

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 4, 2018

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrumpf, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Commissioner Thomas Western. Others in attendance were County Attorney Matt Shipman, County Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator/HR Director Angela Campbell, Mackenzie DeGroot from the Post & Mail, Bernie Gump, County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder, Mark Sturtevant from the Maintenance Department, Sheriff Gatton and Jason Spencer from the Sheriff's Department, Joan Null and Stanley Crum from WCCC, Planning Director Nathan Bilger and Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BID OPENING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SALT STORAGE FACILITY: The Commissioners received two bids for the construction of a new salt storage facility. The first bid was from Hamilton Hunter Builders in the amount of \$185,412.00. The second bid was from D-T Construction Services in the amount of \$182,609.00. Commissioner Western made a motion to take both bids under advisement, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote with Schrumpf abstaining.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: County Attorney Matt Shipman stated that he had nothing to report, other than speaking with the Sheriff in regards to his concern over Ordinance 2009-08.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ORDINANCE 2009-08 DISCUSSION: Sheriff Gatton came before the Commissioners for Ordinance 2009-08 which is an ordinance requiring the restraint of a dog and abandoning the disturbance of the peace by a domesticated animal. He would like the ordinance to set fines on the first, second and continued citations. The concern with the ordinance is that it does not direct where the funds should be deposited when there is a fine. Sheriff Gatton is requesting that Attorney Shipman review the ordinance and advise on how it needs to be rewritten to include the fine amounts and where the funds are to be deposited.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLAT APPROVALS: Planning Director Nathan Bilger came before the Commissioner's with two plats for their consideration. Both plats were approved by the Plan Commission at their August meeting. The first plat was Schroeder's Addition. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the plat, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second plat Nathan presented to the Commissioners was Holden Hills. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Holden Hills plat, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Nathan also sent an email requesting a street name for the new cul-de-sac at Park 30. The proposed name will either be Innovation Court or Innovation Way. Nathan asked if the Commissioners had any opposition to this street name for the cul-de-sac. The Commissioner's wanted to make sure there were not any other road names that have include Innovation in the name. Nathan confirmed that Whitley County has no other street name with Innovation. The Commissioners came to a consensus that Innovation Court would be an acceptable name for the street.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forester was present to inform the Commissioners that he is currently working on the application for the Community Crossings grant program. Due to the way the grant it setup, there are seven projects he is applying for and ten road segments per project. One of the items he has to submit with the application is a commitment of funds. This needs to be either the Chairman of Commissioners, Council Chairman, or the County Auditor as the fiscal officer, but he is asking for the signature of all three. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the commitment of funds and for the Chairman to sign, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS: There were three right-of-way permit requests presented to the Commissioners. The first permit request was from Bernie Gump. He wishes to bore a waterline under the road on 350 E to allow water service for properties on the other side of the road. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the right away for the boring of a private utility on 350 E, subject to signing a hold harmless agreement, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The hold harmless agreement states that the County will not be liable for any issues with the private utility. The last two right-of-way permit requests were from Century Link. The first request from Century Link was to bore under County Road 400 North. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second

request from Century Link was to provide faster internet speeds to a customer on County Road 650 West. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW PROGRAM “A SAFE PLACE”: Callie Monce and Jan Williams came before the Commissioners from Youth Services to explain their program “A Safe Place”. Callie Monce is the Coordinator and Jan Williams is the Director of the Youth Services Bureau. Jan informed the Commissioners that they have been working with the Superintendent of Whitley County Consolidated, The Bowen Center, the Department of Child Services, etc. to start their program “A Safe Place”. They have been in Huntington since 1990. It is a national program that provides crisis interventions for youth. They started the program in Wabash County in 2013 and they were approached to bring the program to Whitley County. “A Safe Place” is meant to provide a network of businesses that open up their facilities to youth in crisis. The businesses provide quick and immediate access to services, then they contact the Youth Services Bureau to come to the business and assess the situation. Jan is requesting support from the Commissioners for their program and to reach out to county businesses asking them to become a safe place for the youth in Whitley County. They have not reached out to Whitko Schools or Smith Green Schools as of yet. They have plans to do so in the future. The Commissioners stated that they are for the program, but would like to speak with the different department heads within the County and ask their opinions on the program if they are being considered for the program. Commissioner Amber made a motion to table the decision for their support in the program, seconded by Western and tabled with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the August 20, 2018 regular Commissioner meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 2/0 vote with Amber abstaining. The Commissioners reviewed the payroll claims. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from August 20, 2018 through September 4, 2018 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY COORDINATOR/HR DIRECTOR: County Coordinator Angela Campbell presented requests to use county facilities to the Commissioners. First request was to use the gazebo on October 20, 2018 for a wedding ceremony. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was for a Veterans Marathon on November 10, 2018 on the Courthouse square for sponsor tents, soup tents, etc. from 6:00AM to 2:00PM. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. The final request was to use the Courthouse for Christmas family pictures from 1:00PM to 5:00 PM on December 15, 2018. Commissioner Amber made a motion to deny the request, seconded by Western and the request was denied with a 3/0 vote. Angela also gave the Commissioners a job classification system updated in regard to Waggoner Irwin and Scheele. They will be back on site Wednesday, September 26, 2018 to meet with the remaining department heads. Angela stated that the biggest concern amongst departments was that their job descriptions actually matched the duties of their job.

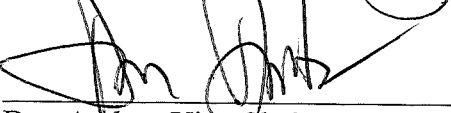
IN THE MATTER OF 2019 SCHEDULE APPROVALS: Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented the 2019 schedules to the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the accounts payable schedule, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll schedule, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the 2019 holiday schedule, the Commissioners made one change and added July 5th for the July 4th holiday. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the schedule with this change, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed their meeting schedule for 2019 and Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the schedule, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

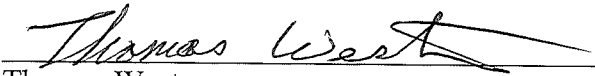
IN OTHER BUSINESS: Cody Fry and Brittney Bireley presented the trophy for the Corporate Challenge to the Commissioners. This is the first year that the County has won the challenge and the Commissioners thanked them for their participation and hard work. In regard to the longevity pay date, Commissioner Amber made a motion for the pay date to be November 20, 2018, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber said the Regional Sewer District is close to having their charter. Commissioner Schrumpf informed the Commissioners that he will be presenting the appraisal for the buildings to Council again. Stanley Crum from WCCC stated that the roundabout on 900 South and County Road 800 East is a great update to the intersection.

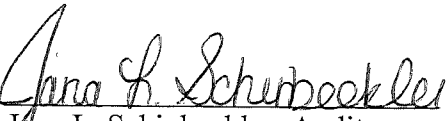
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 2:10 pm

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrumpf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Thomas Western

Attest: 
Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

