

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
January 3, 2011

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, January 3, 2011 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Rethlake, Vice Chairman Don Amber and George Schrumpf. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Jen McGuire, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, County Attorney Dan Sigler - Absent, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton, County Engineer Brandon Forrester, Stanley Crum, Bill Koch, Tina Houser & Greg Kaminski Leadership Whitley County, Tom Payne, Jenny Town, Jim Becher, Dave Sewell, Alan Tio, Eli Samaan, and Gary Bird. Chairman Rethlake called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR COMMISSIONERS: Amber nominated with a motion to appoint Tom Rethlake as Chairman and a second was given by Schrumpf to appoint Tom Rethlake as Chairman of the Commissioner's for the 2011 year. Approved 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR CLAIMS: The minutes of December 20, 2010 and the vendor claims for Jan 3, 2011 were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Dan Sigler was absent from meeting

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPT: Michael Barton discussed lighting issues at the Plum Tickled business. Spoke on behalf of his 2011 Budget being cut 481,000 from the State.

IN THE MATTER OF BORDER ENERGY CONTRACT: Tom Payne was present giving a hedging report on the usage of gas for the County and what the savings has been. Spoke of the fluctuation in market cost throughout the year and the good times to lock in pricing. Tabled for now and invited back to the July/Aug Commissioner meeting for further updates.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT: Amy gave a brief report on the cost of purchasing bulk paper within the county to save money, and what the cost saving would be. Gave a brief report about Vision Insurance from Humana, discussion lead to the county not wanting to be in the insurance business and it was rejected. Also requested was the Wellness Blood Draw that be done again this year for 2011, motion was made by Amber and seconded by Schrumpf. Approved 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF IT SERVICES: Discussion was held on proposals for technology support for 2011. Both Jim Becher from Microage Network & Bill Koch from Phoenix Technology Group were present to discuss their IT proposals for the 2011 year. After discussion the decision was to remain with Microage Networks, motion by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf. Approved 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF BOARD APPOINTMENTS: The Commissioners are required to appoint someone to the EDC Board Member, they chose to retain Kim Wheeler, motion by Schrumpf and seconded by Amber carried 3/0. Also with appointments, Jen McGuire was put on the Fee Committee, Risk Assessment and GIS motion by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried 3/0. Also due to the election results George Schrumpf will take the assignments to committees and boards that were previously held by Commissioner Mike Schrader, motion by Rethlake and seconded by Amber and carried 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF SOLID WASTE: Commissioner Amber was informed that the 2011 budget for Solid Waste was not approved by the DLGF and that they will be working from the 2010 budget amounts.

IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING & BUILDING DEPT: Dave Sewell presented the Commissioners with Draft B of the Whitley County Comprehensive Plan and invited them all to the Jan 19 meeting. Also gave them a packet found on the internet in regard to Wind Farms and spoke briefly on the subject of the Ordinance for the Wind Energy and where it stood at this time. Alan Tio also spoke in regard to EDC able to help with any ventures that come of the Wind Energy Ordinance proposal.

IN THE MATTER OF A & Z ENGINEERING: Eli Samaan passed out a new 2011 brochure on his company and introduced himself to the new commissioner. Letting all know if the need arises to please contact him.

IN THE MATTER OF VETERAN'S RUN: Gary Bird was present to ask for support in the upcoming race for 2011 and Don was nominated to coordinate and county or EMS issues arising from the race with participants or the crowd that is brings to the County.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: A motion was presented by Commissioner Rethlake to continue the subscription of the Business Weekly newspaper and a second by Amber passed with 3/0. Amy will get the subscription renewed for them. The Commissioners requested the Auditor to put Council agendas in their packets that get mailed out to them. Brief discussion was given to changing the Holiday calendar for 2011 and either moving the day off for Christmas from Friday Dec 23 to Mon Dec 26 or just allowing both, tabled until next meeting for further discussion. The Department heads will be invited to the Jan 18th meeting to discuss Job descriptions, any major purchases and also if going to enter into any Contract the Commissioners will need a copy two weeks in advance to review and allow the County Attorney to look over for approval. Discussion on the Veteran's officer moving to the Government Center and will be added to the Website as a Department.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom Rethlake, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

George Schrumpf

Attest:_____