

JANUARY 31, 2011

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 31, 2011. Chairman Scott E. Givens called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Givens, Barry J. Eppley, and Brian K. Hauptert. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the January 24, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed with a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent:

1. Presented an application from Century Link for utility burial at 500 N east of 200 W. Commissioners unanimously approved and signed request.
2. Presented the Highway Department 2010 Annual Report for the Commissioners' review.

Randy Miller, Chief Deputy Sheriff:

1. Presented the jail report for the week ending 1/30/2011. The average daily population was 62; no inmates are at the Miami County facility.
2. Stated a jail inspection is scheduled for February 9th at 11:00 a.m.
3. Stated a pregnant inmate is now on EHD (Electronic Home Detention).

Lori Draper, Recorder:

1. Requested permission to attend the Recorder's Conference in April in Indianapolis. Commissioners unanimously approved.
2. Presented her Recorder's official bond. Commissioners signed the bond.
3. Stated the Recorder's computer company Fiddler has two programs available, Laredo and Tapestry, which allow research to be done online. There are costs for the use of these programs but not to the county. Draper stated a property fraud alert is also available; property owners can register their email address or telephone number online and will be notified if anything is filed on or against their property. This program is available at no cost to either the owner or the county. There is an option for an extended search to verify that nothing fraudulent was filed during the previous two years at a nominal cost. Ridgeway stated this has been an issue in some larger metropolitan areas; especially with mortgage fraud against the elderly. She sees this program as a free service to help protect Wabash County taxpayers. Commissioners will take under advisement.
4. Stated the prior Recorder has ordered copier/printer paper for the courthouse. She stated she could save \$120 per order if the courthouse and the judicial center supplies are purchased together. Draper said she would work with the Clerk's office to coordinate standard copier paper purchases at a savings and continue to order from the company that offers the lowest cost at time. Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, stated the mailings and the newspaper notice regarding the hearing to vacate the Blue Star Highway were completed.

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Givens opened the floor for the public hearing on a petition to vacate Blue Star Highway from the county line road west approximately 300 feet. Martin stated this is to stop the dumping of trash in that area. Huntington County has already vacated their portion of the road. Eppley made a motion to vacate Wabash County's portion of Blue Star Highway; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed by a 3-0 vote. Commissioners asked Downs to prepare and present an ordinance at the February 7th meeting.

Joe Edwards, Vice President, SRI, discussed the 2011 Commissioners' Certificate Sales. Edwards presented a list of properties that did not sell at the October 2010 tax sale. Edwards stated the Commissioners hold the certificate to these properties. Edwards presented a resolution to hold a certificate sale for 2011. Edwards stated the resolution has an addendum for an internet sale or a live sale. Edwards also requested a minimum bid be set per parcel. Hauptert made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-85-03 establishing the intent to conduct a Commissioners' Sale to sell tax sale certificates for properties that are severely delinquent in payment of property taxes; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert then moved to approve the addendum allowing an internet sale; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote. Commissioners set the minimum bid at \$200 per parcel.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator:

1. Stated the Purdue Extension Office has requested permission to begin searching for a part-time employee to replace an individual who recently resigned. Hauptert made a motion to approve the request; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Stated the group health insurance renewal must be completed by April 1st. Requested a meeting to review on February 23rd. Commissioners agreed.

Roland Drudge of Lagro inquired about vacating an alley. Auditor Ridgeway stated Deputy Auditor Marcie Shepherd has researched this area, which was on the errata list, and believes it could belong to Elmer & Nettie McCammack. Ridgeway informed Drudge the land would need to be surveyed and title work completed prior to any action being taken by the Commissioners.

Givens opened the floor at 10:00 A.M. to receive bids for the remodel of the Commissioners' Meeting Room. (Five bids were received.) Eppley made a motion to close the bids; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved by a 3-0 vote. Bids were as follows:

D-T Construction	Silver lake	\$73,758	Alt #1: \$1,808
C3 Construction	Fort Wayne	\$93,650	Alt #1: \$2,000
D&C Construction	South Whitley	\$75,868	Alt #1: \$2,980
Milestone Construction Inc	Syracuse	\$96,750	Alt #1: \$3,500
Michiana Contracting, Inc.	Plymouth	\$93,615	Alt #1: \$1,425

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Hauptert made a motion to take the all bids under advisement; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners reviewed the following items:

97th Annual Purdue Road School – March 8-10, 2011

No other business, the meeting recessed. The Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, February 7, 2011 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse starting at 9:00 A.M.

*Approved as written – February 7, 2011