

## WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 7, 2019

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, January 7, 2019 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 Thomas Western. Others in attendance were County Attorney Matt Shipman, County Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator/HR Director Angela Campbell, Chelsea Boulrisse from IN Whitley County, Joan Null, Stanley Crum, Chief Deputy Sheriff Jason Spencer, Jail Commander Sean Martin, Sheriff Marcus Gatton, Leslee Robinson from STAR Insurance, Jordan Martin from STAR Insurance, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library and Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Commissioner Amber nominated George Schrupf for Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber nominated Thomas Western for Vice Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Schrupf and passed with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY:** County Attorney Matt Shipman informed the Commissioners that he has reviewed the lease agreement between the Department of Child Services and the County and the agreement seems appropriate. Nathan Bilger also approached Matt with a question regarding a property that the County owns in Collins. Matt stated by statute, the Commissioners can give the property to an adjacent property owner.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE TABLES IN CELL BLOCKS:** Sheriff Marcus Gatton presented different quotes for different styles of seating and tables in the cells to help eliminate some of the overcrowding of people sitting on the floor to eat their meals. There will be five cell blocks that will get an additional seating area and Sean Martin checked with the State Jail Inspector and the Fire Marshall to ensure it clears the requirements. Sheriff Gatton informed the Commissioners that there are enough funds in the Misdemeanant fund to cover this expense for the additional seating.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW DEPUTY POSITION AND CAR TO COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS:** Sheriff Gatton is requesting a new Deputy position due to the amount of savings to the County if we hired another Deputy at this time. The estimated savings per hire of an experienced officer is \$40,793.24 to the County due to not having to send the Deputy to the academy for 16 weeks. An additional reason for the request is that the State recommends that Whitley County have 21 Deputies and we only have 17. Sheriff Gatton is requesting a favorable pass to Council by the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion for a favorable pass to Council for a new Deputy, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The final request to the Commissioners from Sheriff Gatton was to transfer a vehicle from the Sheriff's Department to Community Corrections. They have a 2013 Dodge Charger that has just over 80,000 miles on it and they would like permission to give the vehicle to Community Corrections. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the vehicle transfer from the Sheriff's Department to Community Corrections, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SEPTIC TANK ABANDONMENT FOR CORDOVA:** Scott Wagner from the Health Department informed the Commissioners that Cordova found the funds to pay a contractor to work on the site to clean up the junk and trash violations along with the septic tank issues. Scott also introduced the new Health Educator, Carlee LaRue, to the Commissioners.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** County Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester requested that he be put on every Commissioner agenda for 2019. Brandon presented the Indiana Department of Transportation LPA agreements for the 2019 Community Crossings grant. There were three projects that were approved so there are three agreements that need signed. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve all three agreements as presented, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Brandon also presented the notice to bidders for all three projects to the Commissioners. In regard to the salt barn, Brandon informed the

Commissioners that it is complete. Angie Campbell notified Brandon that we need to contact Star Insurance and add it to the County's insurance. Brandon presented the plan for the repair and rehabilitation for bridges for the next two years.

**IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS:** Two right-of-way permit requests were presented to the Commissioners from Century Link. The first was to bury service wire pending a service order for a new home construction on Virginia Trail. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was to place buried service wire pending a new order service request on Legacy Court. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** The minutes from the December 17, 2018 regular Commissioner meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. After reviewing 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 December 17, 2018 through January 7, 2019 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 THE 2019 BOARD APPOINTMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:** The Commissioners reviewed the 2019 Board Appointments and Assignments. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that he is on the Joint Advisory Board and it is not listed on the document. Paula Reimers, the Pretrial Services Coordinator, requested that the Commissioners make an appointment to the Board for the Pretrial Services Program. Commissioner Amber was nominated to serve on the Board for 2019. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the 2019 Board Appointments and Assignments with these additions and changes, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

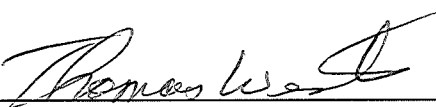
**IN THE MATTER OF THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR/COUNTY COORDINATOR:** County Coordinator/HR Director Angela Campbell informed the Commissioners that Waggoner Irwin and Scheele sent her the draft job descriptions for all employees to be sent out to Department heads. The employees and Department Heads are to review the job descriptions and make any changes necessary, they both sign them and then return them to Angela by January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS:** The Hazardous Materials Response Plan from EMA Director Amy Biggs was reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Response Plan, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Auditor Schinbeckler presented the Extension Contractual Services Agreement between Purdue University and Whitley County to the Commissioners. The amount of the contract is \$107,345.00 and it is the amount the County Council approved for the 2019 budget. Commissioner Amber stated that he would like to have a little more time to review the contract. Commissioner Amber then made a motion to table the contract approval, seconded by Western and tabled with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber expressed his concerns with the Clerk's Office closing from 12 PM to 1 PM for lunch. His concern is that individuals from the public come in to make payments to their office and it is an inconvenience to those individuals if they are closed. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that he agrees. Commissioner Schrumpf informed the Commissioners and the public that he is still working with Attorney Shipman on a contract with the Department of Child Services for them to rent our Annex building.

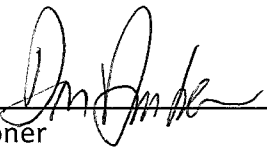
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


  
George Schrumpf, Chairman

  
Thomas Western, Vice Chairman

Don Amber, Commissioner



Attest:

  
Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

