

FEBRUARY 23, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, February 23, 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 J. Eppley. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the February 16, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Givens made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent reported:

1. The County Highway Budget came back last week; the state cut the County Highway fund (MVH) \$1,009,522 from our requested \$3,273,535. Amones stated he has revised the Highway budget reducing funds for Chip and Seal and asphalt patching and will request additional appropriations from the Local Road and Street fund for those projects later. The remainder of the decrease is to come from overtime, materials, building repair and capital outlay - equipment. Amones stated the Local Road and Street Fund is replenished around \$500,000 per year from state revenues and in the long term this fund could be depleted without some assistance for MVH funds. Auditor Jane Ridgeway stated the Major Moves Money project for the 800 N road improvement last year that was appropriated from the County Highway account affected the state's preliminary calculations for the budget and originally they were going to approve zero (0) dollars; but after submitting proper paper work to show the POET reimbursements done at year end, the state approved a \$2,264,013 budget. Amones stated the MVH funding is all gasoline tax monies. When gas was over \$4 per gallon last year, purchasing went down and we received less than had been anticipated. Currently gas prices are lower and this could hopefully help even things out, but the funding for MVH has been decreasing over the last several years and will continue.
2. Amones submitted the Highway Annual Report and Inventory.
3. United Consulting submitted three projects with preliminary estimates to INDOT: America Road - \$2,197,570; 1100N - \$1,543,410; and 200 W - \$844,860. Amones received two (2) E-mails from INDOT. One stated no project limit will be no less than \$100,000 and no more than \$3,000,000 per county. Amones will be attending a seminar next week which will detail more on the three submitted projects funding. The second E-mail stated this is a reimbursement program which means we have to cover the cost of the projects up front. Since this is a reimbursement grant, any cost overruns or any change orders would be at the counties expense. Only the original amount submitted would be reimbursed.

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4. Amones presented a \$50,000 Railroad Improvement Grant Contract Agreement for the 800 N railroad crossing. The submission dead line is April 17th. County Attorney Steve Downs stated he had sent a letter requesting details and had received no response. Downs asked if we accept this grant, does this require the county to use this funding to install the railroad signals. Downs will follow up on details regarding this grant.

Sheriff Leroy Striker reported:

1. The average daily population in the jail last week was 107.
2. Annual Jail Inspection was submitted to Commissioners. The jail facility and all contents were inspected. This is the Jail inspector's evaluation and Striker's response to the deficiencies stated. One issue Striker wrote in his response to the evaluation was to recommend an increase in jail staff by* two (2) full time officers to keep more officers per the population and for transport needs. Striker stated since this is a personnel issue he wanted to make sure to present to Commissioners.
3. Utilized the video conference in the court last week successfully.
4. Striker sent a letter to the Plan Director for the Department of Corrections to request the rate of capacity at the jail be increased to 90. It is currently set at 72. Striker stated he based the increase on the day area which can house two double bunks in each of the three long blocks and one three person bunk in the short blocks.
5. The new Dodge Chargers are in and have been striped. Striker stated they are waiting for other equipment to come in. The plan is to have them fully equipped and on the road mid March.
6. Striker stated once the two (2) new Chargers are officially on the fleet three (3) vehicles will be removed. Striker stated one of the vehicles, an Impala, has higher mileage but is mechanically sound. Striker requested the Impala be transferred to the EMA. He stated the Impala is fully equipped and will remain so. It has been well maintained and would be a great asset for assisting in EMA duties. Bob Brown stated he will retire a Crown Victoria from current EMA vehicles if the Impala is transferred. Brown stated they could then run the Crown Victoria through the county auction or take bids. Eppley made a motion to approve the request to transfer the Impala from the Sheriff to EMA; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, reported:

1. District 3 Table Top Exercise will be held March 5th from 10:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. at the REMC building here in Wabash County. There will be eleven (11) counties represented. Brown extended an invitation to the Commissioners.

