

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 19, 2010

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday January 19 due to the observance of Martin Luther King Day on Monday January 19, 2010. The meeting was held in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Michael D. Schrader, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Member Tom Rethlake. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Sanitarian Scott Wagner, Kim Wheeler, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton, EMS Director Duane Ginder, Kathy Klenke, Roger Barnhart, Denny McIntyre, Kevin Ruch, Jordan Selking, John Peters, Jennifer Zartman-Romano and Post and Mail reporter Chris Meyers. Chairman Schrader called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR CLAIMS: The minutes of January 4 and the vendor claims for January 19, 2010 were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF INCOME SURVEY: Duane Ginder was present to explain that it is possible to do another income survey in regards to applying for a grant for the construction of a new EMS building. He has contacted Ball State University and they suggested using local volunteers to survey two hundred households. Ball State will run the results of those surveyed at no cost to the county. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to allow Ginder to proceed with the survey. The motion passed 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF TRUCK BIDS: Highway Supervisor Michael Barton was present as the commissioners accepted bids for one 2010 Single Axle Truck Chassis. The bids submitted were opened and read aloud for the benefit of the public and then given to Barton for review. The awarding of the bid will be February 1, 2010. Barton also explained that a meeting will be held on January 26 with consultants regarding Liberty Center Road, East County Line Road and 900 South.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: Dan Sigler and Scott Wagner discussed an issue regarding a Junk and Trash Violation and the Linda Ford property. Wagner explained that he had visited the property on the morning of January 19 and found the property to be in substantial compliance and no longer a violation. Wagner suggested closing the case at this time, but will monitor from time to time. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to close the pending Junk and Trash Violation against Linda Ford. The motion passed 3/0. Sigler reported that he is working on two other such violations and will keep the Board informed. Sigler reported on the negotiating of the EMS Contract with Parkview Whitley Hospital and states that until a new contract is put in place, the current contract remains in effect. He did ask for direction in the negotiation of a new contract and Commissioner Rethlake stated that he would be meeting with the Strategic Planning Committee on January 27 and would have more guidance for Sigler after that meeting. A contract for counseling services with the Bowen Center was reviewed by Sigler and no problems were found. The Bowen Center will become the third facility to offer assistance to employees. The county clerk had given Sigler a contract with Maximus to review and no problems were found. In the absence of the clerk, Amber moved to proceed with the contract. The motion was seconded by Rethlake and the motion passed 3/0. The Agreement for IT Services with Microage Networks, Inc. was reviewed by Sigler. Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to accept the Agreement for IT Services with Microage Networks, Inc. for 2010. The motion passed 3/0. The treasurer's contract with Manatron for tax bill printing was reviewed by Sigler with no problems being noted.

IN THE MATTER OF FARMER'S MARKET: Kathy Klenke was present to request that organization be permitted to paint two-inch numbers on the rise of the sidewalks along South Chauncey and Market Streets. These numbers will better organize vendors who participate. Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to allow the marking. The motion passed 3/0. Maintenance Supervisor Dennis Fenker will be notified.

IN THE MATTER OF THE INDIANA SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: Roger Barnhart was present with history about the battle of Augustine DeLaBalme and Chief Little Turtle. Barnhart is requesting permission to place a commemorative marker in the county's right-of-way at the intersection of Old Trail and DeLaBalme roads. There will be no cost to the county for the marker. If the marker is allowed, the organization will hold a dedication ceremony November 6, 2010. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to allow the placement of the marker. The motion passed 3/0. Barnhart is to contact the county engineer for guidance on placement.

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IN THE MATTER OF BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Gary Gordon was reappointed for 2010 to the Alcoholic Beverage Board. The motion was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake, and passed with a vote of 3/0. Richard Kyler was reappointed to the Whitley County Drainage Board with a motion from Rethlake, seconded by Amber, and a passing vote of 3/0. Doug Fahl, a recommendation of Columbia City Common Council, was approved for reappointment to the Whitley County Economic Development

Commission. The motion was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake, and passed with a 3/0 vote. The term expires February 1, 2014.

IN THE MATTER OF REGION III-A: The 2010 Annual Appropriation Request was received from Region III-A in the amount of \$12,445.00. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to pay the amount requested. The motion passed 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF BOWEN CENTER AGREEMENT FOR COUNSELING: As discussed earlier with the county attorney, Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to accept the Agreement with the Bowen Center for Counseling Services. The motion passed 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Chairman Schrader reported that the Energy Grant Application for the energy savings project at the jail has been delayed thirty days. The new furnace has been installed in the museum. Notification has been received from Region III-A requesting projects that the county may do that could be funded with Stimulus Money. The report is due back February 15. Vice Chairman Amber reported on a meeting held with School Transportation Directors.

The Commissioner's Meeting was recessed in order for the Board of Finance to meet.

The Commissioner's Meeting was reconvened following the adjournment of the Board of Finance Meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT: Amy Crickmore presented several issues regarding possible changes to the Employee Handbook. These items were discussed and tabled until February 1, 2010. A quote was received from Microage Networks for some preventive maintenance issues with computers. Two new computers were approved for purchase replacing old ones.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2010-2011 CREDIT PLAN: Chairman Schrader presented the proposed CREDIT Plan for the next two years. After discussion of the matter, the Plan was tabled until February 1, 2010.

IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMIT REQUESTS: The following permits were approved.

- CenturyLink/United Telephone – Job Number E184017 for a 100 foot bore on Park 30 Drive at Undersea Sensor Systems.
- Nipsco to relocate gas main for Whitley County on South 600 E near Schrader Road.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Michael D. Schrader, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake, Member

Attest:

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor