

APRIL 27, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, April 27, 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 April 20, 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. A request from Embarq to bury cable at 7008 W 1000 N for new service.
2. County Attorney Steve Downs has finished General Ordinance No. 85-4, 2009; reducing the speed limit from 55 to 45 mph on Old Highway 24, Higley curve. The changed portion of the road is described as follows from Ordinance No. 85-4, 2009; "...on Old Highway 24 from seven hundred (700') feet west of County Road 530 West to one thousand eight hundred feet (1800') east of County Road 700 West; a distance of approximately six thousand five hundred feet (6,500'). Givens made a motion to approve General Ordinance No. 85-4, 2009 reducing the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph on above stated portion of Old Highway 24; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to suspend the rules to allow a second reading today; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to adopt General Ordinance No. 85-4, 2009; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.
3. The bids for Town Street Projects received last week have all been reviewed. Amones voiced his recommendation of Gaunt Asphalt based on two conditions: price per ton and location of the plant. Phend & Brown was the lowest bid due to the fact they had cut their tonnage on the project. Amones stated Gaunt Asphalt is comparable in price. Gaunt Asphalt's location is closer than the other companies and closer multiple trips would be cost effective. Givens made motion to accept Gaunt Asphalt's bid on town projects; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff reported:

1. The average daily population in the jail last week was 108.
2. Striker stated he continues to meet with the Judges, Community Correction, and Probation to find ways to lower the population levels at the jail. Striker said most of the inmates are at the lowest level of sentencing and requesting leniency on sentencing is a difficult issue. Using Home Detention and the Work Release program is relieving some of the population issues. Striker stated they continue to work in a cooperative effort to reduce the inmate population.
3. Officer Ron Nordman had arrived at the site of an accident on Friday, April 24th to assist. As Officer Norman opened his car door a semi clipped the

April 27, 2009 CONTINUED

door. It did not remove the door or break the glass but the door will not work and must be replaced. Officer Nordman was not injured.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, reported:

1. The Wabash County Hospital Board requested Rob Pearson as Board Appointee by the Commissioners; to complete Marna Hettmansperger's term to expire 2011. Givens made a motion to appoint Rob Pierson to the Hospital Board; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.
2. Downs spoke with the State Board of Accounts regarding the Wabash County Prosecuting Attorney's Forfeiture Fund Ordinance. SBOA stated there is no authority for this type of ordinance. Downs also spoke with the law firm working with prosecutor's office and they disagree. Downs stated this will be pulled off this evening's Council agenda until we are sure how to proceed.
3. Attending County Council meetings was suggested to Downs by two (2) Council members. Downs stated that was not part of his original agreement. Eppley stated this has not been voted upon by Council. Hauptert stated he is aware that Downs may not have adequate time to attend to this request. Downs stated he would discuss with Council Chairman Mike Ridenour.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, reported Homeland Security will be holding an informational conference call today concerning swine flu at 2:30 P.M. in EOC today. Brown gave an open invitation for the Commissioners to attend.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, reported:

1. There has been a problem at the Health Department concerning air flow; both heating and cooling for sometime. Dils stated in the past the heating/cooling system had been reviewed and the tonnage of the system needed to be increased. The Health Department has requested window air conditioners or ceiling fans to help with the issue. Dils stated he would contact vendors about installing ceiling fans. He also stated the Health Department secured a grant for a generator and would be presenting to Commissioners next week.
2. Presented contracts from Scarce and Rudisil on the Door Project at the Court House totaling \$146,520, subject to change orders. The contract was awarded DT Construction. The type of doors and fixtures are still to be decided. The contract starts at time of signing and has 98 days to completion. Dils stated after submittals are approved, it will take eight (8) weeks to get the doors. This will cause an issue with the time frame of the contract. Dils presented a possible change in design. Commissioners requested Dils move forward on obtaining costs on the new design. Eppley made a motion to approve contract with the understanding there may be flexibility in the completion time frame; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

April 27, 2009 CONTINUED

3. There is exterior signage around the courthouse that needs to be addressed; Health Department would like to maintain the one posting for baby shots, Dils would like to update and keep the four (4) handicapped signs, and remove all other signs. Highway Superintendent Amones offered Highway assistance on this project. Commissioners unanimously approved sign removal, updates, and the Health Departments request to keep the baby shot sign.
4. The rope was found at the base of the flag pole and the flag is missing. We will need to attach a new rope and acquire a new American flag. Haupert stated a number of residents requested we also place the Indiana state flag on the pole as well. Dils stated he will follow-up and have both flags installed.

