

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 17, 2021

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 17, 2021 at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room located on the 1st floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Vice Chair Theresa Green and Commissioner Chad Banks. Absent was Chair George Schrupf. Others in attendance were Coordinator/Human Resources Director Jennifer Shinabery, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Becky Salaway from Whitley County Council on Aging, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Sheriff Gatton, Jeff Ott and Mathew Shoda.

Vice Chair Green opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Shipman reviewed the interlocal agreement with Larwill for a road improvement. He has given the agreement his approval for the Commissioners to approve. Attorney Shipman is hoping to have an update soon on the purchase of the Armstrong Property. He also informed the Commissioners that he did send a letter to Mercury Wireless last week letting them know that there are some issues with the agreement that the County expects them to uphold.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT: This interlocal agreement between the Town of Larwill and Whitley County is due to the parties sharing an interest in the quality of roadways located in and around the Town, including County Road 100 North. The road has fallen to disrepair such that it requires paving and installation of mailbox tapers. The County and the Town, in consideration with mutual benefit of ensuring public safety and promoting strong infrastructure, hereby agree to apply for Community Crossings Grant funding in the second-round call for submissions in 2021. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the County and the Town of Larwill and for the Chair to sign, seconded by Green and passed with a 2/0 vote.

RED STAR REZONING CERTIFICATION: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented a rezoning request to the Commissioners for approval for Red Star. The rezoning request was to rezone their property, 1560 North State Road 5, LLC, from "AG" Agricultural District" to "IPM" Industrial Park/Manufacturing District. The Plan Commission made their recommendation to the Commissioners to rezone the property per the owner's request. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-05 to approve the rezoning request, seconded by Green and passed with a 2/0 vote.

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION AND AGREEMENTS: Becky Salaway from Whitley County Council on Aging was present to request approval for her grant paperwork. The Commissioners reviewed the paperwork that Becky presented to them. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-04, seconded by Green and carried with a 2/0 vote. The next documentation the Commissioners approved was the Local Financial Assurances and the Capital Project Categorical Exclusions. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the documents, seconded by Green and carried with a 2/0 vote. The Commissioners then reviewed the Certification of Use of Capital Equipment. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the document, seconded by Green and passed with a 2/0 vote. The next three documents to be approved were the Pass-Through Agreement, the Certifications and Assurances of Federal Funds and the Special Labor Warranty. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the agreements, seconded by Green and carried with a 2/0 vote.

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WHITLEY COUNTY AS A CONSTITUTIONAL SANCTUARY COUNTY: Matthew Shoda was requesting the Commissioners adopt an ordinance establishing Whitley County as a sanctuary county. There are several surrounding counties that have adopted a similar ordinance. This ordinance states that Whitley County shall not comply with, assist, or use any personal or financial resources to enforce, administer, or cooperate with, any Law that violates the 2nd Amendment. Commissioner Banks made a motion to table the matter until a later meeting, seconded by Green and tabled with a 2/0 vote.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester gave an update on the Highway Department. Brandon informed the Commissioners that he will be advertising for a bid opening on June 7, 2021 for their Community Crossings project. He has also began working on the road program for the year and has found that some roads are in worse condition. The Department plans to change the material used for the roads based on the performance of the material used previously.

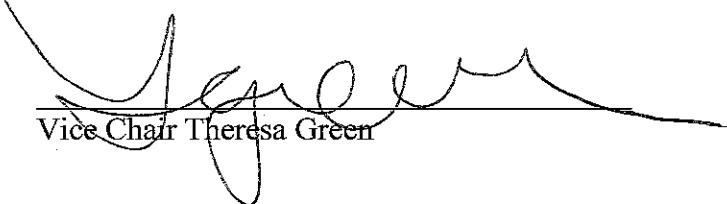
FACILITIES REQUEST: This facilities request was to utilize the north side of the Whitley County Courthouse for the annual Flag Day Ceremony. The Ceremony will begin at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 19, 2021. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Green and carried with a 2/0 vote.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The Commissioners reviewed all payroll and accounts payable claims. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Green and carried with a 2/0 vote. The claim distributions from May 3, 2021 through May 17, 2021 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Green and carried with a 2/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the May 3, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Banks and passed with a 2/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Vice Chair Green adjourned the meeting at 1:40 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Chair George Schrumpf



Vice Chair Theresa Green



Commissioner Chad Banks

Attest: 

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor