

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 6, 2019

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 6, 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 Schrumppf, 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, Amanda Lawrence from SJCA Engineers & Surveyors, David Raypole, Kevin Kellermeyer, Janelle Schmitt from the Sheriff's Department, Brandon Rittenhouse, Stanley Crum, Sonya and Brian Emerick, Trent Miller, Tim Holmes from Blue Lake, Sheriff Gattton, Sean Martin and Jason Spencer from the Sheriff's Department, County Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Becky Salaway from Whitley County Council on Aging, Jennifer Shinabery from Planning & Building, Denita Patrick, Tim Kumfer from County Council, Cheryl Wagers, Byron Lamm, Justin York from Brooks Construction and Joan Null.

Chairman Schrumppf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BID OPENING: Commissioner Schrumppf opened the bid opening for the Community Crossings Project RD02-19 for an asphalt overlay. There were four bids turned into the County for the project. The bids were from Phend & Brown, Inc. for a total project amount of \$794,988.50, Brooks Construction Co., Inc. for \$786,485.00, Niblock Excavating, Inc. for \$806,429.00 and the last bid was from E & B Paving for \$825,247.00. Commissioner Amber made a motion to take the bids under advisement, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Matt Shipman informed the Commissioners that Recorder Rosemary Brown gave him an agreement to look at that pertained to hosting through Fidar. Matt stated that the agreement is acceptable. In regard to petitions for rezoning's, Commissioner Amber made a motion to table Petition 19-W-REZ-02, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE INDIANA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD: Kathleen Randolph, CEO of Northeast Indiana Works, which is the Indiana Workforce Development Board. Kathleen was present to request the Commissioner's approval of the Regional Elected Officials Agreement and signature of the Chairman. This agreement is in place for every region in the State of Indiana. The agreement describes the ways that the Regional Elected Official Board will govern some of the activities if the Workforce Development Board. This agreement is the same agreement that former Chairman Commissioner Rethlake signed and the agreement is in effect for three years. The State's Attorney has reviewed the agreement and that is why Attorney Shipman was not asked to review it. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the agreement and allow the Chairman to sign it, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PARKVIEW AMBULANCE DISCUSSION: Trent Miller, Senior Vice President of Emergency Services and Chad Owen, Director of Communications, Flight and EMS Services were present to inform the Commissioners that their business model has changed. In mid-April they implemented a new posting plan that would allow for backfill of their major/core posts to help them improve their compliance to the metric of getting to their patients quicker. They have received feedback from their staff and are going to implement a few changes to maintain their staff satisfaction while still achieving their compliance rates. Commissioner Amber requested a report of how often an ambulance was not at their post and to see if there is a gap of when they are not covered.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JUNK & TRASH BID OPENING: Scott Wagner from the Health Department was present to request a reappointment to the Health Board for Dr. Mawhorter for another four years. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the reappointment of Dr. Mawhorter, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the 5499 North Fish Hatchery Road property, Scott needs to have third party testing completed and it will cost \$1,278.50. This is to ensure the cleanup of the property was done properly and to code. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the invoice for the testing, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Scott also presented a five year staffing plan to the Commissioners explaining his plans for budgets for the next five years.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REZONING REQUEST: Jennifer Shinabery from the Planning & Building Department presented the rezoning Petition 19-W-REZ-04 to the Commissioners for their approval. The Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation and the petition was filed by Robert and Linda Hoffman to go from the zoning classification of "AG" Agricultural District to "RR" Rural Residential District. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the rezoning request per Ordinance 2019-04, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request Jennifer presented to the Commissioners was rezoning Petition 19-W-REZ-05. The Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation and the petition was filed by Micropulse, Inc. to go from the zoning classification "GC" General Commercial District to "IPM" Industrial Park/Manufacturing District. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the rezoning request per Ordinance 2019-05, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners also reviewed their alternative Board of Zoning Appeals member. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve Troy Joe Wolfe as the alternate citizen member with a term beginning April 15, 2019 and ending January 1, 2022, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE VOUCHER SIGNATURE: Becky Salaway from Whitley County Council on Aging presented an Indiana Department of Transportation contract invoice/voucher to the Commissioners for approval. The voucher was in the amount of \$28,800.00 for a 2019 Dodge van. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the voucher, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PIER REQUEST ON BLUE LAKE: Tim Holmes, representing some of the homeowners on the East end of Blue Lake, was present to request permission to place a pier on the peninsula at the east end of the lake. The land has been vacated and Mr. Holmes believes that the Commissioners are the owners of the vacated property. Attorney Shipman stated that he would investigate the matter and let the Commissioners know what he finds out. Commissioner Western made a motion to table until their next meeting, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JAIL SHOWERS: Sheriff Gatton informed the Commissioners that he does not have an actual true cost for the showers because the labor is not included in their quote. He is also coming before the Commissioners for a favorable pass to Council for insurance money to be re-appropriated to purchase another vehicle. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Sheriff Gatton stated that he is also looking into other options for inmates due to the overcrowding at the Jail. He would like to move male inmates to other County Jails to make room for more of the female inmates. In order to send inmates to other facilities, it would be \$35 per day per inmate. He would like to send approximately 15 inmates to other facilities, which would be \$525.00 per day and \$191,625.00 per year. He also stated that other Counties will not take female inmates, only male. Sheriff Gatton is requesting the Commissioners look into other options and give him recommendations for a resolution.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester reported to the Commissioners that the department is starting to complete the preparation work for chip and seal and asphalt. He estimates that all of the work for the projects will be completed by September 15, 2019.

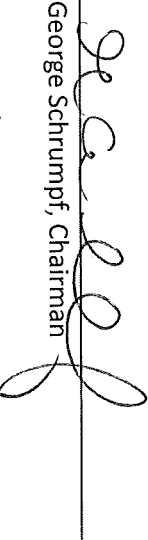
IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS: There were two right-of-way permits presented to the Commissioners for their approval. The first permit request was from Precision Utilities Group to bore under Wilken Road to provide service to the Century Link customer at 2286 E Wilken Road. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was also from Precision Utilities Group to bore under E North Street to provide service to the Century Link customer at 5056 E North Street. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and carried with 3/0 vote.

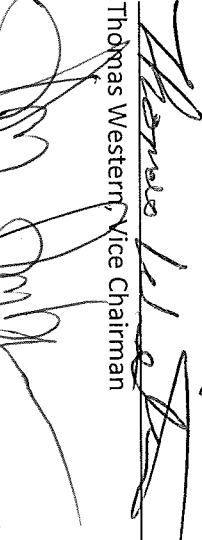
IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the April 15, 2019 regular Commissioner meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0. After reviewing the payroll claims, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from April 15, 2019 through May 6, 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: The Commissioners reviewed the Impac contract for the postage machines in the Auditor's Office and Clerk's Office. The County currently utilizes Pitney Bowes but the contracts are up in June and July. Attorney Shipman has reviewed the contract and given his approval. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the Impac agreement, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.


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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrumpf, Chairman


Thomas Western, Vice Chairman


Don Amber, Commissioner

Attest: 
Jana L. Schinbecker, Auditor