

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 19, 2015

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 19, 2015 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Tom Rethlake, Don Amber, and George Schrumpf. Others in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Viv Sade from the Churubusco News, Nick Rupert from the Post & Mail, Highway Director Michael Barton, Lola Schrumpf, Janelle Schmitt, Sheriff Gatton, Leslee Derbeck from STAR Insurance, Michael Knafel, County Engineer Brandon Forrester, Bill Etzler from ERI, Assistant Planner Cathy Gardner, and Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library.

Chairman Rethlake opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: County Attorney Dan Sigler discussed the LOIT Public Safety Tax with the Commissioners. He stated that everything up to this point associated with the County Council is null and void, and the new public hearing for the tax is scheduled at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, October 27, 2015. Dan stated that if it passes, he will ensure that it goes through the proper procedures after adoption. In regard to the Workforce Development Grant, Attorney Sigler has reviewed the agreement for professional services for Lori Shipman Consulting as the consultant and has no objections to the agreement. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the agreement for professional services, seconded by Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote. The resolution authorizing application submission and local match commitment for the grant was presented to the Commissioners. It states that the Commissioners commit \$31,250 from CEDIT funds for the grant as Resolution 2015-07. After review, Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-07, seconded by Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the Wheeler property, the Commissioners would like Attorney Sigler to come up with a possible compromise. They will have a meeting with the owner of the property and will wait to make any decisions until after the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 4/2 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AND VEHICLE REQUEST: Sheriff Gatton presented the 2016 4/2 holiday schedule to the Commissioners. After review, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the 2016 4/2 holiday schedule, seconded by Schrumpf, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Sheriff Gatton also had a vehicle request for a 2008 Crown Victoria to be transferred to Community Corrections to replace a vehicle that they use. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to relocate the vehicle from the Sheriff's department to Community Corrections, seconded by Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE GRANT SIGNATURE RESOLUTION: The Commissioners reviewed the letter to send to the IDHS Legal and Grants Departments for the authorized agents for IDHS State and Federal funds signatures. They also reviewed the resolution stating who would be signing the grants. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-08, seconded by Schrumpf, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LETTER OF CREDIT FOR TRIPLE R DEVELOPMENT: Assistant Planner Cathy Gardner presented a letter of credit for Triple R Development for Keith Robinson. There was an irrevocable letter of credit previously completed in 2014 but the improvements have not been completed and the time has expired. This is a new letter of credit and the expiration date will be September 4, 2016. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to have the letter of credit extended, seconded by Amber, and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE: This matter was discussed under the County's Attorney matters.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Director Michael Barton presented the 2016 annual major supply bids to the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to accept the notice for the 2016 annual major supply bids, seconded by Schrumpf, and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY COORDINATOR: County Coordinator Pam Smith informed the Commissioners that she has an employment law forum on October 20, 2015 that she plans to attend. In regard to a new Planning Director, Pam stated that there were two applicants. Commissioner Schrumpf explained that the Commissioners held an executive session on October 13, 2015 to have the interviews for the Planning Director. After review and discussion, Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to hire Nathan Bilger as the new Planning Director, seconded by Amber, and carried with a 3/0 vote. Pam stated that she would send an offer letter to Nathan and request a starting date.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the October 5, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Schrumpf, and carried with a 3/0 vote.

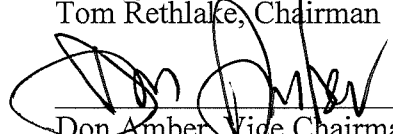
IN OTHER BUSINESS: Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented the 2015 longevity figures to the Commissioners. The total amount of longevity for 2015 is \$82,200 but \$54,400 of this amount is paid out of the County General fund. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that the US 30 meeting was held in Plymouth. They formed an executive committee of six members to come up with a plan for US 30 from Allen to Lake County. Commissioner Amber went out to Coesse to view the Coesse Sewer Project work and he stated that it was well marked, well paved, and it will increase the property value of the residents. There was also an EMA advisory board with the new EMA Director Amy Biggs and it went very well. They also contacted Larwill to name a representative now that Kim Reiff has resigned. Mike Knafel from the Engineer's office came before the Commissioners to review some claims that have been denied. He was informed that he needed to get the appeal process started and it needs to be in writing to the Plan Administrator which is the County. Commissioner Rethlake informed the Commissioners and the public that he will be resigning as the Commissioner Chairman effective today and the Vice Chairman will be taking over as Chairman.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Rethlake adjourned the meeting at 2:12 PM.

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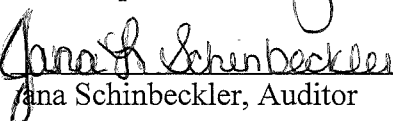
Tom Rethlake, Chairman



Don Amber, Vice Chairman



George Schrumpf

Attest: 

Jana Schinbeckler, Auditor