

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**AUGUST 17, 2009**

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 17, 2009 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. In attendance were Chairman Tom Rethlake and Member Don Amber. Vice Chairman Michael D. Schrader was absent. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Attorney Dan Sigler, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Erin Martin, Chad Burch, Brien Hansen, Amy Dimberio, Lisa Schanbacher, Engineer Brandon Forrester, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton, Kim Wheeler, Sanitarian Scott Wagner and TJ Hemlinger. Chairman Rethlake called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND VENDOR CLAIMS:** The minutes of August 3 and vendor claims for August 17, 2009 were approved as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT:** Dan Sigler reported that the county highway workers struck a gas line on Linker Road. He will follow up when more information is available. A discussion was held on a possible golf cart ordinance for the county. Sigler will check surrounding areas for similar ordinances.

**IN THE MATTER OF PARKVIEW WELLNESS GROUP:** Representatives from Phillips Financial and Parkview Wellness Group were present to continue the discussion on the implementation of a Wellness Program for Whitley County employees. Chad Burch explained two incentives for participation in the Program. The first option would be a deductible differential for those participating with an increase in deductibles for those not participating. The second option would be a premium contribution differential for those not participating. No decision was made. After further discussion, it was agreed upon to move forward with the Program. Amy Crickmore will work with the Parkview staff on employee notification of a health fair this fall.

**IN THE MATTER OF BRIDGE INSPECTIONS:** Engineer Brandon Forrester was present to explain the new process of scoring proposals submitted for bridge inspections. INDOT suggests that a committee be formed to score each proposal. A committee of Commissioner Amber, Highway Director Barton and Forrester will meet to score the seven proposals received. They will report their findings to the commissioners on September 8, 2009.

**IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY REPORT:** Director Michael Barton was present with his report on road work. The employees have sealed 96 miles of roads and are currently putting stone or gravel down and grading along with cutting brush. Barton explained an issue with mailboxes that are not compliant with county ordinances and the resident was sent a letter explaining their non-compliance. Resident Brien Hanson was present to voice his displeasure in roads that are being repaired and those that are not. He feels there are many roads in worse condition than those being chipped and sealed.

**IN THE MATTER OF COESSE SEWER ISSUE:** With the construction of the new Equine Hospital, sewer issues have developed in the Town of Coesse. The City of Columbia City is inviting Whitley County to participate in an Engineering Study for providing sewer service to those residents. The City is requesting that the cost of the Study be split resulting in the county owing \$3300. There would be a possibility of a grant for the project. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake, to request \$3300 in Redevelopment Funds for the project. The motion passed 2/0.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COORDINATOR REPORT:** Amy Crickmore reported that the DVR is down in the courthouse security system. The DVR provides images from the Government Center to the security staff. Cost to repair would be \$5000. At the present time, the DVR will not be repaired. A request was granted for use of the Gazebo on September 4, 2009. A short-term disability request in the amount of \$100 was approved.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORT:** Chairman Rethlake reported that the ATM machine located in the Government Center will remain and there is no interest from any bank to locate one at the Courthouse. A contract for a county website was signed with Egov Strategies. A plan of action is in place for any impact of the H1N1 Flu Virus. Two quotes were received for replacing the west door of the Annex located at 101 South Line Street. The quotes were received from T&L Construction and D&C Construction Co., Inc. Amber moved, seconded by Rethlake to accept the quote from T&L Construction in the amount of \$4630. The motion passed 2/0.

**IN THE MATTER OF UTILITY PERMIT REQUESTS:** The following utility permit requests were approved.

- United Telephone Company of Indiana, Inc. Job Number 09078720 – County Line Road from 500S to 250 ft north of SR 14.
- Verizon North Inc. Work Order 9P009DB-12 – Westwood Lane south of 600N
- Verizon North Inc. Work Order 9P009DB-10 – Anderson Road East of 550E

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

**WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Tom Rethlake, Chairman

Absent  
Michael D. Schrader, Vice Chairman

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Don Amber

Attest:

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Linda J. Gerig, Auditor