

OCTOBER 11, 2011

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Tuesday, October 11, 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 October 3, 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, Highway Superintendent, stated the department will be grinding down road surface bumps on Old US 24 west of Wabash near Richvalley.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff:

1. Presented a jail report for the week ending 10/9/11. The average daily population was 80.62; five (5) inmates are housed at the Miami County Jail.
2. Introduced Kyle McLaughlin from Manchester High School who is job shadowing him today.
3. Stated he would like new Merit Officer Corbin Dawes' start date for be set for October 23, 2011.
4. Requested permission to hire Darrin (Butch) Iden as a part-time process server at the Wabash County jail. He will work 4-8 hours per week and be paid out of Commissary Funds. Land stated social security tax is the only amount in question. Auditor Ridgeway stated currently the Commissioners cover the social security tax of the Commissary Clerk. Ridgeway stated this will need to go to Council to amend the salary ordinance. Land stated this is a long term variable workload and will free-up time for current officers. Commissioners unanimously approved the hiring of Butch Iden part-time, agreed to fund the social security portion, and to go before Council to amend the salary ordinance.
5. Stated the Criminal Code Evaluation Commission is looking to cut costs at the Department of Correction. The plans are to make changes to incarceration requirements for Class D felonies. If changes are made the DOC will no longer hold Class D felons so they will have to be housed in local jails. Land stated according to the records that could be an increase on average of 45 inmates per county. Land stated this is still in committee but will be decided in the near future.
6. Stated the federal government has equipment that could be obtained by local counties. It is army surplus and would be at no cost to the county. Land requested permission to attempt to acquire two (2) Hummer vehicles to be used in the winter, for marijuana irradiation and off-road runs. This would alleviate extra wear and tear on fleet vehicles. Commissioners unanimously approved the request.

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Steve Downs, County Attorney:

1. Stated he continues to work on a new Application For Permit By Utility Company to Construct Utility Fixtures Within County-owned Right-of-way. It is currently under review by the Wabash County Surveyor and Highway Department Superintendent.
2. Stated he continues to work on the Auditor's Credit Card Resolution and Sheriff's Transient Merchant Ordinance. Downs stated he will present drafts of both at the next Commissioners' meeting.
3. Stated he has reviewed the District III Mutual Aide and Local Government Agreement. Downs stated he will submit it to EMA Director Bob Brown.
4. Stated he is working with Treasurer Sharon Shaw regarding collection of delinquent real estate taxes which are approximately \$250,000 with regard to the former General Tire property. The property was purchase by One General Street who razed the property but paid no taxes. It has gone through tax sale and to the Commissioners' Certificate Sale where it was purchased but no petition has been requested for the deed. Downs stated he has filed suit against One General Street for delinquent taxes. Downs stated he has a judgment against One General Street to see the viability of the company. Downs stated an attempt needs to be made to collect taxes due either through the company or the owners of the company. Downs stated in some circumstances, an LLC can be required to pay delinquent taxes. Downs stated he and Shaw are working with the county designated collection agency regarding process and payment. Downs stated a proposal will be presented on a later date to layout payments of the hourly rate for cost recovery efforts.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator:

1. Presented a change order from Scarce Rudisel Architects, Inc for D-T Construction Services, Inc. for the replacement of concrete step corners and handrail extensions outside the courthouse. The total cost to the county is \$1,125. Dils stated the repair cost was approved by the Commissioners at the November 15, 2010 meeting. Approval of this change order will also allow for payment of the \$3,920 retainage for a final project cost of \$5,045. Commissioner Givens signed the change order.
2. Stated masonry repairs were started yesterday on the north facade of the courthouse.
3. Stated HAVC pump repairs were completed yesterday at the Health Department.
4. Stated a warranty repair will be completed on the GIS server on Thursday, October 13, 2011.

Ericka Cain, Living Well in Wabash County, COA, presented the 5311 and 5317 third quarter reimbursement grants totaling \$94,657. Commissioners signed the contract invoices.

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Mike Howard, Plan Commission Director, updated the Commissioners on the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps. He reminded them that in the spring of 2010, FEMA and IDNR presented updated flood insurance maps to the county which were reviewed and edited for corrections. In December 2010, public hearings were held for the submission of appeals. Those appeals have been submitted to the State but have not yet been reviewed. Howard stated the Plan Commission has completed a draft of the Flood Plain Ordinance without current map dates. After the Commissioners review and approve the ordinance, the only thing left will be to add current map dates. Once map dates are finalized the Commissioners can add them and adopt the ordinance. Howard submitted the ordinance to County attorney Steve Downs for review.

Jane Ridgeway, Wabash County Auditor:

1. Stated the Ordinances for Voter Registration Representative District changes for Commissioners and Council were placed on the county website for all constituents to review.
2. Stated the Courthouse Complex Funds for trash removal is running low by \$1,200. The additional cost is due to the automatic contract renewal increase and fuel surcharge increases. Ridgeway stated an internal transfer from Parking Lot Repair can be completed. Hauptert made a motion to approve the internal transfer; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote. Dils said he will review the increases.
3. Presented the Commissioners' Funds budget status reports for Commissioners' review. There will be one (1) more Council meeting to address any transfers or additional appropriation requests needed for 2011. Commissioners will review their budgets.
4. Stated Wabash County Civil Unit budgets are almost all on the DLGF gateway website. Ridgeway stated there are just a few units which have not completed but once they are all in the DLGF stated we will be the first to be reviewed in this area.
5. Spoke with Bev Ferry, Director of Living Well in Wabash County COA, who extended her appreciation to Commissioners on the requested increase in their 2012 budget allocation request. Ferry informed Ridgeway that they are currently over budget on fuel expenses so the extra funds will be helpful with next year's budget.

Items for Commissioners' review:

Tiede Metz & Downs, P.C. – Invoice for September, 2011
Indiana Farm Bureau County Government Statistical Report – 2011
AIC – Commissioner of the Year Nomination submissions
Hoosier Heartland Career Center Annual Application totaling \$3,000

No other business, the meeting recessed. The Commissioners will meet on Monday, October 17, 2011 in the meeting room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse starting at 9:00 A.M.

*Approved as written – October 17, 2011