

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 17, 2022

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 17, 2022, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room located on the 1st floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chair Chad Banks, Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger and Commissioner George Schrumpf attended remotely. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, HR Director Jennifer Shinabery, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Treasurer Kay Gatton, Clerk Cindy Doolittle, Recorder Rosemary Brown, Scott Wagner, Amy Biggs, Ryan Smeltzer, Brad Allen, Rob Schuman, Lisa Fensler and Madalyn Sade-Bartl from Churubusco RDC, John Lefever, John Meister, and Sonya Emerick.

Chair Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Shipman stated that he has reviewed the agenda items and approves them all and can discuss when they come up in the meeting.

CHURUBUSCO TIF RESOLUTION & COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Planning Director Nathan Bilger and Madalyn Sade-Bartl were present to discuss Churubusco making a residential TIF. The request is only for 2 parcels on the north side of town. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the request with a second by Schrumpf, and the vote carried with a 3/0 roll call vote. Bilger then stated that the next agenda item was the comprehensive plan for Whitley County. This is something that has been in the works for years and is finally ready for formal approval. The plan commission passed the plan with a 6/2 vote. There were some concerns stated from Commissioners pertaining to the verbiage with CFO's. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that the plan over all is good and knows that there are some zoning codes that need to be updated as well. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-12, seconded by Baysinger and carried unanimously with a 3/0 roll call vote.

2023 WELLNESS COMMITTEE: Ryan Smeltzer was present to ask for approval from the Commissioners to move forward with the 2023 wellness program as they have been doing currently. There will be no changes from the year prior. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 roll call vote.

SURVEYOR DESIGNATION OF DUTIES: Commissioners received a designation of duties for the Surveyor for Brad Allen the new Engineer. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the request once Dane Drew has had time to review and sign off as he wasn't able to make it to the drainage board meeting. Schrumpf seconded, and the vote carried with a 3/0 roll call vote.

IT PROJECT: Commissioner Banks stated that the County is looking to move forward with a new IT company, there were two options that were presented to Commissioners and staff. Commissioners would like to move forward with 4EOS, without diving to deep 4EOS feels that they can save \$63,000 per year right away. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to move forward with working on a contract with 4EOS, seconded by Schrumpf and passed unanimously with a 3/0 roll call vote.

LEASE RENTAL REVENUE BONDS: John Lefever was present to give Commissioners options to move forward with for the revenue bonds. There were 5 banks that were interested, Regions Bank, Bank of Oklahoma, Old National Wealth, Zions Bank and US Bank & Co. John stated that he would recommend using the Bank of Oklahoma. Commissioner Banks stated that he is very comfortable with moving forward as well as Schrumpf. Banks stated that once they chose a bank Commissioners will need to let BakerTilly and Ice Miller know. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to move forward with the Bank of Oklahoma, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 roll call vote.

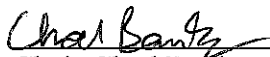
FACILITIES REQUESTS: Commissioner Banks presented a facility request for the Columbia City Fire Department for the annual Christmas Eve candy handout. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the request, with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 roll call vote.

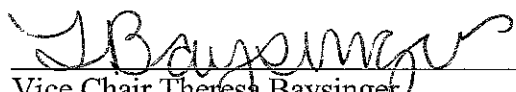
RELEASE FOR DEBRIS BURN: Emergency Management Director Amy Biggs was present to have Commissioners sign off on a hold harmless for the County that had been drawn up by Attorney Shipman. This is for the storm that took place in June, Northern Heights allowed for a debris pile to be held on the school property. Amy stated that Thorncreek Twp Fire Department will be hoping weather permitting to burn the pile while children are on fall break, which would be October 27th & 28th. If the weather doesn't cooperate, then it will have to be pushed out into November or December. Amy and Commissioner Banks wanted to go on record and say how grateful they are for WCCS to allow for this to be done. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the hold harmless with a second by Schrumpf, carrying with a 3/0 roll call vote.

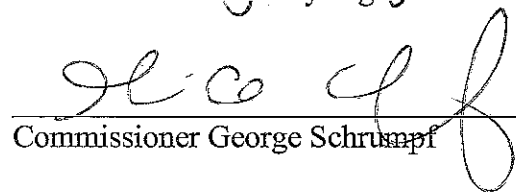
MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The claim distributions from October 4, 2022, through October 17, 2022, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Baysinger checked the accounts payable, and payroll claims and noted that she had no concerns Baysinger made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 roll call vote. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 roll call vote. The Commissioners reviewed the regular meeting minutes from October 3rd, 2022. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Baysinger and carried with a 3/0 roll call vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:35 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Chair Chad Banks


Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger


Commissioner George Schrumpf

Attest: 
Tiffany Deakins, Auditor