

## WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 18, 2011

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 18, 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 Schrupf. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Jen McGuire, Amy Crickmore, Dan Sigler, Phil Smith, Brandon Forrester, Stanley Crum, Michael Barton, Gene Heckman, Lori Shipman, Joel Moss and Doug Fahl

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

**IN THE MATTER COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT:** Dan Sigler has reviewed the Parkview by-laws and reported back the Commissioners the changes in appointment of Board Members and what happens when a vacancy occurs. After discussion Schrupf made a motion to approve the Parkview Corporate By-laws, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 2/0 vote with Amber abstaining. Attorney Sigler reported to the Commissioners that no garnishments could be taken from a County employees payrolls check without a Court Ordered garnishment, unless allowed by the employee themselves. Dan will be checking into a contractual agreement with Thorncreek Township for the mow and maintenance at the County Park. The Contract for the EMS Consultant was discussed and Dan said the wording was normal, wanted us to check into the mileage allowed and the \$3,000 max pay cap. A motion was made later to approve the Contract by Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER CLAIMS AND MINUTES:** The claims for the April 18, 2011 disbursements were reviewed, brief discussion on Highway claim to Brown & Sons for oil and a motion to approve claims was given by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote. Review of the prior April 4th, 2011 Minutes were approved with a motion by Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried for approval with a 3/0 vote. The minutes from the Special Joint Meeting on April 12, 2011 were approved with a motion from Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried for approval with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:** Michael Barton made the Commissioners aware of the "Meet the Taxpayers" meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday May 4, 2011 at 6pm in the Government Center. Milling will be started on Anderson Road sometime in May and the Calcium Program for the 200' will start on May 9<sup>th</sup> for homeowners at a cost of \$78 for an additional 100' of coverage.

**IN THE MATTER OF SOUND SYSTEM FOR MEETING ROOMS:** Joel Moss from TCSI was here to give a proposal to correct the sound system in the Meeting rooms A and B in the basement of the Government Center. The price for reconfiguring the large room will be \$920 to correct the sound system and a motion to approve was made by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote for approval. Further discussion on the other meeting equipment not being user friendly for the general public was discussed and some other options to simplify things will be looked at for the touch screen and moving the overhead screen at a future time.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY PARK MAINTENANCE:** Gene Heckman the Thorncreek township trustee came before the Commissioner's to discuss the mowing and maintenance at the County Park on Fish Hatchery Rd. At this time Township is maintaining the grounds and has been instructed by the State that we need to enter into an agreement because of funding. Attorney Sigler will check with Ben Gates and draw up some type of agreement that corresponds with the IC codes for the State on behalf of the County and Township.

2:00 pm Meeting adjourned for Public Hearing for the Coesse Feasibility Study

2:15 pm Meeting reconvened.

**IN THE MATTER OF COESSE FEASIBILITY STUDY:** Lori Shipman presented the Commissioner a Resolution authorizing application submission and local match commitment from the County to extend the Columbia City sewer system to the unincorporated town of Coesse. The amount would be \$4840 with a 50/50 split with the City on the cost. A motion to sign and approve the Resolution was made by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR:** Amy Crickmore passed out the schedules for the Business Tours on May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Commissioners. Two request for the use of the Courthouse lawn and gazebo, first for the Peabody Library Summer Concert Series with dates of July 16, July 23, August 6 and August 27 from 5 to 9pm this request was approved with a motion from Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote and second was a request for use of the Courthouse lawn was from Whitley County Ministerial Association for May 5, 2011 from 12 to

1pm for National Day of Prayer, this request was approved with a motion from Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote. Approval for a 3-13 week Short Term Disability for a County employee was approved with a motion by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote. Amy gave the Commissioners notice that a new County employee had participated in the Wellness Draw before their County insurance started, so AGA was going to bill the employee. A motion to pay the \$100 out of the Insurance Trust for the misunderstanding was made by Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried for approval with a 3/0 vote. Brief discussion on the open enrollment for Insurance coming up in May through August, a decision to change the coverage of spouses that are eligible for Insurance coverage at their own place of work will not longer be allowed coverage by the Counties insurance plan effective for the upcoming year. A motion to approve the change was made by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote to change the policy for the Health insurance coverage for spouses of County employees.

**IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMITS:** A utility permit for work done at the new Rail Connect Park from Nipsco was approved with a motion by Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Also a permit was presented by Centurylink for some work in the Laud area on 800 S a motion to approve was made by Amber, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF PLUMBING FOR THE COURTHOUSE:** Commissioner Schrupf reported after reviewing bids for the plumbing work at the Courthouse a decision to go with FlowTech for the work at a cost of \$25,900. Four bids were submitted \$25,900 FlowTech, \$30,370 Van Heating & Plumbing, \$38,500 Redman and \$37,211 Wheeler. A motion to accept the FlowTech bid was made by Schrupf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The work will start the week of June 27, 2011 and any change orders from the original bid will have to be approved.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** Auditor McGuire wanted to know actions needed taken to conduct a County Auction. At this time we will contact all the Department Heads and get a list of any large items for Auction and contact Jim Bayman for assistance in the location and date that will be available. Commissioner Rethlake brought up the meeting dates for May and if a special meeting would be necessary, employee valuations need to be done and the OCRA Grant for Fort Wayne Metals was signed and approved for distribution of funds. Commissioner Schrupf discussed a hut of some sort for the EMA trailers and where it could be located.

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

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Tom Rethlake, Chairman

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Don Amber, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Schrupf

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer McGuire  
Auditor