

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 20, 2024

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 20, 2024, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chair Chad Banks, Vice Chair Rob Schuman, and Commissioner Theresa Baysinger. Others in attendance were Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Janelle Schmitt from the Sheriff's Department, Scott Wagner, Jacob Schrader, and Kate Dippold.

Chairman Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AMERICORP/AHA INTERN & PREPAREDNESS GRANT: Scott Wagner and Darcy Hoopingarner were present from the Health Department to seek Commissioner approval to move forward with allowing an intern to work with Darcy starting in October 2024. This intern will be paid by the American Heart Association and be able to assist Darcy with anything that deals with heart health. Attorney Boxberger has reviewed the agreement and added one part that would state that the intern will not be a county employee. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the request and allow for Chair Banks to sign once the final has been approved, seconded by Schuman, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Scott had another item to bring up regarding the Preparedness Grant that the county has been receiving since 2004. This grant might require the employment of a part-time employee to receive the grant funds. Scott does not feel that a part-time employee is needed to continue with the grant, but he is not sure if that will be a requirement for the grant application. Commissioners would like to have Scott come to them after he finds out what the requirements are for the grant.

STATE FUNDING FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Chair Banks stated that after some research and review of the Health First Indiana he feels comfortable with moving forward with opting in for Whitley County. This is something that can be looked at every year, so if this is not the best decision for Whitley County after 2025 Commissioners can decide to opt out. The deadline for opting in is June 1st. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-10, seconded by Baysinger, and carried with a 3/0 vote.

DISPATCH CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE: Sheriff Jason Spencer stated that the Commissioners need to sign the agreement for ERS which is the antenna system for the new jail. This will need to be presented to the Council for appropriations to be paid by ARPA funds. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the agreement and to be paid from ARPA, seconded by Baysinger, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

FACILITIES REQUEST: Commissioners reviewed a facility request from Bryan Maley for May 23rd from 5:30 – 8:30 pm to use meeting room B to bring awareness for the incarcerated individuals. Commissioners want to make sure that Maintenance will be able to have the

building unlocked for the use. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Baysinger, and passed unanimously with a 3/0 vote.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The claim distributions from May 7, 2024, through May 20, 2024, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the account payable claims, seconded by Baysinger and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schuman and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed two sets of meeting minutes. The first was from an executive session on May 8th, 2024, Commissioners Banks and Schuman were present at that meeting. Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Banks and carried with a 2/0 vote with Baysinger abstaining. The regular meeting minutes from May 6, 2024, were reviewed. Schuman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Baysinger, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

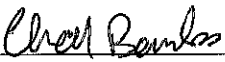
PUBLIC COMMENT:


- Jacob Schrader from Columbia Township Fire Department was present to introduce himself and wants to bridge the gap between township fire departments and the County.
- Kate Dippold from Upstate Alliance of Realtors wanted to introduce herself and give Commissioners a business card to be able to get in contact with her.

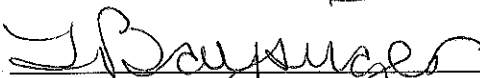
Commissioner Schuman wanted to bring awareness to constituents receiving letters from scammers to get possession of property. He encourages anyone with questions to stop in the Records office or call for more information. There is a free program to enroll in so that the records office can contact you if there is any type of activity involving a constituent's property.


There being no further business and no comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Chair Chad Banks


Vice Chair Robert Schuman


Commissioner Theresa Baysinger

Attest: 
Tiffany Deakins, Auditor