

# WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 17, 2025

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 17, 2025, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. The Commissioners in attendance were Chad Banks, Robert Schuman & Theresa Baysinger. Others in attendance were Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Treasurer Kay Gatton, Recorder Rosemary Brown, County Highway Director Ryan Getts, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Engineer Brad Allen, Community Corrections Director Paula Worden, Chief Probation Officer Edward Beber, Dale Buuck and Abbey Anthoney from EDC, Matt Brinkman from Region 3A, Council on Aging Director James Johnson, Tim Allen and Tony Byrant from Big Eyed Fish and Dale Hinslea.

Commissioner Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Banks started the meeting by having Matt Brinkman from Region 3A give an update on all the work that has been done and is happening within Whitley County.

**EDC UPDATE:** Dale Buuck from Economic Development gave Commissioners an update on Whitley County, BEAD Grant funding and other opportunities for the County.

**CY2024 DEOBLIGATION LETTER:** James Johnson the new Director for Whitley County Council on Aging was present to introduce himself as well as get Commissioner approval for leftover CARES funding to be allotted on the next quarterly voucher that will be presented, totaling \$23,105. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve with Banks signing, seconded by Schuman, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**2026 JUSTICE REINVESTMENT GRANT LETTER:** Paula Worden and Edward Beber were present to seek Commissioner approval on a grant letter for the 2026 Whitley County Community Corrections and Justice Reinvestment Grant. This grant is to continue the current funding of various employees and benefits, this will not be adding any employees. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve with Banks signing, seconded by Schuman, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT 25-1:** Highway Director Ryan Getts was present to seek approval on the community crossing 25-1 notice to bidders. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Baysinger, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**GRANT FUND ORDINANCES:** Health Director Scott Wagner was present with an ordinance that would establish a fund to house another local grant that was given for women's health. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-06, seconded by Schuman, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**REZONING TEXT AMENDMENT & PLAT APPROVALS:** Planning Director Nathan Bilger was present with a zoning text amendment and 4 plats for approval.

- Commissioners reviewed four plats, Chalk Subdivision, Eagle Acres, Lake Luther and N.S. Nothing. After reviewing the plats, Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve Chalk Subdivision, Eagle Acres, Lake Luther and N.S. Nothing., seconded by Baysinger, passing with a 3/0 vote.
- 25-W-ZOA-1 is a request for a text amendment to the zoning code related to indoor and outdoor gun ranges within Whitley County. This comes with a favorable pass from the Plan Commissions February meeting. Commissioner Banks stated that he feels the amendments are not perfect, but that the amendments are a perfect compromise. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-07, waiving the second reading, seconded by Schuman, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**PAYLOCITY HRIS AGREEMENT:** Human Resources Director Jennifer Shinabery was present for Commissioners to sign the agreement with Paylocity for the new HRIS system. This system would allow for improvement with recruitment, on-boarding, employee training and more. The Council voted to accept the cost at their March meeting. Attorney Boxberger has not had a chance to review the agreement, only the quote. He would like to review the agreement and have it be approved at the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**EVAPAR MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS:** Maintenance Director Mark Sturtevant presented four Evapar agreements for the Courthouse, Work Release center, Government Center and the new jail location. These agreements are for maintenance on Generac generators. Attorney Boxberger has reviewed the agreements and worked with Evapar to make updates. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Baysinger, passing with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Banks stated that he was very impressed with the new wall that was built in the breakroom at the government center, his crew did a great job. Mark let Commissioners know that the work on the Work Release kitchen is almost done and the Museum windows are about ½ way completed.

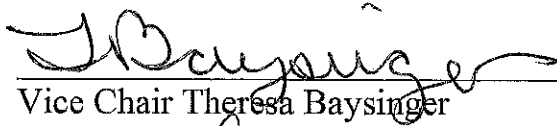
**MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** The claim distributions from March 4, 2025, through March 17, 2025, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Banks reviewed the claims and had a few questions that were answered for him before the meeting. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Baysinger and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Baysinger and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the March 3, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes, seconded by Baysinger, passing with a 2/0 vote with Banks abstaining.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:36 PM.

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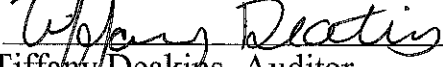
Chair Chad Banks



Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger



Commissioner Robert Schuman

Attest:   
Tiffany Deakins, Auditor

