

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
December 5, 2011

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, December 5, 2011 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Tom Rethlake, George Schrumpf, Commissioner Don Amber was absent. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Dan Sigler, Otto Boschet Jr, James Thomlison- Post & Mail, Michael Barton, Scott Wagner, Michael Stanford, Ned Hart – IKON, Dave Sewell and Brandon Forrester.

Commissioner Rethlake called the Commissioner meeting to order, a special session was open to accept all the Highway annual bids and quotes for 2012. Commissioner Rethlake welcomed all the vendors and thanked them for attending the meeting. Bids 1 -12 were opened and read aloud and Quotes 1 – 5 we opened and read aloud. All the information will be logged and put in a spreadsheet and posted with the minutes from this meeting awaiting approval from Michael Barton and Brandon Forrester. At this time the meeting was recessed.

Commissioner Rethlake reconvened the meeting at 1:00pm.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Minutes from the November 21, 2012 we reviewed a motion to approve was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote. In regards to the Claims for distribution on December 5, 2012, Commissioner Amber had previously reviewed claims, questions asked were in regards to payment to Total Performance could this product been purchased locally, payment for the Automated Cash Warrant system from the Commissioner's budget, the funds generated are deposited into County General that is why this is allocated from the Commissioner budget. Report on the cost saving for the Jail from Energy Grant that was implemented last year, after discussion a motion to approve claims was made by Schrumpf, seconded Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY ATTORNEY: Dan Sigler, County Attorney, updated the Commissioners on some legal matters concerning Whitley County. Judgment litigation on the Goble case summary and what the County will be responsible for. No news on the EMS contract with Parkview Whitley at this time. There is still pending medical charges for an inmate that will be determined at a later date from Parkview. Sheriff Hodges brought before the Commissioner's the fees for the Tax Sale cost, he wants a new County Ordinance drawn up that increases the cost from \$53 to \$83.00 for each Tax Sale performed by the Sheriff Department. The cost is then paid by the attorney to reimburse the work the Sheriff department does in preparing forms, notifications and time actually involved the day of the sale. Sigler will review and update the Ordinance and bring back to Commissioner's for approval and signatures. Also questioned from Commissioner Rethlake was a request for the County to mark a Bike Trail that would run between Columbia City and South Whitley. With designating the path Rethlake wanted to know what liability that would put on the County. Attorney Sigler recommends a disclaimer be implemented on the signs for the County not being responsible in case of an accident.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS: Scott Wagner, from the Health Department, came before the Commissioner with three current County Health violations. The first violation was a Court Order clean up that was supposed to be cleaned up by December 1, 2012. Two bids came in and Wilkinson & Sons was granted the job with a bid of \$3450.00 this money will be put on the property as a lien and reimbursed to the County when paid. A motion to allow the clean up was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried for approval with a 2/0 vote. Second violation was contaminated meth house, the charge will be for testing only, no clean up the cost came in at \$1452.00 to test the structure and a lien will be accessed to the property at the time of the cost. A motion to allow the testing was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote. The last violation is Well Ordinance violation where the well casing was open at a home in foreclosure and a fire had been at the home. Scott was directed to notify the mortgage lender of the situation and give them 15 day to correct the problem before enforcing the lien on the property to fix the well or cap the well head off from further risk of contamination.

IN THE MATTER REZONING: Dave Sewell from Building and Planning presented the Commissioner's with a request to rezone a 1.5A piece of property located at State Road #14 and County Road 700 East Section 1 Jefferson township from VC Village Commercial To RR Rural Residential District for Michael Stanford. The Plan Commission gave this request a favorable recommendation. After discussion a motion to approve the Ordinance #2011-09 for rezoning was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY: Michael Barton gave an update of the Highway business. There will be a 2-3 week wait before starting on the Gateway project. The highway crew is working on maintenance with some equipment and brush control. Signs were designated at all the High Water areas last week. The last payment for the truck will be paid.

IN THE MATTER UTILITY PERMIT: A utility permit was presented from Nipsco for work on Governors Drive and 304 feet north of E Lincolnway. A motion to sign permit was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY COORDINATOR: Amy Crickmore, presented a request for the use of County property for the annual Fire & Ice Celebration, the dates are January 20, 21, and 22, 2012. After discussion on how the event has grown over the years and how well attended the event is becoming, a motion to approve was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried for approval with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER SPYGLASS CONTRACT: Discussion on the Spyglass contract that was previously presented to the Commissioners and how it would be implemented in cost savings for the County on phone, cell phone and internet charges. A motion to go with Spyglass for a one year contract was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Tabled the Chamber request for Board members until next meeting and awaiting cost for membership on a Government entity. Signed an Amendment to Service Agreement with the SRI Company noting that they are using E-verify program for employees and all new hires at there location. OCRA Grant now approved for Coesse water system for \$39,600 leaving a cost to the County and City of around \$2200 from each district. Regional Partnership Code of Ethics for all new businesses locating in the area from Economic Development. Ned Hart from IKON spoke on behalf of the request for a copier in the Records office and working on bids for the entire County coming back for the January 17, 2012 meeting.

With no further business or comments from the public the meeting was adjourned.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom Rethlake, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

George Schrumpf

Attest: _____
Jennifer McGuire
Auditor