

## FEBRUARY 9, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, February 9, 2009. Chairman Brian Hauptert called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Brian K. Hauptert, Scott E. Givens, and Barry Eppley. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the February 2, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent, reported;

1. Request from Verizon to bury cable at 627 W 250 S – approved.
2. Amones confirmed Commissioners attendance at Road School at Purdue on March 10, 11, & 12. All Commissioners will be attending.
3. Amones had appraisals on the 1400 N Project; Metz \$400.00; Halderman \$1,500 (for two appraisals); Lundquist \$300.00 plus but not given a positive confirmation. Givens made a motion to solicit an appraisal from Metz; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.
4. Request for applications on Historic Covered Bridge for 2009. Amones will contact Steve Jones to reapply.
5. Amones reminded Commissioners of the Northeast District Legislative Day on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the State House. Commissioners will be unable to attend.

Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported;

1. The average daily population in the jail last week was 105.47.
2. State Jail Inspector will be in this week for the annual inspection. Striker stated he will submit a review of the findings.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, reported that he and Jim Dils have nearly completed the revised personnel manual and it will be for the Commissioners to review.

Bob Brown, EMA Executive Director, was present with nothing to report.

Christa Stroup, Circuit Court Reporter, and Patty Godfroy, WMCA Marketing and Membership Director, discussed with the Commissioners the idea of the county assisting with memberships for county employees at the new YMCA. Stroup stated 80% of Judicial Building Employees are interested. This could be a preventative factor for our group health insurance. Godfroy presented information on how other companies have benefited on their health insurance plan due to fitness assistance in their organizations. County Coordinator Jim Dils stated we will be reviewing our health insurance renewal quotes on February 18<sup>th</sup> with Council and Commissioners invited to attend and this idea will be considered.

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Beverly Ferry, Wabash Council on Aging, reported:

1. Last year our ridership was down due to cut backs on transports. This was conservative, but we needed to be sure our funds would not run out. Ferry stated currently they are at their maximum operating capacity for drivers' hours for this years set budget.
2. Reports for INDOT must document specific information;
  - a. Involvement with any disadvantaged business (female or minority operated).
  - b. Must document quarterly every time a tow truck is needed for a vehicle which the State ties in to the vehicle maintenance records which are also kept.
  - c. Documentation of what vehicle had what driver on each specific date and how much revenue was brought in on that day with that drive. A system of lock boxes are used to store and record the revenue - a good checks and balance system.
3. Have an excellent bookkeeping System. These records are available for anyone to review. Ferry stated they keep track of all transactions. When the State does the financial audit, we request they audit our record keeping system.
4. Placed a tech on our Advisory Board who is a former rider. She used our service while attending college and work. Ferry stated they are hopeful that her experience as a rider will be beneficial for customer service issues.
5. Peru has plans to open a dialysis center. Ferry stated they will be applying for special federal funds to allow extension to Miami County. The mileage is the same to North Manchester.
6. Ferry stated to receive state and federal funds they must be a part of TAC. One of the benefits is a regional brochure that allows riders to connect the different transit systems and travel across rural Indiana.
7. Ferry stated they are looking into extending same day transport request hours to 6:00 P.M., based on availability. This is to accommodate residents with later scheduled appointments.
8. The 2009 Operation Grant Agreement has been received, signed by State and Commissioners (November 24, 2008), and is on file in the Council on Aging office at the Dallas Winchester Senior Center.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, reported;

1. Will get a copy of the proposed Employee Handbook to the Commissioners for review.
2. A reminder of Friday morning Point Factor meeting for the Commissioners on the committee.
3. Dils received an e-mail from contractor Dennis McKee on the South Façade Window Project. The anticipated rain this week will be an issue on starting the project. McKee will keep in contact on a possible start date later this week.

## FEBRUARY 09, 2009 CONTINUED

Local resident Phil Dailey was present and wanted to express his opinion on a few items:

1. Dailey is not in agreement with the removal of 2 Commissioners. He likes the idea of having three (3) representatives available for the public to speak with and have representation.
2. He expressed his appreciation for all the work the Auditor must do.
3. Dailey suggested the prices for membership at the Wabash County YMCA should be competitive to other areas such as Huntington.
4. Dailey expressed his upset with the lack of concern for the government issues by residents. Dailey stated it affects each and every one of us and we need to be involved and speak out.
5. Dailey stated he wanted to see a watchful eye on salaries. So they are kept from getting too high.

Auditor Jane Ridgeway reported:

1. The Auditors' office processes payroll for the Solid Waste District employees. The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter PERF monies are currently overdue. Ridgeway stated at the beginning of the month when they turn in payroll she would like to see a check for the total monthly payroll and benefits if possible and requested Commissioners address this at the Solid Waste meeting.
2. The proposed federal Stimulus Package would extend COBRA. It would add extended coverage for retired or terminated employees. Since we are self-funded this can directly affect our county.
3. Office employees are thankful to have a break room area but it is not an ideal area. It is not private; it is small, crowded and cluttered. They request that the Commissioners look into using the current voting machine storage room instead.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

Payroll Claims and Allowance Docket for period ended 2-7-09

Manatron MVP Tax Annual Maintenance and Support Contract for 2009

Tiede, Metz, and Downs Invoice for January 2009 – Eppley made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3—0 vote.

Wabash County Council on Aging – Request for 2009 Allocation

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute – Approval for Wabash Comprehensive Community Plan

Wabash Fire Department – Quarterly Report for Fourth Quarter 2008

City of Wabash: Order to Remove Unsafe Building – 126 Stitt Street - Givens made a motion to approve; his motions was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Discount Prescriptions – County Rx card information

Indian Economic Development Corp (POET) – Industrial Development Agreement Grant approval \$100,000.00

Butler, Fairman & Seufert presented a Contract Change – Item #, Project # - bridge painting:  
Signed by Chairman Hauptert

## **FEBRUARY 09, 2009 CONTINUED**

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, February 16, 2009 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.

Approved as written – February 16, 2009