

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
January 3, 2012

The Whitley County Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 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, Otto Boschet Jr, James Thomlison- Post & Mail, Michael Barton, Brandon Forrester, Jim Becher, Alan Tio, Larry Long, Joan Null, Tim Rushenberg, Stanley Crum, Katie Wagner and Dan Weigold

Commissioner Rethlake called the Commissioner meeting to order.

IN THE MATTER COMMISSIONER CHAIRMAN: A motion to nominate Don Amber as the Chairman for the Commissioners' for the 2012 year was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. A motion then was made by Amber to nominate George Schrumpf as Vice Chair for the Commissioners, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. After the changing of the chairs, Commissioner Amber noted the changes to the day's agenda moving them to the next meeting January 17, 2012 and that County attorney Dan Sigler would not be attending today's meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF SRI 2012 AGREEMENTS: Tim Rushenberg from SRI, Incorporated came before the Commissioners with three documents for approval for the 2012 year. First was the 2012-01 Resolution establishing minimum bids for the Commissioner Certificate Sale and the parcels it will contain for the sale a motion to approve was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Second was the SRI Service Master Agreement between SRI and Whitley County on an annual bases for the Commissioner Certificate Sale and the County Tax Sale of properties, it is an annual contract and will need to be signed each year with SRI a motion was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote for signature. And third the Whitley County internet Certificate sale at a fee of 10% for SRI as an addendum to the Master Agreement which will be held March 19 thru 29, 2012, a motion to approve the dates of the sale and fees was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried for approval with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER EDC INVESTMENT BOARD: Alan Tio from EDC came before the Commissioners with the Code of By-Laws for the Whitley County EDC Investment Board for 2012. Requesting an appointment from the Commissioners, a motion to nominate George Schrumpf, seconded by Don Amber, and carried with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber will oversee the OCRA Coesse Sewer Grant and Commissioner Schrumpf will work with the new OCRA Grant for Recycling.

IN THE MATTER MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Minutes from the prior meeting December 19, 2011 we discussed, a motion to approve was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. Claims for the Fall Distribution and utilities were approved, a motion to accept all claims was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER COUNTY COMPUTER COST: Jim Becher from MicroAge presented the Commissioners with a report of yearly IT maintenance costs that includes both software and hardware maintenance. Discussion on the "Computer Policy Addendum" for the County employees and if changes need to made in the County Handbook for use of County computers and the internet services, at this it will be taken care of on an individual bases for any abuse and corrected through the HR. Discussion on the County's annual Contract with Jim and MicroAge and that Jim will need to update his Contract for 2012 and submit it for approval at the next Commissioner meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY: Michael Barton gave an update to the Commissioners on snow removal and that the highway will keep ahead of salt purchases to save money. The Highway Department is still planning on doing the work at Gateway Park, which will include elevations, grading and drainage issues, the timing on this project will all depend upon the weather. Michael reported that new radios will need to be purchased for the Highway to meet the new Narrow Banding that is being implemented by the FCC so that all frequencies will be available. He will need to get quotes for the radio equipment and see if any of the existing equipment can be updated. Commissioner Amber wants Michael to check with other Counties or States on roads and how they were affected by the Wind Power companies and what commitments were kept or not kept from previous obligations.

IN THE MATTER APPOINTMENTS FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD: A request from Region III-A for an Appointee for the Board of Directors, a motion to nominate Amber was made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. Other assignments:

Don Amber

- Board of Finance

- Building Maintenance/Security
- Highway
- Fee Committee
- Region III-A Board of Director
- Solid Waste
- Health Board (Non Voting)
- Emergency Management
- EDC Round Table

George Schrumpf

- Board of Finance
- Emergency Management
- Drainage Board
- Personnel Committee
- Planning Commission
- Joint Advisory Board
- Solid Waste Board
- EDC Investment Board
- Redevelopment Commissioner

Tom Rethlake

- Board of Finance
- Community Corrections Advisory Board
- EMS Strategic Planning Committee ?? Oversight Committee
- GIS Task Force
- Risk Assessment & Management Committee
- Solid Waste
- Public Records Commission

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR: Amy Crickmore requested to do the County employee blood draw for Wellness in 2012, a motion to approve was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. Also a request to use the Courthouse square was submitted by Julie Copeland for the 11th Annual Car/Truck Show for Junior Achievement, it will be Saturday August 4, 2012 from 6-2pm, a motion to allow the use was made by Schrumpf, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Rethlake has recently meet with the new Mayor Ryan Daniels and discussed EDC, Redevelopment, return on infrastructure, city growth, Coesse project and other project co-existing between City and County. Commissioner Schrumpf still working with Brandon Forrester to implement a plan to be in compliance for the ADA Act and Commissioner Amber working on a Snow Removal Policy for the county and maintaining regular hours at the Government Center for appointments throughout the week. Auditor McGuire passed out information showing the cost savings for the County for Health Insurance since implementing the removal of spouses if insured somewhere else. Brandon Forrester and Dan Weigold want to form a Land Committee for questions in parcel numbering for splits and combines of properties throughout the County. Also discussed was the Humbarger #13 drain that runs along the old County Landfill is now being cleaned and the cost will be paid from Rainy Day with a motion made by Rethlake, seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote, this will only be a one time expense for the County they will make up the difference for the clean up cost and what monies are in the drain maintenance account for Humbarger #13 drain. A vehicle inventory sheet was turned in from the Sheriff, discussion on the Sheriff cars that need to be purchased and the two Crown Vic's previously requested for purchase were not going to be available and more information will come at a future meeting.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Don Amber, Chairman

George Schrumpf, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake, Member

Attest: _____
 Jennifer McGuire
 Auditor

