

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 4, 2011

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 4, 2011 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Rethlake, Vice Chairman Don Amber and George Schrumpf. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Jen McGuire, Amy Crickmore, Dan Sigler, Phil Smith, Brandon Forrester, Jim Hughes - SRI, Stanley Crum, Mark Mynhier, Amy Lybarger NRCS – USDA, Dan Weigold – GIS, Stephen Bolinger, Michael Barton, Otto Boschet, Glen LaRue – WC Council, Tom Payne – Border Energy, scheduled Department Heads.

Rethlake called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Dan Sigler brought forward a Disclaimer for the Beacon GIS website in regards to the Sex Offender Layer that will be implemented by the Sheriff's Department for the approval by the Commissioners. Dan also commented on the number of Contracts entered into by the County if they automatically renew annually the wording needs to be revised so they can be reviewed. The SRI Contract for the 2011 Tax Sales was approved by Attorney Sigler, and a motion to sign was made by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a vote of 3/0 for approval.

IN THE MATTER CLAIMS AND MINUTES: The claims for the April 4, 2011 disbursements were reviewed, brief discussion on Fund #604 EMS Donations and the expense paid out and a motion to approve claims was given by Schrumpf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Review of the prior March 21, 2011 Minutes were approved with a motion by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and carried for approval with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY COORDINATOR: Amy Crickmore reported to the Commissioners that the Whitley County Historical Society requested the use of the Courthouse lawn on June 4, 2011 at 11am for a three hour program in remembrance of D-Day, honoring the WWII Veterans. A motion to allow the use of the Courthouse lawn was made by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and approved with a 3/0 vote. For the second year in a row Rick Upchurch will conduct a Leadership Training class for the Department Heads and the cost will be split between the Sheriff's Department and the County for \$450 on May 18, 2011. A motion to approve the expense of the class was made by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF EEL RIVER WATERSHEDS: Amy Lybarger District Conservationist from the Natural Resources Conservation Service came before the Commissioners to discuss the Grant monies they have been funded by the Federal Government on behalf of the Eel River Watersheds in Whitley County. It is a three year project with \$860,000 allowed to help in the Hypoxic Zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

IN THE MATTER OF PARTICIPATION IN THE GREAT SHAKEOUT: Commissioner Schrumpf brought before the board two requests from Cathy Broxton-Ball, EMA Coordinator. The first request was Resolution of Intent to Participate in the Great Central Shakeout on April 19, 2011 to educate residents of Whitley County if a earthquake disaster struck the area. A motion by Schrumpf, seconded by Amber to participate in the event was given a 3/0 vote. The second request was for Cathy to attend the training for the District Response Task Force and pay accordingly, a motion for approval was given by Amber seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY HIGHWAY REPORT: Michael Barton came before the Commissioners to ask when the next County auction was going to be and some input on disbursing of some equipment from the highway department, or if they could just be advertised and sold. Next on the discussion was the use of calcium chloride on the dirt roads for dust control and if we could charge the homeowner for some of the cost like adjoining counties. Michael updated the Commissioners on roads at the new Rail Connect Park development.

IN THE MATTER OF BORDER ENERGY: Tom Payne reported on the cost saving for the County for the last year. Total cost savings was 7.3% amounting to \$2458.86. Tom let the Commissioner know the contract will continue at no cost. The purchases for gas for next winter will start soon.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Rethlake made reference to the large vending machine purchases by the Community Corrections and that he has spoken with Paula Worden. The Nipsco permit that was tabled the last meeting had to be approved for continued construction at the park, a motion by Schrumpf for approval, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Rethlake let the group know that he had worked with HUD this morning and purchased a abandoned home for \$1.00 that will be given to Community Foundation and the resale monies will

be donated to a non for profit organization. The April newsletter will be done by Commissioner Amber and presented for approval at the next meeting. The joint meeting between the Commissioner and Council will be April 12, 2011 at 8am to discuss the funding for the EMS. A quick update on the progress at Rail Connect Park was given by Commissioner Rethlake and the progress that has been made. Two school groups will be touring the Courthouse, Government Center, and Museum for National County Government Month on April 13 and April 29. Business tours by Government officials to local businesses will be on May 9 and May 23. The third and final group of Department Heads met with the Commissioners to discuss job descriptions, changes or needs in their offices and any large purchases that they will be needing in the upcoming year.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom Rethlake, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

George Schrumpf

Attest:_____
Jennifer McGuire
Auditor