

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 7, 2022

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 7, 2022, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chair Chad Banks, Vice Chair Theresa Green and Commissioner George Schrumpf. Others in attendance were Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Human Resources Director Jennifer Shinabery, Sheriff Marcus Gatton, Chief Deputy Jason Spencer, Communications Director Janelle Schmitt, County Highway Director Katy Fry, Health Director Scott Wagner and Carlee Larue from the Health Department, Assessor Kim Erdly, Recorder Rosemary Brown, Clerk Cindy Doolittle, Timothy Kumfer, Rob Schuman, Nicki Venable, Joan Null and Sonya Emerick.

Chair Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION STIPEND: Cindy Doolittle was present to discuss receiving a favorable pass to Council from Commissioners regarding a stipend for Jessica Hockemeyer for Election Day support. Jessica is the Voter Register/Election Supervisor for the Clerk's office. The Election Board voted that they would like to have Jessica be paid to complete the work that the Vendor Microvote has previously done for the County. Microvote charges the County \$2,400 per Election Day for support. The Election Board has requested that Jessica do the support for the County and that they would like to give her a \$750 stipend per Election Day. This would be a cost savings to the County of \$1,650 per Election Day. Commissioner Green made a motion to give a favorable pass to Council, with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Shipman stated that he has reviewed the items on the agenda, the INDOT DocuSign Resolution and the Exemption Certificate. Those items are good, and he sees no problems with them.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE: Auditor Tiffany Deakins presented a Certificate of Compliance from Wells Fargo for the Bond that is issued on the Government Center. This is an annual request from Wells Fargo that requires the Auditor and Chair of Commissioners to sign. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve as presented, with a second by Schrumpf, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

2023 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE APPROVALS: Commissioner Banks presented the 2023 holiday schedules for both the 5-1 and 4-2 employees. Commissioner Banks stated that he doesn't agree with July 3rd being a paid Holiday and stated that he believes 12 days off paid a year is standard. Commissioner Green stated that she believes 14 paid Holidays seems fair and that she is in favor of having the presented 14 days. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve with the removal of July 3rd as a paid Holiday, with a second by Banks, passing with a 2/1 vote with Commissioner Green voting against. Commissioner Banks stated that we do not usually approve these schedules until later in the year, but with court cases needing to be scheduled, we have approved them early so that the Courts know when we will be closed for holidays. Auditor Deakins told the Commissioners that she will have the Sheriff's Department review their 4-2 Holiday schedule and choose a day to remove so that they also have 13 days. She will then let Commissioners know which date that they are removing.

INDOT DOCUSIGN RESOLUTION: Commissioner Banks stated that the Commissioners need to sign a Resolution to allow for DocuSign to be used for INDOT agreements for bridge inspections. This will allow for the Commissioners to get INDOT moving on bridge inspections. Commissioner Green made a motion to Resolution 2022-01, with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR STATE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Commissioner Banks stated that Ag Plus has requested a signature for their fuel tax exemption. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve as presented, with a second by Green, and carried with a 3/0 vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT: Health Director Scott Wagner was present to review the 2021 Health Department annual report. Wagner stated that the Immunization Clinic administered over 10,000 shots in 2021. He also wanted to let the Commissioners know that now since the COVID numbers are down Health Educator Carlee LaRue can start going back into schools to reach out to our youth. The Health Department has made their move and is now located where the WIC office used to be.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Director Katy Fry was present to ask for support to allow her to use funds that she already has budgeted on a total patcher for road repairs. The Cost of the total patcher is \$80,300.30 and will allow for the highway department to save approximately \$800/day it is used. Commissioners all let Katy know that they support her in this purchase.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Auditor Tiffany Deakins let the Commissioners know that in order for the County to be reimbursed for title IV-D expenses correctly that the Commissioners need to approve the payroll and accounts payable claims separately. The claim distributions from February 23, 2022, through March 7, 2022, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Banks checked the accounts payable, and payroll claims and had no concerns. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, with a second by Green and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the regular meeting minutes from February 18, 2022. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:36 PM.

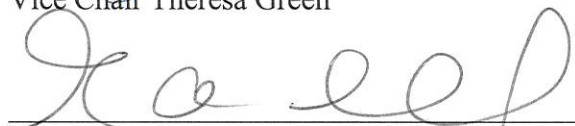
WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS




Chair Chad Banks



Vice Chair Theresa Green



Commissioner George Schrumpf

Attest: 

Tiffany Deakins, Auditor