

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 17, 2014

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 17, 2014 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrumpf and Don Amber. Commissioner Tom Rethlake was absent. Others in attendance were County Attorney Dan Sigler, County Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pamela Smith, Highway Director Michael Barton, Tom Payne, Mark Jesse, Tim Misiore, Stanley Crum, and Joan Null.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Sigler reported that he only has updates on old business. He stated that he has not heard anything from Cedar Bridge in regard to their agreement to repay the County. He informed the Commissioners that we may have to file a judgment against them. Attorney Sigler also reported that he spoke to Jeremy Price from the local DNR office. He found that the DNR is interested in obtaining Camp Samaritan. Sigler stated that we need to have an executive meeting to negotiate the Sheriff's salary. The executive meeting is going to be on December 9, 2014 at 10:00 am.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COESSE SEWER PROJECT: Scott Wagner from the Health Department requested that the Commissioners make a decision on where to pay the funds for the first \$20,000 for this project. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the initial \$20,000 to be paid out of the CEDIT funds from on-site & off-site improvements. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf and passed with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF IGSENERGY: Tom Payne from IGSEnergy informed the Commissioners about the policy adjustment on the NIPSCO bill. Tom explained that this additional cost was due to new infrastructure in Rail Connect Park. Commissioner Schrumpf explained that this additional cost should be paid by the Redevelopment Commission. Tom also explained that Border Energy was bought out of IGSEnergy. He stated that this does not change the contract we are entered into, it is the exact same.

IN THE MATTER OF DITCH BILLING: Brandon Forrester, the County Engineer, was not able to attend the meeting but requested the Commissioners approve the ditch billing that he presented at the previous meeting on November 3, 2014. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented the request again to the Commissioners stating that any assessment no more than \$25 must be paid at the first/spring installment of property taxes. The other ditch billings that we have that are more than \$25 will be evenly billed between the spring and fall installments. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the ditch billing based on the State's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf and passed with a 2/0 vote.


IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Tim Blake, the highway foreman, informed the Commissioners that a resident in the Town of Etna is concerned about speeding. He stated that we do not have a speed ordinance for Etna. Tim presented to the Commissioners that we may not have to have an ordinance. The State code states that a classified urban area, which the Town of Etna classifies as an urban area, is to be 30MPH for the speed limit. Before the Commissioners make a decision on whether or not they are able to do this without an ordinance, they would like Attorney Dan Sigler to look over this first. Michael Barton from the highway department informed the Commissioners on the transportation meeting that was held with the schools and other emergency services for the upcoming winter. George concluded at the end of the meeting that there needs to be communication between everyone at all times in the case of a snow emergency. Michael also stated that the price for salt has increased from \$62.00 to \$100.00 per ton.

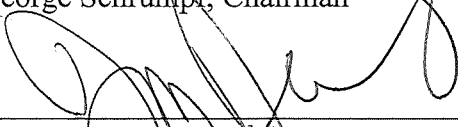
IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the November 3, 2014 meeting were reviewed. There was one correction under "in the matter of the Highway". The minutes should read, "This is for all of the major supply bids for 2015, all bids must be sealed and must be received at the Auditor's office by 9:00 am on December 1, 2014 prior to the 10:30 am bid opening". Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the minutes, with this correction, from November 3, 2014; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf and passed with a 2/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf with discussion. They would like the County Coroner Randy Dellinger to come to the next meeting on December 1, 2014 to discuss his mileage claims. The motion to approve the claims passed with a 2/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Schrumpf presented the request by the Whitley County Health department for Dr. Michael Mawhorter to serve another four years on the Health Board. His current term expires December 31, 2014 and his next term would be from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Dr. Mawhorter's appointment, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf and carried with a 2/0 vote. County Coordinator Pamela Smith gave the Commissioners an update from the last meeting in regard to the Health Bus. She stated that we did get eight employees who want to have the screening done for \$179 each. We did get an additional eight employees who wanted to do it so there was a total of sixteen employees. Attorney Dan Sigler reviewed the contract for the Health Bus and he approved it. Pamela also presented the Holiday Schedule for the 4 on 2 off employees in the County. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the 4 on 2 off holiday schedule, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf and carried with a 2/0 vote. Pamela announced that the December Holiday Luncheon Celebration for the County employees will be December 12, 2014 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Commissioner Amber requested that Auditor Jana Schinbeckler find the Snowmobile Ordinance that the County has in place. He would like to see if it needs revised. Commissioner Schrumpf also informed Commissioner Amber that there are surplus funds in the Commissioner budget under the Longevity line item. He proposed that they use those funds to help purchase the snow equipment that Mark Sturtevant from the maintenance department is requesting. Commissioner Amber made a motion to use \$28,000 out of the Longevity line item to purchase the snow equipment and the rest to come out of the CEDIT line item, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Schrumpf and passed with a 2/0 vote.


There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Commissioner Amber made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 2:20 pm.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrumpf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Tom Rethlake

Attest: 
Jana Schinbeckler, Auditor