

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**November 7, 2011**

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Monday, November 7, 2011 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Tom Rethlake, Don Amber and George Schrumpf. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Dan Sigler, Terrie Bishir, Katie Wagner, Otto Boschet Jr, James Thomlison- Post & Mail, Debbie Beers, Jessica Hockemeyer, Ray Whiting, Michael Barton, Patti Smith – BLN, Stanley Crum, Jackie Hake – Council on Aging, Mark Hodges – Sheriff, Marc Gattton – Chief Deputy, Gregory Hockemeyer, Dale Moser and Nancy Prickett – WC Drug Free

Commissioner Rethlake called the Commissioner meeting to order.

**IN THE MATTER COUNTY ATTORNEY:** Dan Sigler, County Attorney, updated the Commissioners on the two current Junk & Trash Ordinance violations, that the order has been given by Judge Fahl for clean up of the properties. There are still three or four open cases that Scott Wagner is working on. Judge Fahl has done a wonderful job working with the Health Department in getting these matters implemented and a "Thank you" call has come in from the of the neighbors of the properties. Attorney Sigler was given an EMA Handbook to review and give any feed back. Chairman Rethlake referenced the status of the EMS Contract with Parkview, waiting on the number of ambulances after that has been put in the contract a copy of the Agreement will be sent to Scot Gabriel and Duane Ginder also for review. Attorney Sigler was made aware of the current charges for a Thorncreek residence on the Loose Dog Ordinance in Whitley County and that the Fines and Fees are not being paid to the courts.

At this time the normal Commissioner Meeting was adjourned and a Public Hearing was started.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING:** Lori Shipman was here on behalf of the Community Development fund for the OCRA Grant for Recycle Processes. The new equipment an "Alloy Densification Unit" will create 14 new jobs and they will be leasing space out of the old Rivera Cruiser building.

Public Hearing was adjourned at this time for further input from Alan Tio from EDC.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY VEHICLES:** Commissioner Amber gave his report on the purchase of new county vehicles for the Health Department and the Planning and Building Department. The purchase will be for three cars and one SUV. The Ford quotes were a Ford Escape for \$20,533.25 and each Fusion S sedan for \$16,969.25, the Chevy quotes were for Equinox SUV \$24,016.20 and Cruze sedans for \$17,781.60. After discussion of the mpg and colors for the vehicles and how they will be marked for the County use, a motion was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote to go with the lower prices Ford quotes for the 2012 vehicle purchase.

Meeting adjourned again and the Public Hearing reconvened.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING:** Alan Tio spoke on behalf of the equipment that would be purchased with the OCRA grant, and that the County would not be reliable for any of the cost and we are just a pass thru for the incentive dollars for the Grant. A motion to sign the application to get started for the Community Development Block Grant was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote for Chairman Rethlake to sign the paperwork to proceed with the Application.

Regular meeting reconvened at this time.

**IN THE MATTER OF REDISTRICTING:** Debbie Beers from the Clerks office came before the Commissioners with Election employees Jessica Hockemeyer and Ray Whiting to discuss the Redistricting for the County regarding boundary changes. The process deadline is January 1, 2012 for any changes. After review of the 2010 Census and looking at the population changes the only district being changed is Columbia NW District #2 to even out the population and number of registered voters for the district. Debbie will get the contact information to Coordinator Amy Crickmore and draft a letter to be sent effective for the 2012 Primary election noting the changes to the Redistricting recommendations for Whitley County. A motion to accept the changes to redistricting for Whitley County was made by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and carried for acceptance with a 3/0 vote from the Commissioners.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY:** Michael Barton gave an update of the Highway business. Advertisements for the Annual Bids will be advertised within the next couple weeks and will be opened in the first meeting of December in the Commissioner's meeting. Personnel updates they will be having two part-time employees help with the plowing of subdivisions for the snow this winter. The full time employee will be replaced in the Spring of 2012 for the employee that retired. Road work was finished up on 300 S and Wolfe Road with the equipment from the Highway. The salt contract was approved with the State Highway for the same price. Rail road crossing was painted on 600 E and will be redone every other year.

**IN THE MATTER OF WHITLEY COUNTY EDC:** Alan Tio came before the Commissioner's with two requests of funding. The first request is for a two phase CEDIT incentive for Solstice Medical, \$25,000 being awarded in the first phase after the company leases space at the new Iotron facility, and the second \$25,000 being awarded to launch the Company's product development contract with the US Dept of Veteran Affairs. The second request of funds is for the SBEI (Small Business & Entrepreneurship Initiative) venture for the amount of \$10,000 from CEDIT monies. After discussion a motion to approve both fundings was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Amber and carried for approval to present to the Council with a 3/0 vote for recommendation.

