

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
February 4, 2013

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, February 4, 2013 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrumpf, Don Amber and Tom Rethlake. Also in attendance were Jennifer McGuire, Pam Smith, Dan Sigler, Otto Boschet Jr, Brett Myers-Post & Mail, Katie Wagner- Churubusco News, Michael Barton, Brandon Forrester, Dave Sewell, Ron Glassley, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Marc Gatton, Amy Motter-Probation, Nancy Prickett – Drug Free Indiana, Toni Mayo- INDOT, Anthony Hively, Tim Longenbaugh, Joan Null, Stanley Crum, Henry Janda and Frank Hoffman.

Chairman Schrumpf called the meeting to order. Commissioner Rethlake stated an apology to the City in regards to the issue of parking from the last Commissioner meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: Dan Sigler, County Attorney, is in the process of reviewing several Whitley County contracts for the 2013 year. The first contract is with Cedarbridge for Probation. Amy Motter stated that the cost is increasing for 2013 from \$89 to \$95 based on a 100 day contract. Whitley County used 208 days in 2012 at Cedarbridge. The contract gives the County a 30 day notice to cancel and any unused days will roll into the next year at the same cost. A motion to approve the contract with Cedarbridge was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Also reviewed was the Memorandum of Understanding between Whitley County and the Humane Shelter. Attorney Sigler wants to correct some language for the County for the pick-up of animals only that are located in the unincorporated areas of the County and not include any town or cities. This will be tabled until the February 19, 2013 meeting for approval. The contracts with Accurate Assessments for the contracted work of trending and new construction had to be amended with some changes from the State; Attorney Sigler reviewed and gave approval for the addendums to be signed. A motion to sign the Addendums was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The final contract still being reviewed by Attorney Sigler is the Frontier 9-1-1 contract. Attorney Sigler has been working with Scott Jones and the contract needs amended before being approved to meet the bid requirements, some changes needed include third party maintenance, number of days to pay, grace period for satisfaction of service from Frontier if not operational, arbitration regarding Indiana rules, warranty of work and validated charges approved by Whitley County before approving the work. Sigler will work with both Scott Jones, E 9-1-1 director and Frontier and present this contract at a later meeting for approval.

IN THE MATTER OF COURTHOUSE SECURITY: Sheriff Hodges and Ron Glassley came before the Commissioners for upgrades to the current Courthouse security system. A request for quote was sent out to four different companies and two bids were returned Williams Electronics bid at \$10,000 and Cottage Watchman Security Systems submitted a bid for \$10,872.45. At this time Ron Glassley is recommending Williams Electronics be used for the upgrades. The current county badges will allow entrance with their system and a log on usage can be tracked. Commissioner Amber made a motion to give a favorable recommendation to the County Council for the expenditure, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF 2013 CAR PURCHASES: Chief Deputy Marc Gatton came before the Commissioners to update them on his findings of the two County Deputy cars that will be purchased for the upcoming 2013 year for the Sheriff's department. After reviewing three different makes and models, Gatton is requesting to stay with the Dodge Charger for fuel mileage, dependability and overall room. This expense is already appropriated out of the Cum Capital Fund for 2013

IN THE MATTER OF DRUG FREE INDIANA 2013: Nancy Prickett from Drug Free Whitley County reported the expenditures for 2013 that have been approved by the Drug Free Board. The amount of \$38,238.80 is divided into four categories Prevention and Education, Treatment and Intervention, Criminal Justice Services and Administrative. Some of the programs receiving funding are Whitko High School SADD, Churubusco SADD, Troy Center, WCCS SADD, Bowen Center, Work Release programs and Alcohol/Drug Programs Whitley County. The revenue for this fund comes from court cost of drug and alcohol charges in Whitley County.

IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING AND BUILDING 2012 ANNUAL REPORT: Dave Sewell from Planning and Building gave a report of the activities of the department for 2012. The actual building permits were up 20% increase and total permits issued were 671 for the year. New construction was down overall but there was an increase of additions. There were 2,734 inspections done by the department. In tracking activity levels Smith Township was up with new construction the largest being the school and the new fire station. Dave also showed a decrease of 45% in fuel the new efficient car that was purchased for the department in 2012.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT: Dave Sewell from Planning and Building sent a letter of recommendation for Marcia Clupper to be replaced by Karen Jordan on the South Whitley Plan Commission, Marcia has asked to be replaced. The term runs until January 1, 2015. Mrs. Jordan qualifies as a jurisdictional area appointment and should make an excellent member. After discussion a motion for the recommendation was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. It was noted that an ad in the local paper and the County website would address any vacate positions on existing boards for future appointments.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: Minutes from the January 7, 2013 were corrected as requested. After reviewing the January 22, 2103 and noting the name “Chuck” Jones needs corrected a motion to approve was made by Rethlake, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote by the Commissioners.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Michael Barton, Highway Supervisor, addressed the Commissioners and reminded them of the meeting to review Liberty Mill and 900 South intersections scheduled for this Friday at 8:30am in Allen County. The traffic accident report has not been completed for the location as of yet. The upgrade to the phone system at the highway department will be presented to County Council tomorrow for approval. Barton will start the advertisement for bids on the purchase of the new truck from CEDIT funds for 2013.

IN THE MATTER OF INDOT REPRESENTATIVE: Toni Mayo the INDOT Fort Wayne Representative was here doing an outreach to all the 17 counties that is covered by her district. She is the Communications Director and the first line of contact if there is a problem that arises. She will check on the existing 2013 projects sited for Whitley County. Also recommended that Whitley County work with the ADA recommendations and use our County website and meetings to address any corrections or improvements we make to our buildings.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS: Commissioner Schrumpf had reviewed the claims for disbursement. Some question regarding the Wal-Mart credit card was addressed for Community Corrections and the use of a personal car for travel out of the Building department, after discussion a motion to allow the payment of claims was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The payments of the annual Fire Hydrant expenses were discussed and Auditor McGuire will look into the contract with the City and what agreement has been made on the hydrants on an annual basis.

IN THE MATTER OF SNOW REMOVAL: After reviewing bids for snow removal at the jail parking lot, Yount Landscaping, LLC won the bid. A motion to approve the Letter of Agreement was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The piles of snow will be removed by the County Highway at the Jail location if needed.

IN THE MATTER OF USE OF COUNTY PROPERTY: The request from My Sites Photography for the use of the Courthouse lawn and gazebo for May 4, 2013 for prom pictures was reviewed and it was approved by Denny Fenker in maintenance. A motion to allow the use was made by Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: The 100-Report for Compensation of Wages for County employees was approved with a motion from Amber, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Veteran Service officer report was reviewed. There was vandalism at the Fish Hatchery building and the repair is going to cost \$1125. The individual has been arrested and the prosecutor will be looking at restitution for the cost of the repair for the County. Chairman Rethlake reported the Fee schedule at Community Corrections is being reviewed. Paula Worden is presenting the bids to Council for the roof repair at the Community Corrections building that will be paid out of CEDIT funds for 2013. Commissioner Schrumpf gave an overview of the Advanced Imaging report for print management which indicated an overall decrease of 8% for cost savings. Brandon Forrester addressed the sound system in the Commissioner’s room and that the cost to update was going to be \$850.50 he was instructed to work with Building and Planning to pay for the upgrade out of their budgets. Forrester also discussed that he would be asking the County Council for an increase to the Cum Bridge Fund to cover the replacement of two bridges throughout the County on an annual basis.

Two comments from the public, Stanley Crum wanted to compliment the Whitley County Highway on the responsibility of having the intersections and roadways cleaned from the last snow fall. Otto Boschett wanted to have the House Bill #1432 reviewed by the Commissioners that will address the Franchise Fees collected for Counties and Cities.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

George Schrumpf, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake

Attest: _____
Jennifer McGuire
Auditor