Beverly Ferry, Council on Aging, presented the 5311 Grant and the Quarterly Operating Report; a review of account, transit, and dispatch records. Ferry stated they are within budget. Ferry also stated they plan to run a promotion to bring awareness to resuming Monday transits. Commissioners approved and signed the 5311 Grant Agreement.

Jeff Hobson, Community Corrections, reviewed the July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 grant with Commissioners. Hobson stated they were awarded \$207,000 but will only receive \$182,000 with the potential to earn another \$25,000 and possibly more depending on the amount of inmates taken into the Community Transition Program. The CTP receives inmates referred by the DOC (Department of Corrections) on the last sixty (60) to one hundred eighty (180) days of the inmate's sentence depending on the offense. If the Prosecutor, Judge, Probation Department and Community Corrections all agree, the individual is approved for the CTP. The participants are all Wabash County inmates with a rare exception when a Wabash County resident will be transferred in who was sentenced in another county. To provide services for the inmates, CC receives \$35 per diem for the first 30 days and \$15 per diem for the remainder of time in the program. The goal is to help the inmates get situated into a job when their sentence is complete. Hobson stated they currently have three (3) individuals in the program; one is working with a local company, one is disabled and lives with parents, the third has recently received a GED, will be attending school to further education, and Hobson stated they are hopeful to then assist in finding the individual a job. Hobson stated funding for the programs at Community Corrections are more than 50% locally funded; about \$85,000 of in-kind money and \$140,000 project money, which is the goal of the DOC. The remainder of the funding is from the DOC. The work release program is doing well also. They currently have five (5) in this program and they are all employed. Hobson stated some of the inmates in the work release program are repeats, but with the current jail over population they are trying to assist in helping keep the numbers down. Hobson said they are

April 27, 2009 CONTINUED

always aware not to abuse the system, just to help alleviate some burden. Auditor Jane Ridgeway asked if the salaries were included in this grant. Hobson stated the salaries were included with a three percent (3%) increase. Hobson stated their budget runs behind the normal budgets about six (6) months and this may be why there is a salary increase. Hobson also stated he is aware this may be subject to change in the future. Hobson stated all the Community Correction grants are filed at the Auditor's Office. Ridgeway stated we will have a federal audit this year. Hobson stated he had submitted a copy of the grant to County Attorney Steve Downs for review. Commissioners requested Hobson return for the May 4th Commissioner's meeting after Downs has reviewed the contract to finalize the process.

Auditor Jane Ridgeway reported:

1. Resolution #85-2009-02 for the Council on Aging transit was passed and approved on April 13th, but the resolution adoption was not noted in the minutes. Givens made a motion to amend Commissioners minutes to include notation of Resolution #85-2009-02; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed 3-0.
2. Her office is currently working to calculate property taxes. It appears that due to the 1.2 million carry over of HEA1001 homestead credits from the state last year and the LOIT property tax replacement credits, all Wabash County homeowners with a homestead exemption should have a zero tax due on their taxes this year. More than one acre of land or any additional buildings on the parcel will still have a tax due.
3. Presented an invoice totaling \$5,000 from DataPitStop, Inc. for the new software program that will calculate taxes and circuit breakers. Ridgeway stated the owner Darren Bates has provided a great deal of service and support to Wabash County with the program he has created and the capabilities should be very helpful to the Council for planning. Bates previewed this program to the Council and Commissioners last August. Eppley made motion to approve the purchase to go to Council (if funding is not available); his motion was seconded by Givens and passed 3-0.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

ARC of Wabash County, Inc. – Claim for 2nd Quarter 2009 Allocations
City of Wabash – Order to remove unsafe building – 74 E Sheridan Street
Request to transfer Recorder's used computer to Veterans Service Office
Wabash County Tourism Commission - Minutes of March 16th meeting
Bonds for Coroner, Joe Vogel –Weights and Measures, Highway Department, Redevelopment Commission

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, May 4, 2009 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M. and at 5:00 P.M. that evening for an Executive Session with the Wabash County Council.

Approved as written – May 4, 2009