**IN THE MATTER ON COUNCIL ON AGING:** Jackie Hake, director for the Council on Aging presented an overview of the transit program ran through the Council on Aging. They will be getting two new vans, eleven part-time drivers and a 20% increase of participation since 2010. INDOT has cut funding for the 2012 year for the PMTF ( Public Mass Transit Funds). The county's support of funds comes from CEDIT and a request for the funding to be increased from the \$10,000 that was allocated in 2011 to go back up to \$20,000 for the 2012 year was requested if feasible.

**IN THE MATTER OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY:** Dan Weigold from the GIS department reported to the Commissioners that the State is going to be doing fly over for new aerial photography for 2012. The county can use this photography but enter into an agreement for upgrades to 6" resolutions. The cost will be \$32,768.04 and will be covered with \$25,000 from Reassessment, \$5000 from E-911 and \$5000 from CEDIT funds. A motion for approval after the Agreement is reviewed by Attorney Sigler was made by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF CARS:** Sheriff Hodges came before the Commissioner's to request two new cars out of the 2011 budget. The two cars that they want to purchase will be the Crown Vic cars that they are currently maintaining in their fleet and will cut down on cost of reinstalling light bars and electronics to fit the interior of the new cars. This model of car is no longer being manufactured after this year. After discussion a motion for approval was made by Amber to spend the \$43,673.60 from Cum Cap funding, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote to present to Council.

**IN THE MATTER OF FMLA REQUEST:** County Coordinator Amy Crickmore presented two FMLA request, the first request is for 12 weeks after all Vacation and sick time pay out the employee will be shore 12 days \$600.00 need appropriated to cover the 12 days. After review a motion for approval was made by Amber, seconded by George and granted with a 3/0 vote. The second request for 12 weeks FMLA and 6 weeks for Short Term disability lacked 7 days for a cost of \$358.00, after review of this request a motion was made by Schrumpf for approval, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** A letter to the Commissioners from the Health Department requesting the re-appointment of Dr. Russell Gilliam and Dr. Mark Burkett to the Whitley County Health Board. Both members' terms run out on Dec 31, 2011, both individuals have been contacted and agreed to serve another four year. A motion was made to accept the re-appointments for another four years until December 31, 2015, by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and approved with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER MINUTES & CLAIMS:** Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Commissioner's meeting held on October 17, 2011 at the Churubusco High School Auditorium, seconded by Schrumpf and carried 3/0. After discussion of the claims, Amber made a motion to approve claims for disbursement on November 7, 2011, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER WHITLEY COUNTY DRUG FREE:** Greg Hockmeyer came before the Commissioner's to branch off of our existing whitleygov.com website with a home page for Drug Free Whitley County. They already have the website page being created by a group out of Churubusco they are just looking for a hosted website. It will have to be discussed with the existing contract that the County has with E-Gov to see if they can piggyback onto our current web page or if they will have to establish their own domain name. A motion to approve at no cost to the County

was made by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. Greg will get with Brandon Forrester to check the linking to our County website and what if any cost is involved.

**IN THE MATTER OF MEAL ALLOWANCE FOR 2012:** Chairman Rethlake participated in a meeting between the Community Corrections department and the Sheriff’s department on meals prepared for the clients at the Work Release Center and the meals prepared for the inmates at the Jail. There is \$150,000 appropriated for the 2012 budget for Meal Allowance at this time they want \$60,000 to be allocated for the Work Release and the remaining \$90,000 to be kept at the jail. Both Paula Worden and Sheriff Hodges have agreed on this change. The Work Release will prepare and serve their own meals and the Jail will prepare their own meals, the purchasing will be a combination of both parties to get the best prices on the food needed from the vendors.

**IN THE MATTER OF SECURITY CAMERAS:** Commissioner Rethlake had a request from the Courthouse Security to install cameras on the second floor of the Government Center in the hallway. Right now the only camera is in the Treasurer’s office for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and does not show the public coming and going from the other offices. The price to install will be around \$790.00. After discussion a motion was made to approve the purchase by Amber, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote to pay for the security cameras out of Cum Cap.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** After reviewing the 4/2 Holiday Schedule a change was made to have the observed day for New Year’s moved from January 2, 2012 to January 1, 2012 on the 4/2 calendar. Longevity for the County employees will be paid out Monday November 21, 2012. The 2012 County Budget was completed and submitted to the State. At this time the County Treasurer is reporting 51% collection for the Fall installment of taxes.

With no further business or comments from the public the meeting was adjourned.

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Tom Rethlake, Chairman

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Don Amber, Vice Chairman

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George Schrumpf

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer McGuire  
Auditor