

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 1, 2010

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday February 1, 2010 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. In attendance were Chairman Michael D. Schrader, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Member Tom Rethlake. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting was Auditor Linda Gerig, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, County Attorney Dan Sigler, Plan Director David Sewell, EMA Director Cathy Broxon-Ball, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton, Jerry McClure, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Gene Heckman and Post and Mail reporter Chris Meyers.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR CLAIMS: The minutes of January 19, 2010 and vendor claims for February 1, 2010 were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Dan Sigler presented Ordinance No. 2010-02, an Ordinance Establishing Internal Service Fund for Whitley County Highway Fuel Facility. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed 3/0. (See Ordinance No. 2010-02 on file in the Auditor's Office). Sigler also presented his contract for 2010 legal services for approval. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to accept Sigler's contract for 2010. The motion passed 3/0. Discussion was held on alternative funding methods for EMS, with no conclusion at this time.

IN THE MATTER OF REZONING REQUEST: Plan Director David Sewell and Jerry McClure were present with a request for an amendment to the Whitley County Zoning Map to rezone .121 acre from VC, Village Commercial District, to the LR, Lake Residential District. The Plan Commission held a public hearing on the proposed amendment on January 20, 2010 and voted to recommend approval of the request. Ordinance No. 2010-01, Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance to Reclassify Certain Property, was presented by Sewell. After further discussion, Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to approve Ordinance No. 2010-01 as presented. The vote was 3/0. (See Ordinance No. 2010-01 on file in the auditor's office).

IN THE MATTER OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: The Capital Improvement Plan for Use of Edit Tax was presented for the years of 2010-2011. This plan must be in place for the County to receive Edit Tax Revenues. Resolution No. 2010-03 was presented for approval. After discussion of the matter, Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to approve Resolution No. 2010-03. The motion carried 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF HANDBOOK ISSUES: Items tabled from January 19 were brought up again for further discussion. A change to add a waiting period for insurance coverage was discussed. Currently, any time during a month if a new employee is hired, the insurance coverage goes back to the first of the month. If an employee is hired at the end of the month, the County is obligated to deduct a month's insurance from the first paycheck plus pay the County's portion. After further discussion, Amber moved to add a thirty-day waiting period before becoming eligible for health insurance for new hires effective April 1, 2010. The motion was seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. County Coordinator Amy Crickmore presented a request to have payroll deductions set up for membership to the YMCA. After discussion of the matter, the commissioner's were not in favor of this. In recent months, it has been discussed to change the manner in which mileage reimbursement is made for meeting/conference travel. The new policy will be for the employee to use a mapping aid (Google, MapQuest, etc) to calculate the mileage from either the Courthouse or Government Center, or the location that applies, to their final destination. The mileage calculated is the mileage that will be used for calculating mileage reimbursement. The employee will turn in the calculated mileage along with their mileage claim. Sheriff Mark Hodges was present to discuss the current policy of using compensatory time before accumulated sick time. A lengthy discussion was held with no conclusion. The commissioners directed Coordinator Crickmore to consult Mr. Kent Irwin for further consultation.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY TRUCK BID: Highway Supervisor Michael Barton was present with his recommendation of the bids received on January 19, 2010. Barton is recommending the bid from Selking and WA Jones totaling \$137,192 plus interest. There will be three payments of \$46,500 over the next three years. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to accept Barton's recommendation and purchase the truck from Selking and WA Jones. The motion carried 3/0. Barton explained several matters he is working as far as grants, JOBS Bill and SEDS with Region III-A. Also, application will be made to LTAP for guardrail money. Nothing is final on any of these. A Contract for Engineering Services was presented from Beam, Longest and Neff, consulting engineers for consideration of the Board. This contract would be for as needed engineering services for Whitley County. Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to approve and sign the contract.

IN THE MATTER OF SHORT-TERM DISABILITY REQUEST: Coordinator Crickmore presented a request for an extension to a previously approved short-term disability request. The request will now total \$1800. Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to approve the extension. The motion passed 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT: Amy Crickmore updated the Board on the new county website and explained that calls are being received about adding various community links to the website. After further discussion, the Board asked that the website be kept to government entities. Crickmore explained that she is investigating DVDs for Human Resource training. The departments requesting the training are willing to help with purchasing the DVDs. A contact was made with a local business to recycle the county's old computers. The computers are free but a charge of \$5.00 is being asked to recycle the monitor's. Crickmore was directed to check with the county's recycling center first. With the recent purchase of Centennial Wireless by AT&T, Crickmore is working with a representative from AT &T on a contract and pricing.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Chairman Schrader reported that there are problems with the new coverings on the interior courthouse steps, so that process has stopped for now. The window replacement in the courthouse continues to be investigated. It will take 60-90 days for the windows to be manufactured. A request for carpet replacement in Superior Court offices has been received and Schrader would like to see this done at the same time as windows are replaced since moving of office equipment and furniture will take place anyway. Internet service has been connected for the maintenance supervisor's computer so that the company who installed the heating/cooling system can dial in to diagnose problems prior to making the actual service call. OCRA will be holding grant training at the Peabody Public Library on February 8 and Vice Chairman Amber will attend. Work continues on applying for stimulus money with the assistance of Region III-A. Commissioner Rethlake reported on a recent EMS Strategic Planning Committee he attended where discussion was held on future EMS funding and the EMS garage.

IN THE MATTER OF ELEVATOR CONTRACT: A contract from KONE, Inc. was received for 2010 maintenance on the jail elevator. Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to accept and allow Chairman Schrader to sign. The motion passed 3/0.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Michael D. Schrader, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake, Member

Attest:

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor