they have a third party care for the aquariums. Commissioner Amber made a motion for no aquariums in any of the County buildings or offices except for the Immunization Clinic, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners stated and agreed that a new policy will need to be put into place.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schruppf adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm.

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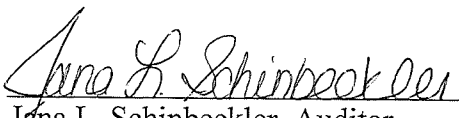


George Schruppf, Chairman



Don Amber, Vice Chairman

Thomas Western

Attest: 

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

