

# WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 1, 2025

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 1, 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 Chair Theresa Baysinger, Commissioner Robert Schuman and Commissioner Stacey Petrovas. Others in attendance were Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Attorney Boxberger, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Health Director Scott Wagner, Commissioners' Assistant Angela Brown, HR Director Jennifer Shinabery, Community Corrections Director Paula Worden, Highway Director Ryan Getts, Karli Hendry, Amy Bechtold, Jim Johnson from Council on Aging, Clerk Cindy Doolittle, Deputy Clerk Debbie Beers, Todd Geiger, Janelle Schmitt, Deputy Sheriff Todd Cook, Sheriff Jason Spencer, Deputy Maddox, Deputy Stoffel and Brant Benson from Ag Plus.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE BIDS FOR THE 2026 HIGHWAY ANNUAL MAJOR SUPPLIES:** The Commissioners opened bids for the 2026 annual major supplies for the Highway Department and heavy equipment bids for the Engineering office. After reviewing all the bids Commissioner Schuman made a motion to take the bids under advisement until Ryan and Brad have had a chance to review and make recommendations, seconded by Petrovas, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Those individuals that wish to see all bids that were turned in can do so via the county website once they have been published or by stopping at the Highway Department or Engineering office. Bid opening was completed at 1:28 pm.

Chair Baysinger opened the regular meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3rd QUARTER VOUCHER FOR WHITLEY COUNTY TRANSIT:** Jim Johnson from Council on Aging was present to get approval for the 3rd quarter voucher request. The amount of the request is \$61,559. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote. Jim also gave Commissioners an update on their vehicles and some changes that are coming with advertising for county businesses.

**ENGINEER ITEMS:** Engineer Brad Allen was present with several requests/approvals from Commissioners.

- Three items that are wrapped into one motion are for the updated ADA Transition Plan, the updates include removing the old jail from the list and adding the new. The other two documents are for the Title VI Plan and Policy. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve all three items, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.
- The INDOT Signature Authority needs to be updated as Commissioner Banks was the approved signatory. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to appoint Chair Baysinger as the new signatory, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.

- Commissioners reviewed the RQAW Agreement for engineering/consultant work to be completed on CR 100 S. Attorney Boxberger has reviewed and made a few updates to the agreement and a clean copy has been presented. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.
- The S 300 E Bridge documents are not ready and should be available at the next meeting.

**2026 WELLNESS PROGRAM AND HFI CONTRACTS:** Health Director Scott Wagner was present to give Commissioners the updated requested information for increasing the percentage off health insurance premiums that employees can receive for participating in the wellness program. The current program allows employees to receive 10% off with spouses receiving an additional 5% if they participate. Scott would like to increase that to 15% off for employees and 10% for spouses for 2026. Scott would like a favorable recommendation for Council. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to give a favorable recommendation as she feels if employees want to do the work and the financial amount is minimal, seconded by Schuman, passing with a 3/0 vote. Scott also presented 6 Health First Indiana Contracts for 2026 to Commissioners; Attorney Boxberger has reviewed the agreements as well. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the requests as presented, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**VETERAN SERVICE UPDATE:** Josh Smith was present to give Commissioners an update on the VSO office. Josh has been great at getting into the community and schools and has been able to reach 486 veterans in 2025 so far.

**2026 J&K SERVICE CONTRACT:** Commissioner Baysinger stated after speaking with Attorney Boxberger he will be drafting an updated agreement to get to J&K for approval. Baysinger stated that J&K would like to get this as soon as possible. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the contract with amendments if J&K agree with the updates, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**2026 EXTENSION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:** Commissioners received the 2026 Memorandum of Understanding with the Purdue Extension Office. This is the same MOU that is received every year with only the dates and contractual amount being changed. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the MOU, with a second by Petrovas and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**NEW ERA TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT:** Commissioners reviewed an agreement with New Era Technologies that is for the new jail courtroom and the system. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST AGREEMENT:** Commissioners reviewed a contract for 2026 with Shoes & Moore for the ongoing purchasing of goods for county employees. The contract has not to exceed \$10,000 for 2026. Attorney Boxberger has worked with the owners to create an agreeable contract. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Petrovas, carried with a 3/0 vote.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORMS:** Commissioners reviewed two conflicts of interest forms.

1. Jennifer Stephenson supplied a conflict form for the purchase of several invoices' worth of items from Shoes & More, a store that she is part-owner of. The invoices total \$150. Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.
2. Dede Amburgery has completed a conflict form because her husband does paint striping and asphalt work for the county, and she is part owner of Van Am Seal & Coating. The invoice amount totaled \$730. Schuman made a motion to approve, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.


**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:** Commissioners gave Debbie Beers from the Clerks office recognition with 34 years of service and who will be retiring at the end of 2025. Clerk Cindy Doolittle wrote a nomination letter asking that Commissioners recognize her for her service, Debbie also gave a touching speech regarding her time with Whitley County Government.

**MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** The claim distributions from November 18, 2025, through December 1, 2025, were reviewed by Commissioner Baysinger. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schuman, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Schuman, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes from the November 17th meeting. Commissioner Schuman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Petrovas, passing with a 3/0 vote.

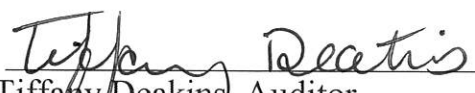
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Baysinger adjourned the meeting at 1:57 PM.

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
Commissioner Theresa Baysinger

  
Commissioner Robert Schuman

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Commissioner Stacey Petrovas

Attest:   
Tiffany Deakins, Auditor

