

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
March 16, 2009

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, March 16, 2009 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. In attendance were Vice Chairman Michael D. Schrader and Don Amber. Chairman Tom Rethlake was absent. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Attorney Dan Sigler, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, County Treasurer Lisa Richmond, EMA Director Cathy Broxon-Ball, E-911 Director Scott Jones, Chief of Communications Kathy Shively and Post and Mail reporter TJ Hemlinger. Vice Chairman Schrader called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR PAYABLES: The minutes of March 2 and vendor payables for March 16, 2009 were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: Dan Sigler presented a changed version of an agreement between Whitley County Commissioners and the Whitley County Drainage Board. The agreement was discussed on March 2, 2009 and Sigler had recommended adding an out clause. The agreement now reads that the agreement may be terminated with a thirty-day written notice. After further discussion, Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to accept the agreement as presented. The motion passed 2/0. Sigler will forward the agreement to the drainage board attorney. In the lawsuit filed by the family of Larry Walkup, Sigler reported that the suit against the Board of Commissioners had been dismissed.

IN THE MATTER OF PROPERTY TAX STATEMENT PRINTING: Lisa Richmond was present to discuss the new tax statement that has been designed by the State of Indiana. The statement will consist of two coupons and no duplicate copies as in the past. If taxpayers want a receipt for a payment made by mail, they will have to come to the treasurer's office for validation. Richmond voiced concerns regarding the small amount of space for other notifications and asked if the statement regarding solid waste charges would still be a part of the statement. Attorney Sigler and commissioners feel it is important and needs to be noted on the tax statement. Richmond will be contracting with Manatron for the printing of the tax statements starting in 2009. The credit card company, AME Group, that is currently used for tax payments will be discontinued and Official Payments will be used starting in 2009.

IN THE MATTER OF SUB-GRANT AGREEMENT: Cathy Broxon-Ball presented the Sub-Grant Agreement from Homeland Security for reimbursement of one-half of the director's salary plus some benefits. Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to approve and sign the agreement. The motion passed 2/0. The Memorandum of Understanding Between Whitley County Emergency Management Agency and Parkview Whitley Hospital, the Oaks and Oak Pointe was presented. The commissioners took no action at this meeting. Broxon-Ball gave an update on recent flood and tornado damage.

IN THE MATTER OF E-911 FUNDS: Scott Jones and Kathy Shively were present to discuss the use of E-911 Funds as set out by the State of Indiana. Guidelines have been established for expenditures and are limited. Jones is asking for support of purchases not included in the guidelines and offering to fund salaries of one full-time dispatcher or two part-time dispatchers. Salaries for dispatchers are allowed under current guidelines.

IN THE MATTER OF EDIT TAX: Resolution No. 2009-02, A Resolution of the Whitley County Board of Commissioners Adopting a Capital Improvement Plan for Use of Edit Tax Revenues, was presented for approval. All taxing units must adopt a Capital Improvement Plan showing use of Edit Tax Revenues. After discussion, Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to approve Resolution No. 2009-02. The motion passed 2/0. (Resolution No. 2009-02 in on file in the Auditor's Office)

IN THE MATTER OF FAMILY & SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION: Discussion was held regarding a matter presented on March 2, 2009 and continued to the March 16th meeting. Matthew Schomburg had requested that Whitley County Government become involved by being a V-CAN member. Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, not to take part at this time. The motion passed with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF SCHULENBERG PROPERTY: Vice Chairman Schrader stated that he had done a site visit as discussed March 2, 2009 regarding the installation of a guard rail along property owned by David Schulenberg. The county highway department will quote a price for the guard rail.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT: Amy Crickmore reported that the meeting held with a PERF representative went well. The Personal/Sick Day policy was discussed for the new handbook. The new handbook will state that two personal days will be given at hire and one-half sick day will be earned for every full month of service.

IN THE MATTER OF ANNUAL JAIL STATISTICS: Sheriff Mark Hodges prepared for distribution the 2008 Annual Jail Statistics report.

IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMIT REQUESTS: The Board of Commissioners approved the following requests:

- Verizon North Work Order 9P009DB-4
- United Telephone Company Work Order 09080229

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT

Tom Rethlake, Chairman

Michael D. Schrader, Vice Chairman

Don Amber, Commissioner

Attest:

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor