

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 19, 2022

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 19, 2022, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room located on the 1st floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chair Chad Banks, Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger and Commissioner George Schrupf remoted in via Gotomeeting. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, HR Director Jennifer Shinabery, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Treasurer Kay Gatton, Recorder Rosemary Brown, Highway Director Katy Fry, Jason Spencer from the Sheriff's Department, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Councilmember Joan Western, Rob Schuman, Scott Wagner, April Waugh, Russ Gillion, Mike Malcolm and Heather Reid from the Health Board and Health Department and Sonya Emerick.

Chair Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Shipman stated that he had nothing to report at this time other than items that are already on the agenda.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Katy Fry was present to give her recommendation for the bids that were opened at the December 5, 2022, Commissioner meeting. Katy did want to let Commissioners know that there were some bids that were received on time however did not make it to the right department, so they were unable to be opened with the rest. Katy opened them once she received them. Katy recommends that the Commissioners accept all bids except for the fixed price for the fuel bid and the item #11, and that should be bid out separately for each bridge as needed. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to accept all bids except for the fixed price and item #11, Commissioner Schrupf seconded, passing with a 3/0 roll call vote.

SHERIFF CONTRACT: Attorney Matt Shipman has reviewed the contract for the incoming Sheriff and the County and feels that it is good. This contract was based off the current Sheriffs contract with a few changes made. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-16, with a second by Schrupf and passed with a 3/0 roll call vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENT: Health Director Scott Wagner was present to discuss the tabled re-appointment that the Health Board has brought forward for Margaret Malcolm. Dr. Burkett and Scott Wagner spoke on the request and asked that Commissioners accept the re-appointment. They stated that Margret shows up to the meetings and has been great on the board with her first term. Commissioner Schrupf made a motion to approve the re-appointment, and with a lack of a second the motion died. Commissioner Banks stated that he had concerns about how COVID restrictions were handled, and he has listened to his constituents and would like to have someone else be brought forward by the Health Board to fill the board seat.

PLAN COMMISSION BOARD APPOINTMENT: Nathan Bilger was present to seek the Commissioners board appointment for the Plan Commission. He stated that there are two applicants that are interested in the opening, the current member that has been on the board for 22 years Doug Graff and a new appointee Nicki Venable. Commissioner Baysinger stated that she would like to see Nicki sit on this board and that she meets the requirements. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to place Nicki Venable on the plan commission, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 roll call vote. Commissioner Schrupf wanted to say what a great job that Doug has done as a member of the plan commission for all those years.

TITLE IV-E FUND ORDINANCE: Auditor Deakins stated that Judge Rentschler was unable to make the meeting but has requested that a fund be established to be able to receive 40% reimbursement for legal representation and be spent on such expenses. Attorney Shipman stated that the ordinance is just establishing the funds and allowing for said funds to be used on legal representation. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-22, seconded by Schrupf and passed unanimously with a 3/0 roll call vote.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The claim distributions from December 6, 2022, through December 19, 2022, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Baysinger stated she checked the accounts payable, and payroll claims and saw no issues. Baysinger made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schrupf, and passed unanimously with a 3/0 roll call vote. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, with a second by Schrupf, and passed unanimously with a 3/0 roll call vote. The Commissioners reviewed the regular meeting minutes from December 5, 2022, and the bid opening meeting minutes from December 5, 2022. Commissioner Schrupf made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes, seconded by Baysinger, and passed unanimously with a 3/0 roll call vote. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the bid opening minutes, seconded by Schrupf and carried with a 3/0 roll call vote.

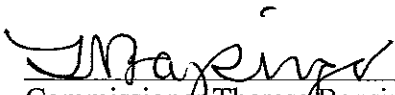
OTHER COUNTY BUSINESS: Commissioner Baysinger wanted to thank Commissioner Schrupf for all his years of service as a County Commissioner and that she appreciated all his help when she was first elected in. The County would like to wish George and his wife Lola the best on his retirement.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:21 PM.

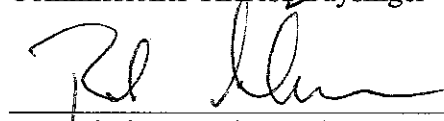
WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS




Commissioner Chad Banks



Commissioner Theresa Baysinger



Commissioner Robert Schuman

Attest: 
Tiffany Deakins, Auditor