

**WHITLEY COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS/COUNCIL JOINT MEETING**

March 28, 2022

The Whitley County Commissioners met in joint regular session Monday, March 28, 2022 at 12:30 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Chad Banks, Vice Chair Theresa Green and Commissioner George Schrumpf phoned in. Council members in attendance were Chairman Timothy Kumfer, Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler, Thor Hodges, Tom Warner, James Argerbright, Joan Western and John Barrett. Others in attendance were County Auditor Tiffany Deakins, County Coordinator/HR Director Jennifer Shinabery, Commissioners' Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Paula Worden from Community Corrections, Sheriff Gatton, Chief Deputy Jason Spencer, Deputy Todd Cook, Jail Commander Sean Martin, Communications Director Janelle Schmitt, EDC President Dale Buuck, Chief Probation Officer Amy Motter, Recorder Rosemary Brown, Treasurer Kay Gatton, Assessor Kim Erdly, Maintenance Director Mark Sturtevant, Coroner Scott Smith, Matt Maday & Scott Crites from American StructurePoint.

Chairman Kumfer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Chad Banks called the Commissioner meeting to order.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADA FEDERAL AID PROJECT CONTRACT: Commissioner Banks presented a contract that needed to be signed for the continuance of moving forward with the County's ADA project with a not to exceed \$377,990. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the contract as presented, Commissioner Schrumpf seconded the motion via phone. Commissioner Banks took a role-call vote and the contract carried with a 3/0 vote.

Chairman Kumfer called to order the joint meeting between County Commissioners and Council at 12:34 pm.

JAIL PROJECT DISCUSSION: Commissioner Banks gave a project overview of the construction of Whitley County's new jail. Banks gave a brief history of the current jail that was built in 1987, what the compacity of that jail is and what the County needs to be in compliance with the State. The Current jail was made to house roughly 90 inmates, and for the past several years Whitely County has been over population. For example, in 2021 the numbers only fell below 100 inmates 2 times. Commissioner Banks and the Council had a conversation about many possibilities that the new jail could contain, such as two points of entry/driveways, any outbuildings that maybe added after, the possibility of adding a morgue, storage for Emergency Management vehicles and trailers, etc.. Commissioner Banks let Council know that the County has ended its contract with the owner's rep that they had, the rep that they had was not doing their job to our specifications. The Commissioners spoke with the owner of the company and the County will not be paying for any services rendered for that timeframe. The Commissioners are working with BakerTilly and Ice Miller on getting everything completed that we need to move forward with the jail project. A Construction Manager will be chosen and that will allow for the County to get a better idea of costs for the overall total of the project. There was discussion of what will happen to the current jail after the new jail is completed. Commissioners plan to re-model the interior and some of the exterior to make it look more appealing from the outside. Then the work release facility would be able to move into that location. The Commissioners plan to sell the current work release facility to Mission 25 for a price of \$300,000. Jail Commander Sean Martin feels that the bulk of the changes that needed to be made have been made. There is another meeting Thursday March 31st for the jail committee and they plan on picking the location of where the jail will be placed on the property.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Kumfer and Chairman Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Chad Banks, Chairman

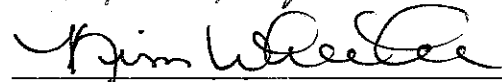


Theresa Green, Vice Chair


George Schrumphf, Commissioner

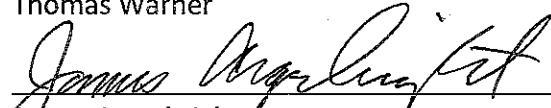
WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL



Timothy Kumfer, Chairman

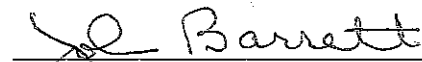

Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

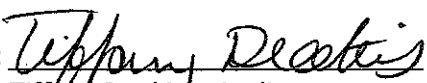

Thor Hodges


Thomas Warner


James Argerbright


Joan Western


John Barrett

Attest: 
Tiffany Deakins, Auditor