

## JANUARY 5, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 5, 2009. Auditor Jane Ridgeway called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Brian K. Hauptert, Scott E. Givens, and newly elected Commissioner Barry J. Eppley. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. First order of business was the election of the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Givens made a motion to elect Brian K. Hauptert; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 2-0 vote. Ridgeway then turned the meeting over to Hauptert who called for a motion to elect the Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Eppley made a motion to nominate Givens as Vice Chairman; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed with a 2-0 vote. The minutes of the December 22, 2008 meeting and December 29, 2008 Special Session were reviewed. Givens motioned to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved by a 2-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent gave the following report:

1. Requested permission to purchase an eight (8) channel DVR with remote viewing and night vision camera system. The security cameras would be over the fuel pumps, salt barn, and front of the building. The cameras have motion sensors and will only turn on with activity. Amones had quotes from L&L Computer for a four (4) channel system: \$1,706.96; and for an eight (8) channel system: \$1,892.56. Amones stated they would like to monitor the bulk supplies storage. The cost for the system could be covered using the building maintenance budget line item. Givens made a motion to approve the eight (8) channel security camera system at \$1,892.56 with L&L Computer using the Building Maintenance Fund; his motion was seconded by Eppley and approved with a 3-0 vote.
2. Presented an approved grant for the railroad crossing at 800 N totaling approximately \$50,000. Amones stated the grant has been approved but not yet forwarded. County Attorney Steve Downs stated this particular grant has a petition filed for review and is still pending. Downs also stated he would contact the State to check on any time stipulations regarding this grant.
3. Requested permission to obtain a credit card for the Highway Department. Givens made a motion to approve a credit card for the Highway Department use; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.
4. Amones stated he and Foreman John Martin would be attending the annual bridge conference January 28 & 29 in Lafayette, Indiana.
5. Presented two road designs for the 1400 N repair project; a half circle loop or a squared design. Givens stated the most cost effective would be the one to choose which Amones stated would be the half circle. Commissioners unanimously agreed to use the half circle design around the sink hole at 1400 N.

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Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported:

1. The daily population last week in the jail was 107.2.
2. Striker stated the installation of a video conferencing system in the courts is projected to be completed next week or by the end of the month. This system will help reduce transportation costs, speed up court proceedings, and allow inmates better and more frequent access to public defenders. Striker stated he had spoken with many of the public defenders who work in Wabash County and they agree this will save them time and money. Striker stated the long term goal is the ability to use the video conference link with inmates that are at facilities outside Wabash County. This would reduce the need for transport to and from Wabash County which is both a safety and financial benefit.

Bob Brown, EMA Director reported:

1. Presented an informational packet on a GIS grant totaling slightly under \$15,000.00. The packet clarifies what the State requires of the GIS program for those counties who accept the grant.
2. Brown requested permission to go before the Council with a Citizens Core Grant totaling \$4,136.00 and a Hoosier Safety Foundation Grant totaling \$3,984.00. They are reimbursement grants. Givens made a motion to approve presenting both grants to Council; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.
3. Stated starting on December 19, 2008 ice storms caused over an estimated \$200,000 worth of damage in Wabash County. Wabash County had to reach a total of \$106,000 to qualify for disaster declaration. Brown stated he is waiting to hear from Phil Brown at IDHS to determine the State of Indiana's estimated damages. For the State of Indiana to qualify for the disaster declaration it must reach seven (7) million. He stated they are still gathering damage estimates.
4. Brown would like the Weather Alert systems to be on the Wabash County's website; the actual Weather Alert Snow Ordinance and a box that would indicate the level of emergency that has been activated. Brown stated he would work with Auditor Ridgeway to implement this service for the County residents. Commissioners unanimously agreed to place the Ordinance and activation level on the County website.
5. Brown has approval from the State for six (6) people to take Search & Awareness Training on January 24 and 25 at Camp Atterbury. The State pays for all the training and lodging. Wabash County would need to pay for meals and gas for travel to and from the training. Givens made a motion to approve the six (6) volunteers for Search and Awareness Training at Camp Atterbury along with the cost of meals and gas; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed 3-0.
6. Brown stated he would be attending an IDHS meeting on Wednesday January 7, 2009.

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Steve Downs, County Attorney, was present with nothing to report.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, reported;

1. Dils updated Commissioners on the south side façade window project. Contractor Dennis McKee stated due to the weather they will not be beginning the project this week.
2. Dils discussed the two (2) individuals who are changing status from elected officials to employees. Dils stated that due to the number of years of service they would both be eligible for a three (3) week vacation benefit. The question is when to set their anniversary date. Commissioners discussed this and took it under advisement pending Down's review.

Doris Bever a concerned resident discussed with Commissioners animals being left out in the snow and freezing rain without proper protection from the elements. Givens stated he had spoken with Animal Control and they had addressed one particular incident that Bever had previously discussed with Givens. Bever stated she would like to see an ordinance be passed that would give power to the Animal Warden to actually take the animal in question into custody until the owners would retain proper protection for the animal or the animal could go up for adoption after a set time. Givens stated there is an ordinance that allows the Animal Warden to investigate an incident, but they cannot remove an animal. Commissioners informed Bever they would contact the Animal Shelter Board to review this issue.

Commissioners addressed the 2009 Board assignments;

**Community Corrections** –Givens  
**Transportation/Council on Aging** - Eppley  
**EDG of Wabash County Board**- Hauptert  
**Wabash County Plan Commission** - Givens  
**EMA Board**- Hauptert  
**Solid Waste**- Hauptert, Givens, Eppley  
**Drainage Board** - Hauptert, Givens, Eppley  
**GIS Committee** – Eppley  
**Jail Committee** - Hauptert, Givens, Eppley  
**E-911** - Givens

Givens made a motion to appoint Larry Hoover to the **Wabash City Planning Commission**; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Newly-elected Wabash County Treasurer Sharon Shaw requested the Cash Change fund in the Treasurer's office be increased from \$500.00 to \$750.00. Shaw stated during tax season the extra money is a necessity. Givens made a motion to increase the cash change fund in Treasurer's Office from \$500 to \$750; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

## JANUARY 5, 2009 CONTINUED

Ridgeway informed Commissioners that she had extended the deadline for filing the new Circuit Breaker exemption to Wednesday January 7, 2008 due to overwhelming response and inclement weather.

Teresa Witoske, Wabash County Extension Director, presented the 2009 Contractual Services Agreement between Purdue University and Wabash County – Amendment #1 (based on the Council Approved 2009 Budget; Givens motioned to approve; his motion seconded by Eppley, passed with a 3-0 vote, and signed by Hauptert.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items;

Accounts Payable Claims and Allowance Docket advertised for payment 1-5-09

Norfolk Southern Corp – 800 N Invoice received

Phend and Brown Change Orders for 800 N

Copy of NIPSCO Donation to EDG of Wabash County

Ground Rules – Request to be on Consultants listings.

IDEM: NPDES CAFO – Harry Bekel, Member, New Schoonebeck Dairy, LLC

Certificate of Insurance from United Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Copy of Workforce Solutions - 2008-2009 Contract with Jobworks, Inc

Maximus – Letter of introduction

INDOT – Local Bridge “Call for Projects” Letter

Community Corrections – Official Bonds for approval

Repayment of Temporary Loan from Welfare Funds 12-31-08

POET – TIF Reimbursements for 2008 Expenditures 12-31-08

GASB Fixed Asset Report received from Highway

Annual Covered Bridge Certification

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, January 12, 2009 in the Commissioner’s Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.