

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 17, 2016

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 17, 2016 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrumpf, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Commissioner Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Brandon Forrester, Scott Wagner from the Health Department, Joan Null, and Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Commissioner Rethlake asked Attorney Sigler if a certain property could be removed from the County's tax sale on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. Attorney Sigler stated that he believes the Commissioners are able to take a property off of the tax sale list under any circumstances. The reason for this request is due to the Commissioners being in negotiation with the property landowner. Commissioner Amber asked Attorney Sigler about the Cedarbridge issue. Attorney Sigler is going to file a judgement against them and contact their Attorney.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCES: In regard to the speed ordinances, County Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester stated that the two ordinances he presented do not control speed with a stop sign, they are reducing speeds on County roads. Brandon stated that he recommends the yield sign be replaced with a stop sign due to sight distance issues. The first ordinance that Brandon proposed was to amend schedule III (D) of Chapter 71 of Title VII of the Whitley County Code (Stop and Yield Signs). He recommends the Commissioners to remove the yield sign at intersection 200 S (eastbound) for Washington Road and designate a stop sign. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-11 amending schedule III (D), seconded by Commissioner Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second ordinance was for a speed limit reduction for a portion of County Road 600 north. After conducting a traffic study for speeds on the road indicated, Brandon recommends that the speed limit be lowered to 45 MPH. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-12 allowing the speed limit reduction on County Road 600 north, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE RIGHT STUFF MANAGEMENT CONTRACT: In regard to The Right Stuff time management contract, Attorney Sigler has approved both agreements for the Commissioners to sign. The first portion of the contract was the Application Hosting Agreement. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Application Hosting Agreement and allow for the Chairman to sign the document, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second agreement was the Software License Agreement. Commissioner Amber made a motion to accept the agreement and for the Chairman to sign, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 2/0 vote with Rethlake abstaining.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT REAPPOINTMENT: Scott Wagner from the Health Department presented a request to the Commissioners to reappoint Richard Dickmeyer, M.D. and Grace Lotter to the Whitley County Health Board and they have both agreed to serve another four years beginning January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the reappointment request for Richard Dickmeyer, M.D. and Grace Lotter for another four years pending the Health Board's approval, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the October 3, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Rehtlake made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

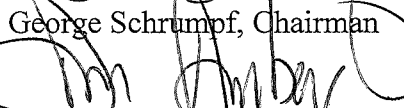
IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY COORDINATOR: County Coordinator Pam Smith presented three requests to the Commissioners to use County facilities. The first request was from Tammy Wolfe for a candle light vigil for Marcus Wolfe on October 27, 2016 at 7:00 PM. The Courthouse lawn would be utilized for this candle light vigil. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was from Ann Fahl and Sharon Geiger to decorate the Courthouse Gazebo on November 5, 2016. They will removed the decorations by January 6, 2017. The Commissioners did not make a decision at this time and stated that they would speak with Maintenance Supervisor Mark Sturtevant before they make a decision. Three Rivers Running Company sent a request to the Commissioners to use the Courthouse lawn on Saturday, November 12, 2016 from 8 AM to 2 Pm for the Veterans Marathon. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Pam presented the 4/2 Holiday Schedule, with one change, to the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the 4/2 Holiday Schedule, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the Part Time Wage Scale, there are 22 part time employees who are at the maximum wage or over. The average part time wage in Whitley County is \$18.08. In 2013, the County made the change for the maximum part time wage to go from \$15 per hour to \$17 per hour. Pam is requesting the Commissioners approve the maximum to go from \$17 to \$19 per hour. The Personnel Committee has reviewed this and gave a favorable recommendation. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council for the maximum part time wage to go to \$19 per hour, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 2/1 vote with Rethlake voting against.

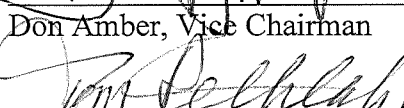
IN OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Rethlake reported that there are 80 people in Community Corrections and 103 in the Jail. Commissioner Amber informed the Commissioners on the JDAI program. There are around 20 counties in the State that have the program and it is to help juveniles to not be placed in a facility and are able to be at home while dealing with their issues. In regard to the unofficial detour from INDOT for a bridge substructure repair and rehabilitation on US 33 over Eel River, Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the unofficial detour. The motion was seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrumpf presented information to the Commissioners for the Ezell Group in regard to the County ambulances. Commissioner Amber made a motion to sign the paperwork for the ambulances and Parkview would take it over in 2017, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. In regard to radios the County owns, an upgrade is being completed and J & K Communications is charging the County \$165 per radio. EMA Director Amy Biggs is searching for better deals. In regard to the US 30 Coalition bill for \$10,000, the County is paying the full amount of the invoice but the City is reimbursing the County \$5,000.


There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 2:13 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrumpf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Tom Rethlake

Attest: 
Jana Schinbeckler, County Auditor