

JANUARY 3, 2006

The Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the former Circuit Courtroom of the Wabash County Courthouse on January 3, 2006 for the first meeting of the New Year.

Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present and opened the floor for nominations for the office of President of the Board of Commissioners for the year 2006. Darle Dawes nominated Brian Hauptert, seconded by Les Templin. Hauptert was elected by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert then conducted the rest of the meeting. He opened the nominations for Vice-President of the Board of Commissioners for the year 2006 and Templin nominated Dawes for that position. The nomination was seconded by Hauptert and Dawes was elected by a 3-0 vote.

Minutes of the December 19th meeting were approved as written on a motion by Templin, seconded by Dawes and a 3-0 vote.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice gave his weekly report to the board as follows:

1. The Bridge 208 Pre-final inspection has been postponed due to inclement weather.
2. The new unloader has been delivered and is in service.
3. Asked about an update on the Huntington Street Bridge which is closed due to a city sewer line problem, Rice reported back later in the meeting to the Commissioners that "they are still working on getting it thawed out"

Emergency Management Director Bob Brown reported to the Commissioners as follows:

1. He encouraged the board to keep moving on the courthouse basement projects and asked what the status currently is on the changing offices. Templin replied that the Extension Office is now completely moved from the basement to the second floor and now the Clerk can begin to move more books and records from Memorial Hall to that area of the basement. Brown thanked the board and stated that he had "willing assistants" who would be helping set up the new EMA areas as they are available. The Auditor asked the Board to continue finalizing the Courthouse Renovation project by having signage changed to better identify the location of all the new offices as it has been confusing to many people coming into the Courthouse for business. The board agreed to work on that situation and Brown suggested that in connection with his plans for improved security in the Courthouse, each office should have a number assigned and posted as well as the name for identification.
2. Brown also reported that the state has discontinued their required Quarterly Reports but he will still be submitting some type of a report to the county on a quarterly basis. He briefed the Commissioners on some of the changes with the state EMA that will now be divided into ten districts

with oversight and district planning committees in each. He will soon have a list of the grants available for the New Year.

3. Also discussed were the new generators installed at the Courthouse and the Highway garage, the tests that still need to be performed and possibly sharing a Warranty or Service Agreement on the generators with the ones at the Sheriff's Department for a possible savings to the county.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker then gave his weekly report to the Commissioners:

1. He reported an average jail population this past week of 95.
2. Striker then presented a revised Agreement for Inmate Health Services at the Wabash County jail with Health Professionals, LTD. The contract was revised with the correct dates of coverage and the Consumer Price Index used for increases in the succeeding years was explained as discussed at the last meeting with the Commissioner Attorney. Following the discussion, Templin moved to accept the HPL agreement, seconded by Dawes and approved by a 3-0 vote.
3. The Sheriff asked that the Commissioners clarify how they wish to handle building repairs to the jail in this new budget year since the County Council cut his appropriated funds from the County General Fund for these line items, directing that more such repairs be expended from the Cumulative Capital Improvement Fund in 2006. Following discussion, Templin stated that Striker needed to have authority to go ahead with emergency repairs that will be covered by the County Misdemeanant Fund or the Cumulative Capital Development Fund as deemed appropriate. The board was in agreement and the Sheriff and the Commissioners will be requesting Additional Appropriations from these funds to cover such repairs as needed.
4. The County Council also cut the funding for the Sheriff's and Jail telephone service from the County General Fund by \$15,000 for 2006 as they wished for that expense to come from the E-911 Funds however the E911 Coordinator and the Auditor discovered that the jail's telephone bill could not be paid the E911 funds, therefore, neither budget received appropriations for the service. It was agreed that Striker should request an Additional Appropriation from the County General – Jail Account for the telephone service bills.
5. Sheriff Striker presented the Auditor with an insurance check for \$2546.62 (after the applied deductible) for repairs to a damaged vehicle in his fleet. He reported he is interested in looking for good used vehicles to "swap- out" or replace some in his fleet that have a lot of miles on them. The board told him there was no problem in pursuing this action this check can be applied to such a purchase.

Bryan Deeter of 3859W 300N, Wabash presented a list for Identification of Potentially Affected Persons concerning a proposed confined feeding operation

on his property in accordance with the Administrative Orders and Procedures Act.

County Treasurer LuAnn Layman was present to ask the Commissioners to set the annual Board of Finance Meeting. It was decided to hold the meeting at 8:30 A.M. next Monday, January 9th prior to the Commissioners regular weekly meeting. Layman requested permission to contract with Miami Systems, Inc. to print the county's 2005 pay 2006 Tax Statements to be paid from an appropriation in her County General – Treasurer's Fund at a cost of between \$8000 and \$9000. Templin moved to approve the request and Dawes seconded the motion which was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Jay Harvey of Strategic Health Plans Corporation discussed with the Board of Commissioners the Voluntary Life Insurance recently offered to county employees by Apex Benefits Group Inc.

There has been some confusion on the billing for the premiums for the enrolled policies as the coverage is from the same (LaFayette Life) Insurance Company that writes the policy coverage for the county's employee life policies and the premiums were being billed to Group Administrator's, Ltd. the county's assigned consultant in error. These optional employee policies will be effective February 1, 2006 and are paid entirely by employee payroll withholdings not offered for paid though the Wabash County Employee Benefits plan. Harvey suggested that any time insurance is to be offered to Wabash County employees, someone from Strategic Health Plans Corporation should be present. Hauptert also signed a letter to LaFayette Life Insurance concerning the Voluntary Term Life product. Harvey also reminded the Commissioners that the insurance plans would be reviewed in February for Renewal in April. The Auditor as well as the Commissioners thanked Harvey and his staff for the good working relationship they have had with the county and for the successful year of working with Wabash County's Group Health Insurance and benefits to keep the cost down but provide good coverage for the employees and their families.

Representing the Wabash Fire Department, Kevin Buzzard and Ryan Rosen discussed with the Commissioners the need and purposes for a "Knox Box" system for the protection of the county buildings due to the changes of the procedures of the Wabash Fire Department. It was decided to order and install the boxes as suggested.

Thomas Polk, representing Wabash Electric Information Technology, the county's contracted IT Consultant, presented the purchase orders for the computer hardware purchases for the Courthouse offices discussed and approved by the Board of Commissioners and the Wabash County Council in December as well as the proposed agreement with WHI of Indianapolis for Kintera Fundware financial software for the Auditors and Treasurers offices.

Hauptert signed the orders and agreement for both the hardware and software as President of the Commissioners.

Steve Jones of United Consulting Engineers & Architects reported that his company has the Bridge Inventory draft contract ready to submit to INDOT for the 154 bridges in Wabash County. He stated that Bridge 13 is being included as a complex structure that raises the costs but they are trying to eliminate it in the actual inspection contract due to the current rehabilitation and the inspections done as a part of that project. He will present the final contract when approved.

The Board of Commissioners reviewed requests to reappoint Joe Vogel to the Wabash County Planning Commission and Mark Milam to the Wabash County Board of Zoning Appeals. On a motion by Templin, seconded by Dawes and a 3-0 vote, both appointments were approved.

The Commissioners discussed other various board appointments that need to be made or renewed for 2006. They would like to notify the public of the appointed positions to be filled and will compose a listing for notification so that any interested persons could apply.

In other business, the board approved the purchase of a new Oreck sweeper by Surveyor Cheri Slee for her new office and to be shared with the other new offices on the second floor of the courthouse. The purchase from Wabash Appliances and Electronics at a cost of \$429.89 was approved on a motion by Templin, seconded by Dawes and a 3-0 vote.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the Payroll Claims and Allowance Docket for the period ending December 31, 2005 as well as the hours for Custodian D. Smith. Also reviewed were the following:

- a. 2004 Central Services Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) for Wabash County prepared by Maximus
- b. Verified Motion to Correct Errors; Motion for New Trial; and Formal Request for Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in the Wabash County Superior Court Cause #85D01-0302-DR-40
- c. IDEM Approval for Confined Feeding Operation for J&N Veal, LLC.
- d. IDEM NPDES CAFO Information of New Schoonebeck Dairy, LLC.
- e. IDEM Notice of Public Comment for Manchester Metals, LLC.
- f. IDEM Notice of Decision: Approval GDX Automotive, Inc.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, January 9, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.