

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**APRIL 20, 2009**

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 20, 2009 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Tom Rethlake, Vice Chairman Michael D. Schrader and Don Amber. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting was Auditor Linda Gerig, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, County Assessor Angela Adams, Attorney Matthew Shipman, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Sean Martin, EMA Director Cathy Broxon-Ball, GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold, Engineer Brandon Forrester, DeVon Schuman, Jim Becher, Steve Heaston, Cathy Heaston, Scott Shoda, Mike Barton and Post and Mail reporter Chris Myers. Chairman Rethlake called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR PAYABLES:** The minutes of the regular meeting held April 6 and the executive session held April 10, 2009 were approved as submitted. The vendor payables for April 20, 2009 were approved as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF REASSESSMENT BIDS:** County Assessor Angela Adams prepared a comparison of the bids received from Accurate Assessments, Tyler Technologies and Indiana Assessment Service. Adams recommended accepting Accurate Assessments' bid at \$367,900 for 19,302 parcels plus a 5% allowance for parcel increase. This was the lowest and most responsive bid received. Mr. Steve Heaston voiced his displeasure of using an outside company instead of using volunteers to perform the reassessment. After further discussion, Commissioner Amber moved, seconded by Vice Chairman Schrader, to accept the recommendation of Adams and contract with Accurate Assessments to perform the 2011 Reassessment. The vote passed with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF CONTRACTED JAIL NURSE:** Sheriff Mark Hodges was present to request permission to amend the current contract with Health Professionals, Ltd., and increase the number of hours the contract covers for the jail nurse. The current contract covers twenty-five hours per week and that would be increased by one hour per day for a total of thirty hours per week. The cost of the increased hours would be \$7100/year. Hodges states the current amount budgeted for 2009 will cover the increased cost. The current contract will be renewable in August and only increase 2% instead of the 3% as stated in the contract. Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to table the request until the May 4<sup>th</sup> commissioner meeting. The motion passed 3/0.

**IN THE MATTER OF PRINTER PROPOSAL:** Scott Shoda of Advanced Imaging Solutions Inc. was present to discuss a new program being introduced by that company. The Managed Print Services Program involves paying for actual pages printed. If an agreement is entered into, the cost of \$.02/copy would cover laser jet printer service calls and repairs. Also, any printer needing replaced would not be a cost to the county under the terms of the agreement. No decisions were made and the issue was tabled until May 5, 2009.

**IN THE MATTER OF SUB-GRANT AGREEMENT:** Cathy Broxon-Ball presented 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program Sub-Grant Agreement EDS #C44P-9-731A. The sub-grant is for an amount not to exceed \$14,894 from the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program. Vice Chairman Schrader moved, seconded by Amber, to sign the sub-grant agreement. The motion passed 3/0.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR:** The commissioners held an executive session on April 10 to interview a potential highway supervisor candidate. No action was taken at that meeting. Therefore, now in a public meeting, Vice Chairman Schrader moved to select Mike Barton as Highway Supervisor effective April 20, 2009. Amber seconded the motion and the vote was 3/0. Mr. Barton was present to explain that he had met with the employees to explain his expectations for the department and reviewed the road plan.

**IN THE MATTER OF FIREWALL PROTECTION:** Jim Becher was present to explain the need for firewall protection for the Government Center and Courthouse computer servers. Not all networks are under Becher's supervision and the firewalls would prevent people who have access to other county networks from getting into unauthorized areas. The cost is \$965/firewall installation. The commissioners gave Becher permission to proceed.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROPERTY OWNER REQUEST:** Karen Reilly, a taxpayer who owns property on Round Lake, was present to request use of the pond at the Tri Lakes Park for drainage from her geothermal heating/cooling system. The system, when installed by previous owners, drains into the sewer system of Tri Lakes and the Sewer District has mandated that this be corrected. Reilly could drain the water into Round Lake in front of the property or run the

drain to the back of the property and into the pond. She noted a safety issue of soft ice in the winter if the system would drain into Round Lake. Draining into the pond would add fresh water and possibly help with stagnant water problem during the warmer months. The Reilly's will be responsible for all costs associated with running the drain and repairing county property, including reseeding the grass. Vice Chairman Schrader moved, seconded by Amber, to approve the request and to make all repairs. The motion passed 3/0.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT:** County Coordinator Amy Crickmore explained that the new employee handbook is ready for adoption. Don Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to formerly adopt the revised employee handbook. The motion passed 3/0. Crickmore presented a request from the Old Settlers Association to use the courthouse lawn, gazebo and restrooms for June 22 through June 27, 2009. The request was approved. The results of the Wellness Survey were presented to the Board.

**IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMIT REQUESTS:** The following requests were granted:

- Loughheed & Associates, Inc. to construct a gravity sanitary sewer from the east side of county road 800 East, crossing at Indian Creek Road in Allen County.
- Verizon Work Order 2320-3P0A0BK on 600N over Blue River.
- Verizon Work Order 2390-7PFA0AD on E Popcorn Road and E 800 South (W County Line Rd)

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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Michael D. Schrader, Vice Chairman

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Don Amber, Commissioner

Attest:

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Linda J. Gerig, Auditor