

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JULY 19, 2010

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday July 19, 2010 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Michael D. Schrader, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Tom Rethlake. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold, Highway Director Michael Barton, Matt Shipman, Alan Tio, Jim Schrimper, Greg Bateman, Denise Hartleroad, Dale Eby and Post and Mail reporter Chris Meyers. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schrader at 1:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR CLAIMS: The minutes of July 6 and the vendor claims for July 19, 2010 were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF GIS: Dan Weigold was present to discuss a plotter being used for GIS that is either in need of repair or replacement. Weigold has tried various avenues to fix the problems he is having, but sees no improvement in the performance of the plotter. Several quotes have been obtained for possible replacement which range from \$3950 to \$6350. Weigold states that Canon will allow him to use a plotter on a trial basis and return it if not satisfied. It was the recommendation of the Board that he make arrangements to test the Canon 8000 and report back on the results.

IN THE MATTER OF TRI-LAKES PARK: Greg Bateman of the Tri-Lakes Property Owners Association was present to discuss issues at the Tri-Lakes Park. The pond is accumulating settlement and there is a water flow problem causing poor water conditions. Bateman was inquiring if it would be possible to have an engineering firm look for a solution. It was reported that several cases of vandalism have occurred and asked if some type of signs could be posted. The mulch for the playground is in need of replacement. There is \$1500 in the county's CEDIT Plan for the replacement of the mulch. The highway department will pick up and deliver the mulch when their schedule permits and the Association will take care of spreading it. With the acquisition by the county of the old fish hatchery buildings, Bateman was inquiring if any responsibilities of those buildings would be that of the Association. There was further discussion on the matters, but no decisions were made.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Michael Barton was present to report on road work taking place in the county. Barton also stated that he had sent notice to the homeowner on Fox Drive who is obstructing road right-of-way, but the obstruction is still there. Jim Schrimper was also present to ask what steps could be taken next. County Attorney Dan Sigler was not present at the meeting, but will return on August 2 and the matter should be discussed on that date.

IN THE MATTER OF EASEMENT: Denise Hartleroad and Dale Eby were present asking for help with a deteriorating easement between their properties in Chapman's Addition on Bair Road. The area in question was originally platted to Lake Street in 1921, but was never developed. Their concern is for safety of those crossing the property due to the sinking problem. The county attorney will be contacted to see who is responsible for doing research to establish if the county actually owns the property.

IN THE MATTER OF RECOVERY ZONE BOND: Alan Tio was present with an ordinance exercising the Home Rule powers of Whitley County connected with Section 1401 of The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Stimulus Act). The Act authorizes counties or large municipalities to issue recovery zone economic development bonds for purposes of promoting development or other economic activity in a Recovery Zone. After further discussion of the matter, Ordinance No. 2010-10 was introduced for consideration. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to accept and sign the Ordinance. The motion carried 3/0. (See Ordinance No. 2010-10 on file in the auditor's office)

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT: Amy Crickmore presented a request from the Autumn Art Festival to display a banner on the courthouse lawn and to use the Government Center parking lot on September 11, 2010. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to allow the placement of the banner and the use of the parking lot. The motion carried 3/0. A request was presented by Crickmore on behalf of a department to hire a family member as a vacation replacement. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to follow the policy handbook and not allow this request. The motion carried 3/0. Crickmore presented the third quarter IT budget request. Rethlake moved, seconded by Amber, to table the request. The motion passed 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Vice Chairman Amber reported that the issue with the museum furnace has been taken care of. Chairman Schrader reported that drainage problems at the 4-H Fair Grounds are being worked on with the assistance of the City of Columbia City.

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

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Michael D. Schrader, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

Tom Rethlake, Member

Attest:

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor