

DECEMBER 14, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, December 14, 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 December 7, 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, Highway Superintendent:

1. Presented two (2) requests to bury cable:
 - a) Verizon - 1859 Philabaum Rd, North Manchester
 - b) Century Link - 7192 W 1000 N, Roann
2. Requested permission to amend Ordinance 85-9-2009: lowering the designated speed limit on 1400N from 30 MPH to 15 MPH. County Attorney Steve Downs stated he would prepare a draft to amend the ordinance. Eppley made a motion to proceed with the amendment; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.
3. Stated he will be holding final interviews this week for the truck driver/equipment position open at the Highway Department. Amones stated he will make his recommendation next week.

Major Chief Deputy Sheriff Steve Hicks:

1. Stated the population in the jail today is 73 but filed no report.
2. Reminded the Battle of the Badges Blood Drive with The American Red Cross will be held this Friday, December 18th from 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the First United Methodist Church on 210 W Sinclair Street.

Bob Brown, EMA Director:

1. Reminded Commissioners of the annual EMA workshop on December 17th at the Fort Wayne Public Safety Academy.
2. Stated he is working on the projects list that will go into the Mitigation Plan. A few of the items being addressed are: reviewing roads, flooding issues, pinpoint addressing and updating on E-911 addresses, possible usage of the Beacon GIS System, looking at Hazmat training, Laketon sanitary sewer concerns and storm shelters for some of the mobile home courts which may be covered by possible grants.

County Assessor Kelly Schenkel, Treasurer Sharon Shaw and Auditor Jane Ridgeway discussed the DLGF Phase II Certification of County Tax Billing Systems. Schenkel stated Legislators placed this testing requirement in HEA 1001 to make sure software in the Assessor, Auditor and Treasurer offices integrate and work together. Schenkel said there is one major issue with this testing: There are five (5) or six (6) organizations certified by the State to perform testing. Wabash County has budgeted \$7,500 in 2010 for this project. Last Wednesday, at a meeting in Indianapolis, the DLGF stated that the

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companies contracted will basically record and observe the process. Assessor, Auditor, Treasurer and their employees will need to run the tests and process the reports. Also, since they would prefer not do to the testing on live tax data, they will need to duplicate data without disrupting or corrupting the active systems. Our IT consultants Darren Bates of DataPitStop and Tom Polk of IntraSect Technologies will need to be involved, as well as the three (3) vendor representatives onsite or available for the testing which the DLGF stated could take up to three days. Employees may need additional compensation time for extra hours and it is recommended there be a special computer, server and projector in a separate area for the entire testing process. This will all cost more than the original estimated amount of \$7,500. Hauptert stated it would not be unreasonable to assume it would be twice the original budgeted amount. In an effort to control the costs to the individual counties, Ridgeway stated there is the possibility of a consortium of elected officials and county employees who have been asked to volunteer their time to work together as third-party testers in counties other than their own. Wabash County can sign a contract for the consortium process and if it does not materialize, the State will allow counties to then contract with one of the State certified vendors. A contract agreement is due by December 31, 2009 with an estimated date on when the testing will be completed. Shaw stated the testing must be completed by June 30, 2010. Schenkel said they have reviewed all the State certified vendors and there is one their committee would recommend signing with if the consortium process does not move forward. Schenkel also stated the DLGF has now provided us with a list of the testing scenarios that are required. HEA 1001 also requires routine re-certifications for future years. Downs reviewed the consortium agreement between the county and the State and said the consortium testing looks like a good idea and could possibly lower the costs. Ridgeway stated she, Schenkel and Shaw will present a contract agreement to Commissioners before the December 31st deadline as they obtain more information in the next few days.

Steve Downs, County Attorney: was present; no report.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator:

1. Stated our Verizon phone system had a problem last week. It was identified and solved.
2. Stated there was also a problem with the courthouse elevator that was corrected.
3. Stated an actuator which controls a valve on the heating and cooling system was replaced.
4. Stated he and Auditor Ridgeway met with Gallagher Benefit representatives for a mid-year review of the county's health insurance. Dils stated there may need to be some changes made in the structure and premiums and more specifics will be presented after the beginning of the year.

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Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway:

1. Stated we have attempted since Friday, December 11th, to send the pre-approval for settlement but the internet server, KC online, was not sending the data. Ridgeway stated on occasion a large
2. document can cause problems with the server. KC Online is working on the issue this morning and it should be sent out today. Hopefully, December settlement checks will be cut later this week.
3. Informed Commissioners that the Umbaugh invoices were not addressed at the Council meeting on Monday, December 7th. Ridgeway stated she will contact the Council members on these invoices and she will contact Umbaugh requesting a more detailed list of proposed expenses.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

Payroll Claims and Allowance Docket for Pay Period – 12-12-2009

Tiede, Metz & Downs, P.C. – Invoice for November, 2009 – *approved by Commissioners*

Additional Appropriation Request for Sheriff's Pension Fund – City Court

Monthly Report – Clerk of the Courts – November, 2009

2010 Budget Approval received from State - 3rd county in the state to receive our budget order – this will allow for on time tax billing in May and November 2010

IDEM – Notice of Decision: Approval - Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.

IDEM – CAFO approval – Steve Anderson – Midwest Veal LLC Farm #2259

Scottsdale – Lance Hodge

Purdue Extension Contract for 2010 totaling \$75,000 – *signed by Haupert*

Wabash County Commissioners Bureau appointees- *under advisement*

CSI Annual Renewal Agreement – Lori Draper Clerk of the Courts – *signed by Commissioners*

Two (2) Tax refunds – *signed by Commissioners*

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, December 21, 2009 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.