

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 15, 2019

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 15, 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 Thomas Western and Commissioner Don Amber. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Human Resource Director/County Coordinator Angela Campbell, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, Bob and Linda Hoffman, Michael Johnston, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Sonya Emerick, Robert Eherenman, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Denita Patrick, Cheryl Wagers, Becky Salaway from Whitley County Council on Aging, Joan Null and Byron Lamm.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Matt Shipman stated that regarding the property tax case that was initiated on appeal by Doug Dyson. He filed a reply brief and Mr. Dyson stated that he was going to redeem his property and pay his property taxes. County Clerk Cindy Doolittle requested that Matt send out letters regarding the Campaign Finance charges so he is working on this with Cindy. Matt also reviewed a Havel contract for Mark Sturtevant and stated that the contract looks appropriate. County Recorder Rosemary Brown also gave a contract to Matt to review for Fidar. This would be for all of their hosting for the information they store on the server would now be kept with Fidar instead of in house. Attorney Shipman also reviewed the professional services agreement with Construction Control Inc. and has recommended that the Commissioners approve it. This is to provide services to the Commissioners regarding the technical violator's facility. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve and for the Chairman to sign, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE QUARTERLY VOUCHER: Becky Salaway from Whitley County Council on Aging presented the first quarter voucher to the Commissioners for approval. Becky sent all of the information to the Commissioners regarding the voucher before their meeting and the total amount for the voucher is \$78,900.00. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the first quarter voucher and for Commissioner Schrupf to sign as Chairman, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester presented the notice to bidders to the Commissioners for the second half of the projects for the Community Crossings grant. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the notice to bidders, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Brandon stated that he will advertise the notice to bidders this Wednesday and next Wednesday and the bid opening will be on May 6th and it will be one bid for five projects. The Department has also completed the passer rating for their 2019 road plan.

IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS: Four right-of-way permits were presented to the Commissioners. The first request was from Northeastern REMC to upgrade fatigued facilities and bore under West County Line Road South. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was from Mediacom to install duct and cable by directional bore under East South Shore Drive. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The third request was from Nipsco to perform an integrity assessment of the existing gas transmission line under County Road 800 South. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The last request was from David Jones to bore under Magley Lane for a sewage and water supply pipe from their main residence. This is a private utility request so Brandon informed him that he needed to sign a hold harmless agreement with the County. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request with the hold harmless agreement, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR/COUNTY COORDINATOR: Human Resource Director/County Coordinator Angela Campbell presented three requests to use County facilities to the Commissioners. The first request was from the American Red Cross to use the County's parking lot for a Blood Drive on June 5, 2019 from noon to 8:00 PM. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The second request was from the Columbia City Main Street Association to use the Courthouse lawn for a Movie on the Square event on June 7, 2019. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The last request was from Amanda Daniel to use the Courthouse lawn for the National Day of Prayer to celebrate with music, worship and prayer on August 10, 2019. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the April 1, 2019 regular Commissioner meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes, seconded by Amber and

passed with a 3/0. After reviewing the payroll claims, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from April 1, 2019 through April 15, 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 OTHER BUSINESS: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented the Stanley Meyer plat to the Commissioners for approval. The Plan Commission has reviewed and approved the plat. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the Stanley Meyer plat, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Nathan also sent a memo to the Commissioners for an alternate BZA member appointment. Elizabeth Deckard, a current Plan Commission member to the BZA appointed by the Commissioners, has a conflict of interest in a pending case for which she must recuse herself, which has resulted in a split vote. There are three citizen members as options to appoint as an alternate: John Johnson, Joe Wolfe and Brad Wolfe. Commissioner Amber made a motion to appoint Joe Wolfe as the alternate member of the BZA, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Nathan also reported to the Commissioners that he will be presenting the Emerick rezoning to them next month.

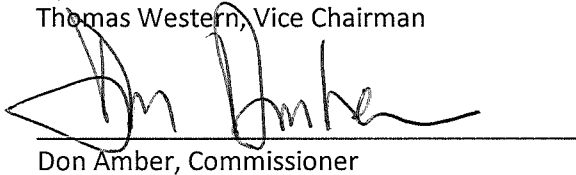
In regard to the projects that Mark Sturtevant presented at the last Commissioner's meeting, the City is actually repairing the sidewalks around the Courthouse so Mark no longer has to repair them. He would like to come before the Commissioners and Council again to get approval for other projects since the County no longer has to fund the repairs for the sidewalks.

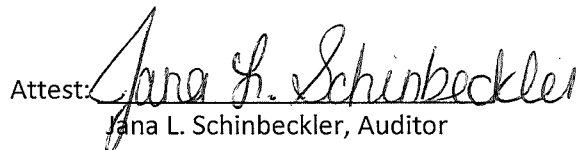
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting at 1:45 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrupf, Chairman


Thomas Western, Vice Chairman


Don Amber, Commissioner

Attest: 
Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor