

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 2, 2018

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 2, 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, County Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator/HR Director Angela Campbell, Julie Jensen-Kelley from Community Corrections, Paula Worden from Community Corrections, EDC President Jon Myers, Alan Tio from MKS, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Barbara Hohenstein, Mackenzie Degroot from the Post & Mail and J. Meister.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: County Attorney Matt Shipman gave an update on the parking lot lease for Canda Goldwood off of Van Buren and Washington Street. The agreement holds the County harmless and she is responsible for upkeep and maintenance. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the lease agreement, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Attorney Shipman also presented an ordinance to the Commissioners to establish a revolving loan fund. The purpose of this revolving loan fund is to create an avenue whereby the County can contribute to a project being completed with CREDIT funds. The funds would then come back over a period of time and the Commissioners need to discuss the terms of the payback. The initial loan will be \$425,000.00 which is approximately \$40,000.00 per month if the payback terms are a year. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-03 to establish the revolving loan fund, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to InWelligent, the few attorneys that were doing the search gave up because they are not able to find anything. The County still has a judgement filed and it is valid for ten years.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE IN VENDOR: County Assessor Kim Erdly informed the Commissioners that she would like to switch her vendor from Thomson Reuters to XSoft. She will be asking the Council at their meeting in August for the additional appropriation to switch vendors. XSoft offers all of the necessities for reassessment rather than having two vendors and their support and maintenance fees are less. Kim stated that it will make cyclical reassessment go much smoother and allow them to operate more efficiently. Kim also informed the Commissioners that the Assessor's Office has rolled the assessed values to the Auditor. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council for the change in vendors, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS UPDATE: Paula Worden and Julie Jensen-Kelley presented the approved 2018/2019 budget to the Commissioners. The packet that she handed out to the Commissioners pertains to the funds that Community Corrections will be responsible for administering. The only additional funds they received from the State was for the courts which were awarded a pre-trial service coordinator which is a part time position. That person will directly report to both Judges. Paula is also requesting an additional Shift Supervisor from the Council that will be paid out of User Fees, not the grant from the State. Community Corrections was not awarded any Veterans Treatment Court funds as they requested, however they were notified by the Office of Court Services that the program is going to be funded through them.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVALS FOR DR. BURKETT, HEALTH OFFICER AND DR. LIEB, BOARD MEMBER AND REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT DISCUSSION: Scott Wagner from the Health Department informed the Commissioners that Dr. Hatcher resigned as the Health Officer and Dr. Burkett will be replacing her. Dr. Burkett now serves on the Board and he can no longer be on the Board since he will be the new Health Officer so Dr. Lieb will replace him in that role. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve Dr. Burkett as the Health Officer and Dr. Lieb as a Board Member, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. In regard to the Regional Sewer District, Scott reported that he has done many interviews with the homeowners for information and they are in the stage where they are gathering votes to have projects for IDEM for funding. The majority of the projects were initiated by the Health Department giving the Board a list of locations within the county that they have experience with. These locations either have failing septic systems or no septic system and they have prioritized the list. There have been several communities that have voted to reject the sanitary sewer coming into their location whether it be a small town or subdivision. The goal of the Regional Sewer District was to help improve the waterways and ecology of Whitley County. Scott stated that he has the Health Board's approval to come before the Commissioners to get their permission to begin investigating the E. coli levels that they're finding on the exiting tiles of additions or the ditches that are nearby. He will begin tracing the E. coli

levels back to specific individual homes. Scott needs to investigate the levels and this requires him to go onto someone’s property. He will be sending out a letter ahead of time letting them know what day he will be on their property. If the owner refuses, he has to get a court order to allow him on their property. The Commissioners agreed that they support whatever Scott needs to do to get this completed.

IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS: Two right-of-way permits were presented to the Commissioners. The first was from Indiana Fiber Network on Lincolnway/Old US 30 to install a new duct and fiber with locate wire by directional boring. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was from Frontier Communications to bore under 300 North to provide service to 8093 E 300 N. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the June 18, 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 June 18, 2018 through July 2, 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 OTHER BUSINESS: EDC President Jon Myers reported to the Commissioners that he received a message from Congressman Jim Banks’ office to notify him that the EDC has received a \$30,000 federal rural development grant. This is to support the County’s small business and entrepreneur initiatives with the EDC. Attorney Matt Shipman informed the Commissioners that he has reviewed the agreement and the addendum with SRI for the 2018 tax sale and has given his recommendation for approval to the Commissioners. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the addendum, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Auditor Schinbeckler reported to the Commissioners that State Board of Accounts will be coming to the County to audit 2016 and 2017. Commissioner Amber stated that quarterly inspections on vehicles need to be completed and County Coordinator/HR Director Angela Campbell stated that she has them from each department and receives them quarterly from each department that has a vehicle. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that Whitley Works has asked the Commissioners to partner with them for their program. If students go through the program and receive their certification, they are asking the Commissioners to acknowledge the students. The County’s insurance company has asked for an appraisal for all of the Whitley County buildings. Commissioner Schrumpf stated that it would cost approximately \$2,000 to \$3,000. Barbara Hohenstein informed the Commissioners that she and some of the neighbors at Tri Lakes have a concern. There is a property at 5499 N Fish Hatchery Road that there was a methamphetamine arrest and the house has had a condemned sign on it since February. The Deputies have been called to the house several times because strange men have been leaving the house with property. The second time, the Deputies did speak to the men and they were allowed to leave with the boxes. It is her understanding that the house should be locked and secured and has a concern as to why the men have been allowed to leave with contaminated materials. There is also a burnt couch behind the house which is a safety hazard. Barbara stated that she and other neighbors are curious as to what the policy, procedures and legality of allowing people to leave the residence with boxes. The only property owner is the one that was convicted and has been incarcerated. Commissioner Amber stated that this should not be happening and she needs to speak with Scott Wagner from the Health Department.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 1:55 pm.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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George Schrumpf, Chairman	Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor
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Don Amber, Vice Chairman	
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Thomas Western	