

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 19, 2020

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 19, 2020 at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Don Amber and Vice Chairman Thomas Western. Commissioner George Schrumpf was absent. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, HR Director/Coordinator Jennifer Shinabery, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, Todd Titus from UPSTAR, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Joan Null, Sonya Emerick, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library and Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester.

Chairman Amber opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Shipman informed the Commissioners that he has nothing to report at this time.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL FOR REPLACEMENT OF PTABOA BOARD MEMBER: County Assessor Kim Erdly is requesting the approval of a new member to the PTABOA Board, Treasa Sideris. Treasa is replacing Terry Knee on the board and Kim is also requesting that the Commissioners waive the requirement of one member have an Indiana Assessor-Appraiser Level II or Level III Certification. Commissioner Western made a motion to waive the requirement and to appoint Treasa Sideris to the PTABOAR Board, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ANNUAL BID NOTICE TO BIDDERS AND HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester was present to request the approval of the bid notice for annual highway bids. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the bid notice for annual bids, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote. Brandon then presented his contract for approval for 2021 to the Commissioners. This contract specifies his salary and that the job duties of Highway Superintendent and County Engineer are still combined. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Amber and carried with a 2/0 vote. Brandon also gave an update on the status of road projects.

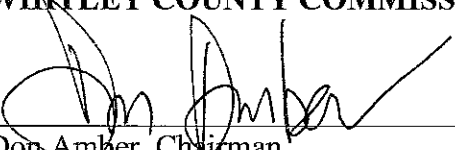
IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Chairman Amber stated that he has reviewed all payroll and accounts payable claims. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Amber and carried with a 2/0 vote. The claim distributions from October 5, 2020 through October 19, 2020 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Amber and carried with a 2/0 vote. The Commissioners also reviewed the October 5, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS: There were five right-of-way permits presented to the Commissioners for approval. The first permit request was from Nipsco to install new gas service at 8290 E 550 N. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote. The second request was from Nipsco as well to bore new gas service to Iotron in Park 30. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and carried with 2/0 vote. The third request from Nipsco to bore under Sherman Street on the South side of Butler at least 3' below pavement to install 2" PL main into the provided utility easement. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and carried with a 2/0 vote. The next request was from Precision Utilities Group to provide service to a residence at 1015 W 600 N. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote. The last request was from Century Link to place fiber optic cable for new service at Qualitex in Park 30. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 2/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Western stated that he has a contract for Ritter Strategic Services that he would like to address. Commissioner Western made a motion to table the contract until the next meeting, seconded by Amber and tabled with a 2/0 vote. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented the three reimbursement requests to the Commissioners for approval for the CARES Act funding for the County. The first request was for \$42,326.11, the second request was for \$17,037.08 and the third request was for \$2,720 for a total of \$62,083.19. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the requests and submit to Indiana Finance Authority and for the Chairman to sign, seconded by Amber and carried with a 2/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Amber adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.

WENTLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

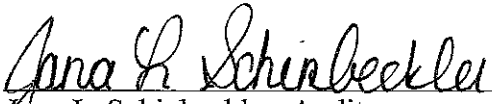


Don Amber, Chairman



Thomas Western, Vice Chairman

George Schrumpf, Commissioner

Attest: 

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor