

## **WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**August 6, 2012**

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, August 6, 2012 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Don Amber, Vice Chair George Schrumpf and Tom Rethlake. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Pam Smith, Dan Sigler, Brianne Eichman, Henry Janda, Katie Wagner, Stanley Crum, Michael Barton, Cherie Stark, Susan Farris, David Lehman, Dan Dentzer, Richard Krider, Gene Heckman, Brian Bills, Trent Anglin, Sharon Flenar, Dan Flenar, Renee Gase, Mark Mynhier, John Enrietto, Mark Hodges, Marc Gatton, Charles Vogley, Sean Martin, Jackie Hake, Brandon Forrester and Frank Hoffman.

Commissioner Amber called the meeting to order.

**IN THE MATTER COUNTY ATTORNEY:** Dan Sigler had taken Zoning Ordinance #2012-09 to clarify with Dawn Boyd, the Planning Department's attorney, on the language before the Commissioners signed the Wind Energy Conversion Ordinance that took effect July 19, 2012. It was noted that the "Amendments" had been made by the Commissioners not the Planning Commissioner and that the forty-five day time line had expired and all that the Ordinance needed were to be signed by the County Commissioners. Next Attorney Sigler spoke on behalf of two contracts he had been given to review. The first one was with Maximus to provide reimbursement for the Title IV-D out of the Court system and the second one was with Cassidan Communications for the E-911 equipment Attorney Sigler felt the language needed cleaned up in both Contracts and will work with the Department Head and vendors to correct. The Commissioners tabled both until next meeting for further review. There was an extension in the current Inmate Healthcare Plan at the jail that will run through August 31, 2012. Sigler is still working on the Golf Cart Ordinance with the Commissioners to amend the language for the age of children that are allowed to be a passenger.

**IN THE MATTER JAIL IMPROVEMENTS:** Sheriff Hodges made a presentation on the request for funding an upgrade for the Door Opening System and Security Cameras for the jail. Four companies had submitted quotes for the project Simplex \$210,616, SAS \$152,600, EO \$100,317 and Stanley \$155,848. After reviewing the all the quotes a decision to go with SAS (Security Automation Systems) was decided. After discussion a motion to go to the Council with a favorable recommendation was made by Schrumpf for the upgrade project, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER ANNEX FURNANCE:** The building maintenance, Denny Fenker and Mark Sturtevant came before the Commissioners to report that the furnaces in the Annex building needed to be replaced at this time. They have received two quotes from local contractors Redman Plumbing and Heating for \$7190 and Van Contracting for \$7376, after discussion on replacing all three units and using the existing vent system a motion to give favorable recommendation to County Council was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER COURTHOUSE AND ANNEX LIGHTING:** Denny Fenker and Mark Sturtevant come before the Commissioners with a presentation from Graybar showing that the current T12 ballast and lamps will no longer be manufactured as of July 14, 2012. At this time 1186 ballast and lamps will need replaced throughout both buildings. If the project is done now there is a rebate of \$14.00 being offered by the government. After discussion of the timing and importance of the project a motion to go to Council with no recommendation was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote to let the Council make the decision if the project could be funded yet this year.

**IN THE MATTER CREDIT REQUEST:** Alan Tio, Director of EDC, come before the Commissioners with two request for CREDIT funding out of Project #3 that is used for on-site improvements for economic development throughout the County. The first request was for \$75,000 for BRC Rubber in Churubusco to do electrical infrastructure upgrades for new project line moving to the location out of Canada and creating thirty seven positions over the next three years, the Commissioners liked that this was an existing company expanding locally. The second is for \$25,000 for Westminster that will be relocating to the old Greatbatch building in Park #30 and creating 60 jobs over the next 2-3 years in the medical field.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY:** Michael Barton reported to the Commissioners that the project at Gateway Park for Redevelopment was 80% done and come in with a large cost savings by having the Highway Department do the work. Barton also wanted to request funding from the CREDIT two year program for a new Highway Truck. Also presented was a current map showing all the milling projects that have been completed for the year.

**IN THE MATTER OF DRAINAGE:** Brandon Forrester, County Engineer, presented a culvert project that is on Lincoln Way East and the existing culvert is crumbling from age. After discussion of the options to repair the bridge it was decided to go with a Center Pipe to replace at a cost of \$124,000 from Cum Bridge Funds. The next request was from CEDIT funds to purchase a backhoe that will be used for small jobs and save money out of the County General Fund. After discussion a motion to allow \$35,000 from CEDIT funds for the purchase was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 2/1 vote with Rethlake casting the nay vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF THORNCREEK COUNTY PROPERTIES:** Brian Bills from Camp Whitley and others had recently toured the Camp Samaritan property that was donated to the County by the DNR. At this time the County is looking at returning the property back to the DNR because of the cost and restrictions put on the County for the use of the property. The other property is located along Fish Hatchery Road and is being looked at to sign over to the Thorncreek Township by the County. Commissioner Amber will work on reviewing the restrictions and contacted DNR on how to proceed in giving favorable recommendations to give the property to Camp Whitley and Thorncreek.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS:** Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 16, 2012 meeting as presented, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. The second set of minutes from the Joint Commissioner and Council meeting held July 24, 2012 were reviewed, a motion by Schrumpf to approve ,seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrumpf had reviewed the current claims for disbursement for the County dated August 6, 2012. After discussion a motion to approve was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER GROUP INSURANCE:** After reviewing the options presented by Phillips Financial on the status of the current County Group Health Insurance a motion to increase the current County self-insured plan for the employee contribution to the 30 % was made by Commissioner Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote by the Commission. This change will help funding of the plan and still stay grandfathered in the current insurance plan implemented for the County.

**IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST TO USE COUNTY PROPERTY:** Pam Smith, County Coordinator, presented two request for the use of County property, the first request was for Candle Light Ceremony for Abby Little August 24 from 7-9pm on the Courthouse lawn and sidewalk, a motion to allow was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Second request was for use on November 9 and 10 for the Veteran’s Marathon to use the gazebo and lawn, after discussion a motion to allow was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** A public request from Henry Janda to see why the BZA and zoning information prior to June 2011 were not available in the document center for the public, after discussion Commissioner Amber will look into the situation and give feedback. Stanley Crum wanted to compliment the Commissioners in a “Job Well Done” while visiting other Counties how the Whitley County Commissioners always seem well prepared and willing to address public comments and questions. Commissioner Rethlake reported that the Youth Improvement Center is now accredited by the State as the Etna Troy Learning Center and will be taking application in August for registration. Commissioner updated their 2013 Budget with a \$200,000 appropriation for Liability Insurance. Commissioner Amber signed INDOT Grant for Council on Aging for Jackie Hake.

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

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Don Amber, Chairman

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George Schrumpf, Vice Chairman

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Tom Rethlake, Member

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

