

## MARCH 2, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 2, 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 23, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction: Sheriff Striker recommended increasing "...the jail staff by two..." his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent, requested permission to advertise April 13, 2009 at 11:00 A.M. as the date and time set to accept salt bids for next season. Commissioners unanimously approved.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported:

1. The average daily population in the jail last week was 105.78.
2. Indiana Department of Health will be at the jail tomorrow at 10:00 A.M. to check air quality, volume of air flow and CO2 levels.
3. Received a quote from Advanced Correctional Health Care on medical coverage for the inmates at the jail. Striker stated he had forwarded the quote and a contract to Auditor Jane Ridgeway and County Attorney Steve Downs for review. The current provider HPL requested a chance to defend their prices if a lower price with similar coverage is presented by ACHC.
4. The new vehicles in the fleet are being equipped this week by Eric Cohee of Emergency Lighting Services in Urbana. Striker stated he hopes to have the vehicles on the road in the next couple of weeks. Striker stated Commissary money will be covering the cost of the equipment not covered by grants.
5. Department of Corrections will be here Wednesday to review the jail facility in regards to the request to increase the capacity from 72 to 90.
6. The lighting portion of the annual jail inspection required that the opaque light fixtures be replaced with clear lights. Light fixtures have been ordered from Wabash Electric, the cost will be covered by the Misdemeanant fund. The lights will be re-inspected Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, reported:

1. A District 3 Table Top exercise will be held at the Wabash County REMC building on Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Commissioner Hauptert stated he will be attending.
2. Brown will be at Grissom tomorrow afternoon to prepare for an upcoming meeting.

## MARCH 2, 2009 CONTINUED

3. Brown stated next week he will submit a severe weather proclamation.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, was not present at the meeting but sent Auditor Jane Ridgeway a request for the reappointment of Kelly Stouffer by the Commissioners to the Wabash County Hospital Board. Givens made a motion to reappoint Stouffer to the WCHB; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, reported:

1. Indiana Department of Health will be here on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> to test air quality. They will start at the Jail and will then move to the Courthouse. They will be looking for viral and bacterial issues as well as checking CO2 levels.
2. Courthouse Custodian Bob Shriver is on a 5 week leave of absence. Dils stated he and Commissioners Custodian Dick Smith had pre-approved this leave upon hiring. Dils will take over opening procedures at the courthouse. Custodial duties will be handled by Smith. Also Craig Winegardner who maintains the courthouse grounds has agreed to assist Smith with the custodial duties every other day through the five (5) week period.
3. The Jail Committee would like to meet in conjunction with the Council to review a presentation from RQAW Consultants. They will review the status on the jail modernization program. Umbaugh will also have a representative present for any financial questions. Dils will work on scheduling a meeting soon.
4. Dils requested approval to attend a free human resource seminar in Fort Wayne presented by Barrett & McNagney, LLP. Commissioners unanimously approved the request.

County Auditor Jane Ridgeway reported:

1. State Budget hearings are set for March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the courthouse. Ridgeway stated this will allow residents to question and review any of the budgets for all taxing units in the county.
2. Amones, Eppley and Ridgeway attended a meeting at Sweetwater in Fort Wayne regarding the Economic Stimulus Package. The meeting was coordinated by Ball State University. Eppley stated Wabash County presented funding requests for E911 Central Dispatch, Computer upgrades for the Courthouse Financials and Property Tax Billing, the Grossnickle Drain project, Jail Modernization improvements, and Courthouse Windows and Doors. The State is still gathering information and will review all projects submitted and then decided how, where and if these projects qualify for funding set forth in the federal stimulus program. The State extended the deadline to submit applications for financial aide to March 9<sup>th</sup>. Eppley stated the meeting was

## MARCH 2, 2009 CONTINUED

informative but did not answer as many questions as had hoped. Ridgeway stated they reviewed records they had submitted for accuracy. Also attending from Wabash County were Wabash Mayor Robert Vanlandingham, EDG Executive Director Bill Konyha, North Manchester Clerk-Treasurer Carrie Mugford, Town Manager Dan Hanaford and Frank Parr from ForeverGreen, Inc.

Kelley Schenkel, Wabash County Assessor, requested a date be set for accepting bids for a Reassessment contract. Commissioners unanimously approved March 23rd at 10:00 A.M.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items;

Accounts Payable Claims and Allowance Docket advertised for payment 3-2-09  
Additional Appropriation Requests to Council – CCD Fund – Computer & IT Upgrades  
Economic Development Group of Wabash – City of Wabash: 3 TIF Districts  
Indiana Economic Recovery Plan – (Stimulus Plan) – Data Collection Surveys  
US Census Bureau – Census 2010 Information  
DLGF – Phase II Certification Testing for Counties  
MSD – Request for stone for school bus  
White’s Residential & Family Services: final invoices status for 2008 payment by County  
Hoosier Heartland – Claim request for donation  
Letter from US Army Corps of Engineers: Environmental Assessment on Dam Safety  
Improvements at Salamonie Lake

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