

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 18, 2025

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 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 and Commissioner Robert Schuman. Others in attendance were Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Recorder Rosemary Brown, County Highway Director Ryan Getts, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Engineer Brad Allen, Leslie Blakley with Council on Aging and Councilman Thomas Warner.

Chair Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

EDC UPDATE: Dale Buuck from the EDC was present to give Commissioners an update on broadband within Whitley County. Surf Internet and Ligtel both submitted applications for the BEAD grant. Dale also stated that a few years ago legislation set aside roughly 30 million dollars for medical and orthopedic companies within Indiana. Dale is going to try and get some of those funds to be brought local with all the great companies that Whitley County has that would fit in that bucket.

GRANT FUND ORDINANCES: Health Director Scott Wagner was present with two ordinances that would establish funds to house local grants that were given for women's health and suicide awareness. This is from the guidance of State Board of Accounts. With only two Commissioners present the second reading of the ordinances cannot be waived. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-03, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-04, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote. Both ordinances will be passed with the second reading at the March 3rd meeting.

VEHICLE LEASE AGREEMENT AND 4TH QUARTER VOUCHER: Director Leslie Blakley was present with 3 action items for Commissioner approval.

- 2024 4th quarter voucher in the amount of \$92,951. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote.
- Updated lease agreement for vehicles. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote.
- 2025 purchase agreement for two medium-sized transit buses. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote.

HUMANE SOCIETY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Commissioners and the County Attorney have reviewed the memorandum of understanding between the County and the Humane Society. The only change is the date, the agreement is still for \$25,000. Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Banks and passed with a 2/0 vote.

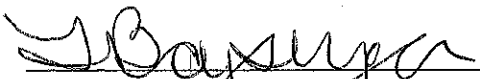
OTHER BUSINESS: Attorney Boxberger feels that the agreement for purchase with Koorsen needs to be updated. There are things that need to be updated before Commissioners should sign. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the request with updates that Boxberger deems necessary, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote. Once those changes are made and Boxberger has reviewed Banks will sign the agreement.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The claim distributions from February 4, 2025, through February 18, 2025, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Schuman reviewed the claims and saw no issues. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Banks and passed with a 2/0 vote. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Banks and passed with a 2/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the February 3, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes, seconded by Banks, passing with a 2/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.

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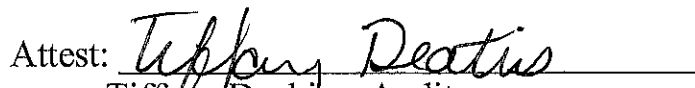
Chair Chad Banks



Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger



Commissioner Robert Schuman

Attest: 

Tiffany Deakins, Auditor