

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
February 21, 2012

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Don Amber, Tom Rethlake and George Schrupf. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Dan Sigler, Amy Crickmore, Otto Boschet Jr, James Thomlison- Post & Mail, Michael Barton, Brandon Forrester, Katie Wagner, Henry Janda, Scott Wagner, Joan Null, Mark Myhnier, Stanley Crum and Brian Colton.

Commissioner Amber called the Commissioner meeting to order.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: Dan Sigler, County Attorney, presented some contacts for approval. The first one was actually an addendum to the Cedar Bridge probation contact for adding additional days for housing juveniles. Commissioners questioned where the funding would come from for this additional cost. The second contract presented was to Parkview Occupational Health for random drug and alcohol testing for County employees. The contract was for a five year term. After a motion to approve was made by Rethlake it was later withdrawn for further discussion on who was doing the testing for the Highway personnel for the CDL licensing and if the two contract could be combined. County Coordinator Amy Crickmore will work with the Highway for further clarification on this matter before approving. Third was a contract between Whitley County and Region III-A Development for administration cost on a grant reward in the amount of \$8,025 after discussion on this project it was tabled until further explanation from Redevelopment for where the actual payment for the contract would come from. The next contract presented was already approved at a prior Commissioner meeting for the County Attorney the wording needed corrected for the Commissioner's titles in 2012 and signed to reflect the changes. Chairman Amber will represent the County in a lawsuit for a Drainage issue in Churubusco town from a previous year. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to allow Amber a settlement limit of \$2500 for the hearing, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 vote for approval. Commissioner Rethlake wanted to inform Dan that the Wind Turbine ordinance would be coming before the Commissioners in the next couple months and that he should brush up on any laws that would pertain to this issue. The Commissioners informed Dan that the next meeting for Planning on the matter would be on March 21, 2012 at the 4-H Fairgrounds at 6pm if he wanted to attend.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Minutes from the regular meeting from February 6, 2012 were reviewed, a motion to approve was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrupf with a note to correct the name of the Sheriff cars from "Charges" to "Chargers" and carried with a 3/0 vote with the changes. Commissioner Amber had reviewed the claims for February 21, 2012 disbursements, a motion to approve claims was made by Schrupf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSED REFUNDING: Brian Colton, from Umbaugh and Associates came before the Commissioners to present a Proposed Refunding for the Government Center Bonds. With the changes in the interest rates and County rating for a loan the new amount of Annual Lease Rental annually would decrease between \$15,901 and \$30,000 on an estimated calculation of net savings. A motion made by Schrupf to move ahead on the project for refinancing with Umbaugh to send out proposals, seconded by Rethlake allowed with a 3/0 vote. Brian will get with Ice Miller and the Whitley County Holding Corporation and work out some proposals for the project to present at a later Commissioner meeting.

IN THE MATTER HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Michael Barton, Highway supervisor, will work with the Auditor to correct budget cuts for the 2012 tax year. Commissioner Amber and Michael are meeting with Allen County officials to work on the intersections on County Line Rd.

IN THE MATTER ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT: Brandon Forrester, County Engineer, presented a Utility Permit from CenturyLink with favorable recommendations from him for buried cable along 200 East from St Rd #14 through Laud. After discussion a motion to approve the Permit was made by Schrupf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Brandon gave a Bridge closure update for US Business #30, the project will start on March 5, 2012, notifications have went out to all 57 property owners along the route and detour signs will be put out next week to make everyone aware that uses that route. The bridge on 100 South will be complete and a NO trucks sign will be places on that roadway. Brandon also reported that he will have an Intern in his office for two hours a day from the Columbia City High School from March 5 until May 25, 2012.

Two other matters that will need looked into for Drainage issues is Wilkins Rd and North Center Street in Thorncreek township a complaint from the Tri Lake Regional Sewer District via email requesting some locates and Commissioner Rethlake had a complaint from a resident off of St Rd #109 with standing water.

IN THE MATTER CEDIT APPROPRIATIONS: Chairman Amber gave an updated CEDIT two year program using the 75% appropriations required by Indiana statue. The additional monies will be used for funding projects at the Highway. After discussion on making changes if needed for other projects a motion was made by Rethlake to approve the Plan as presented, seconded by Schrupf and carried for approval with a 3/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: The changes presented for the disconnection of lines from Butch Sterner with the Spyglass audit will be tabled until further discussion. Commissioner Rethlake thanked Otto Boschett for his coverage of the Planning meeting and helping set up the room and broadcast the meeting. Discussion on the usage of the land given to the County by the State at Tri Lakes and what needs to be done at the locations as far as improvements and post signs for no trespassing.

With no further business or comments from the public the meeting was adjourned

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Don Amber, Chairman

George Schrupf, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake, Member

Attest: _____
Jennifer McGuire
Auditor