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2. The ice storms Indiana experienced on Dec 19th qualified Wabash County for disaster relief but the State of Indiana did not reach the \$8,000,000 threshold to qualify for aide. Since the state did not qualify, we will not be getting any disaster relief funding.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, reported:

1. Requested the second reading of Special Ordinance #85-2, 2009 vacating a portion of the alley in Servia. The ordinance passed on first reading at the February 16th meeting. Eppley made a motion to approve on second reading of Special Ordinance #85-2, 2009; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.
2. Downs stated he had reviewed the contract submitted by Chief Deputy Sheriff Steve Hicks at the February 16th meeting from Health Professionals (HPL). HPL covers the Inmate Medical Services at the jail. Downs stated the contract requested an automatic renewal unless given notice thirty (30) days prior to renewal date by the county. Hauptert stated he would prefer an optional renewal. Downs also stated he found a few typographical errors and would like clarification on a portion of the wording of the document as well as clarification on some of the percentages used to figure increases per year. Downs stated he would work with Sheriff Striker obtaining clarification from HPL.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, reported:

1. Quotes from the Probation office project: the two lowest bids were Draper Construction \$4,406 and DT Construction \$4882. Dils had contacted Draper Construction to clarify if the expense included a lighted exit sign being moved, building permit and a locking door latch. Draper's bid increased from \$4,406 to \$4,556 with these additions. Dils stated he also addressed working evenings and requested a start date. Draper would work evenings and the start date could be within a week. Dils stated Draper is the lowest bid. Givens made a motion to accept the quote from Draper Construction totaling \$4,556; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote. Chief Probation Officer Dallas Duggan stated he had no problem with Draper working after business hours although any material needed to be brought in would need to be done during working hours for security purposes.
2. Dils asked Commissioners if a memo regarding compensation time at the evening Council meetings needed to be sent out to Department Heads. Commissioners stated the issue had been addressed in the paper and in the meeting and felt there was no need for a memo.
3. Dils stated a notice will be sent out to all full time employees with the February 25th payroll regarding AFLAC insurance information; enrollment times and qualifications.

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4. Dils will be attending a meeting on February 26th regarding changes in the FMLA and ADA Laws.
5. An executive meeting will need to be set to review the Employee Handbook. Commissioners will take under advisement.

Dallas Duggan, Chief Probation Officer, presented a Day Reporting Program Grant from the State: Grant# 97-09-SK-1431 covering \$15 per day per person for youth under the age of 18. Hauptert asked if the \$15 was an increase. Duggan stated in the past we had received a specific amount of funding. But no, price per person had been set. The new House Bill 1001 required a set amount and they calculated by what had been received in the past how much per person would be required. Commissioners unanimously approved and signed the grant.

Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts, requested a new color printer. The traffic clerk work had been split and the traffic clerk now needs her own printer. Draper would like to go with a CSI quote at \$712. Draper did get other quotes and CSI was around \$25 more than the other quotes but since this is the current company she uses she would like to stay with CSI. Draper stated CSI price included adding this to her current maintenance agreement, cartridges, installation and moving the old printer to a new station. The cost would be covered from the Clerk's IV-D #I funds which is child support money and can be spent at the Clerk's discretion. Givens made a motion to approve the request for a color printer for the Clerk's Office from CSI at \$712; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote. Draper also stated the Prosecutor's and Clerk's offices get a portion of IV-D money each year. What you can purchase with the funds in this account is limited. She stated currently they are paying a portion of two employees from this fund. Draper stated they are looking into other expenditures out of this account and would keep Commissioners apprised of any action taken.

Auditor Jane Ridgeway reported:

1. Except for the Highway Budget, which Amones has corrected, all other budgets for county funds have been approved by the state and Ridgeway stated she will be signing off on the 1782 Notice to accept the budget rates and levies as presented. Hearings are set for March 3rd here at the courthouse for all county taxing units. Ridgeway stated we should then have certified tax rates and be well on the way to collecting the spring tax installment on time, IF Manatron, the software vendor, will soon have the updates ready to install for MVP Tax to calculate the new circuit breakers.
2. Wireless E-911 grant information was sent to Bob Brown and Sandy Beeks to review and submit their recommendations.

Ridgeway stated the new stimulus package has an energy efficiency portion that believes that Wabash County could apply for the Courthouse

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window and door replacement projects. The Commissioners stated Surveyor Cheri Slee is applying for Drainage Projects Stimulus money also.

Hauptert reported that Stewart Hawley of North Manchester had agreed to serve on the local Alcohol and Beverage Commission. Eppley made a motion to approve Hawley for the ABC Board; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

Payroll Claims and Allowance Docket for period ended 2-22-09

Weights and Measures Monthly Report – 2-15-09

Additional Encumbrances Requests for Commissioners Funds

Wabash County Tourism Commission – Minutes of January 19, 2009

IDEM: Notice of Application Receipt – Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District

IDEM: Business Permit #346 – Bill's Sewer and Septic Tank Service

Department of Corrections final bills for Juvenile County Maintenance for Awards of Court

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, March 2, 2009 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.

*Approved with correction on March 2, 2009.