

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, September 20, 2010 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. In attendance were Chairman Michael D. Schrader and Vice Chairman Don Amber. Tom Rethlake was absent. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting was Auditor Linda Gerig, County Attorney Dan Sigler, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Otto Boschet, Community Corrections Coordinator Paula Worden, Circuit Court Clerk Cindy Doolittle, Ray Whiting, Highway Director Michael Barton, Julia Surber, Tracy Peterson, Sandy Slone, Gene Rohrer, and Post and Mail reporter Chris Meyers. Chairman Schrader called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR CLAIMS: The minutes of September 7 and vendor claims for September 20, 2010 were approved as presented.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Dan Sigler presented Ordinance No. 2010-12, An Ordinance Prohibiting The Purchase, Possession, Sale and Offering For Sale The Synthetic Cannabinoid, Known As "Spice" or "K-2" And For Other Purposes. Amber moved, seconded by Schrader to approve and sign Ordinance No. 2010-12. The motion carried 2/0. The Ordinance shall be published as provided by law, and shall be effective immediately upon publication. This Ordinance will be added to Chapter 91 of the Whitley County Code of Ordinances regarding Public Safety. The fully executed Agreement for Operation of Emergency Medical Services was presented. The Agreement will be discussed at the October 4th meeting when the full Board of Commissioners is present for signing.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT: Amy Crickmore presented two requests to use county facilities. A pink ribbon will be placed on the courthouse lawn recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month during the month of October. The Junior Achievement Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show will be held August 6, 2011. Both requests were approved.

IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMIT REQUESTS: Frontier Communications' Work Order 2360-9P010DB-010 was approved to do utility work on North 650 East south of County Line Road.

IN THE MATTER OF CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT: At a previous meeting a request was presented for possible reimbursement of personal cell phones rather than supplying county cell phones. This policy will not be started at this time.

IN THE MATTER OF SICK TIME BANK: The suggestion of a Sick Time Bank had been discussed several times over the past few months. An employee survey was taken and various scenarios were discussed. From the information gathered and discussions held, Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to consider each individual request for additional sick time. The motion carried 2/0. Co-workers may donate sick time to another co-worker under the following circumstances: The co-worker has a personal health related crisis requiring additional sick time off and has exhausted all of their sick, vacation, personal and comp time. Co-workers interested in donating sick time can access the "Donation of Sick Time Form" from the County Coordinator. No employee receiving volunteer sick days can receive more than 60 days. The Donation Form must be signed by the County Coordinator and forwarded to the Payroll Department for processing. This policy is effective as of September 20, 2010.

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTION POLLING LOCATIONS: Cindy Greer and Ray Whiting were present with the Notice of Voting Locations for the November 2, 2010 General Election. One polling location has been relocated to the Church of the Nazarene from the Zion Lutheran Church. The voting location is used by voters in Columbia #5 and Columbia #6 precincts. Amber moved, seconded by Schrader, to approve the Notice of Voting Locations as presented. The motion carried 2/0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS VAN: Paula Worden reported that a new 15-passenger van will be purchased for the Community Corrections Program. The City of Columbia City and Probation User Fees will each give \$10,000 towards the funding of the purchase. The Prosecutor User Fees will fund the balance.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Michael Barton was present to discuss the purchase of new vehicles. The foreman's truck will be given to the mechanic and the director's truck will be given to the mechanic. The director will be getting a used vehicle.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOURCE CENTER COMMITTEE: Sandy Slone, Tracy Peterson and Paula Worden were present to discuss the need for office space for a new Resource Center. This committee was formed due to the Literacy Council needing to move out of the Marshall Building. Tracy Peterson explained that Purdue Extension is partnering with various agencies to initiate The Benefit Bank. The Benefit Bank of Indiana was brought to the state by the Work Supports Initiative, a collaboration with the goal of connecting modest-income Americans with work supports through grassroots outreach using web-based technology and other tools. Cindy Barnett and Peterson are both taking part in training and hope to house the program in office space at the Purdue Extension Building. Peterson went on to explain various other ways the program will assist people in need. The Commissioners would like to have Barnett and the Literacy Council Board members give more detail on final arrangements.

IN THE MATTER OF VETERANS' OFFICER: Gene Rohrer was present to discuss his needs for office space which would allow him to move the office out of his home. If office space would be available in a county building, it would allow for easier access for the aged cliental and those with disabilities. No decision was made at this time.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Michael D. Schrader, Chairman

Don Amber, Vice Chairman

ABSENT
Tom Rethlake

Attest:

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor