

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 5, 2018

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 5, 2018 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 Thomas Western. Others in attendance were County Attorney Matt Shipman, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Hamilton, Human Resource Director/County Coordinator Angela Campbell, David Raypole, Nina Rodocker, Barbara Hohenstein, Sonya Emerick, Joe Lopez from Adlock Farms LLC, Tonya Miller from Indiana Fiber Network, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Scott Wagner from the Health Department, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Emily Studebaker, EDC President Jon Myers, County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder, Sheriff Marcus Gatton, Joan Null, County Recorder April Whetstone, Kelley Sheiss, Maintenance Director Mark Sturtevant and Bridgett Hernandez from KPC Media.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Matt Shipman reported that he has still not found an attorney to take on the InWelligent case in Florida. He is still looking but most of the avenues he has pursued, he has not received a call back. In regard to the submitting a victim assistance affidavit related to the incident at the Jail, he is trying to get the funds back through restitution for what the incident cost the County. Commissioner Amber made a motion to pursue filing a victim assistance affidavit, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE TEMPORARY DEPUTY POSITION: County Assessor Kim Erdly informed the Commissioners that the temporary Deputy Assessor position is no longer needed. This is due to the Chief Deputy not being required to have their Level II Certification. She will still obtain her Level II Certification but there is not a time limit requirement.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLAN COMMISSION BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS: Planning Director Nathan Bilger informed the Commissioners that they need someone to replace Kenny Kerich on the Plan Commission. The board member needs to be Republican and he gave them a list of five people who are potential replacements. He does not have any recommendations for any of them at this time. Commissioner Amber made a motion to table the board member replacement, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JUNK/TRASH ISSUES: Scott Wagner from the Health Department stated that the Commissioners approved a bid for junk and trash to clean up the Van Houten property on Division road. The contracting bid for the cleanup expired February 20, 2018. The project is not completed and the contractor has not submitted a bill at this time. The contractor is 50% complete with this project at this time. Scott spoke with the contractor and it may take a few more months for him to get the project completed. Scott asked the Commissioners if they would like to have him continue the project or rebid it. Commissioner Amber made a motion to give the contractor a 60 day extension for the project, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BROAD BAND: EDC President Jon Myers gave an update to the Commissioners on the broadband project with Indiana Fiber Network. The issue was trying to increase the fiber access for the businesses and primarily get the fiber out to the TIF district businesses. Jon has a draft of a contract that he gave to Attorney Shipman and he had a few questions about the contract. Jon took a poll of the 29 businesses out in the area and received 19 responses. Of those 19, based on the pricing of the contract, 14 of those companies stated they would sign up right away, three stated they would as soon as their current contracts expire and two said not at this time. Tonya Miller from Indiana Fiber Network stated that they have been in business for sixteen years and focus on larger companies. The Commissioners stated that they would pay the full amount out of CEDIT and then the Redevelopment Commission would reimburse half of it. Commissioner Amber made a motion to table the contract until the next meeting, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The total of the contract is \$80,000.00. Jon and Matt will review the contract and work out any issues there may be.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTIMATES FOR PROJECTS: Maintenance Director Mark Sturtevant presented a packet to the Commissioners in regard to projects for different County buildings. First, Mark wanted to discuss the Government Center panic button quotes because the panic buttons no longer work. There were three quotes presented to the Commissioners. The first option does not show who pushed the button but the panic

buttons would work. The second option, it would show which office pushed the button but it requires an annual service agreement for monitoring. The third option shows which office pushed the button but it requires a lot more equipment and is more money than the other two options. Mark is recommending that the Commissioners approve the second option. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the second option paid from the consultants line item in the Commissioner budget, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the Jail recreational repair, Mark is recommending that the Commissioners approve the work that Martin Riley recommends. The overall project will cost the County \$17,018.00. Commissioner Western made a motion to give a favorable pass to Council, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Jail exterior needs restoration as well. The south side of the jail needs 100% sealant of the joints around the caps and arches. The south side of the Jail, specifically the recreation area, has the most deterioration. The quote for \$11,073.00 would take care of all the coping joints around the perimeter of the roof and take care of the foundation that is cracked. Mark stated that he believes this project should take priority over the Courthouse sidewalks. Commissioner Schrumpf stated they could potentially remove the Courthouse sidewalk projects from the CEDIT plan and add the Jail restoration. Mark could ask Council for the additional \$24,000.00 or so. In regard to the two exterior Jail doors, Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council for \$4,530 to replace the doors. Commissioner Western seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR/COUNTY COORDINATOR: Human Resource Director/County Coordinator Angela Campbell informed the Commissioners that she will be putting in a request to Council to be added to the Personnel Committee as a non-voting member. She also had two requests to use County facilities. The first request was from Shambaugh and Sons because they would like to store their equipment at the Highway Department. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request with the stipulations that they work out the detail with Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. The second request was from the Downtown Business Alliance for 1st Fridays beginning in June and ending in October. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote.


IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the February 19, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the payroll claims. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from February 19, 2018 through March 5, 2018 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

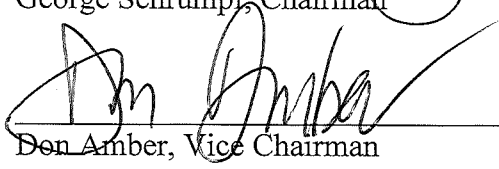
IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS: In regard to the GIS Data request that GIS Coordinator brought to the Commissioners, Commissioner Amber stated that he would like the individual requesting the information to attend the next Commissioners meeting.

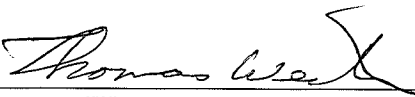
IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester informed the Commissioners that the right-of-way permit they approved for Nipsco had some revisions. He has reviewed the revisions and given the permit his approval. He gave the Commissioners a copy of the federal guardrail standards and we can adopt our own standards. He worked with our bridge design consultant and they prepared this for the County. Brandon does recommend the Commissioners give it their approval as part of the County's Highway standards. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the bridge approach guardrail standards, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Brandon also presented the annual financial report to the Commissioners for the Highway Department. It is a requirement for the Community Crossings grant that the Commissioners give it their approval. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Highway annual operational report, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Brandon also informed the Commissioners that they have ordered some new equipment and have also received some of their new equipment. In regard to right-of-way permit requests, there was a request from Nipsco. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the Nipsco right-of-way permit request, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that he received Sheriff Gatton's Jail report. Chemical agent deployment went from zero in 2016 to 24 in 2017, Taser deployment from 6 to 25, restraint chair usage from 30 to 98 and inmate altercations from 21 to 30.

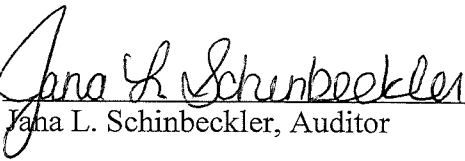
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 2:38 pm.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrumpf, Chairman


Don Amber, Vice Chairman


Thomas Western

Attest: 
Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor