

## JANUARY 30, 2006

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on January 30, 2006 at 9:00 A.M. President Brian Hauptert called the meeting to order with all members present. Minutes for the January 23rd meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Templin, seconded by Dawes and approved by a 3-0 vote.

County Highway Supervisor Larry Rice introduced Steve Jones of United Consulting who gave a report and update on the Bridge Projects:

1. Jones presented an Application for Funding for Transportation Enhancement money for the historic steel truss Bridge #165 on 325E over the Eel River. The total project costs are \$594,000 with the county's share estimated to be \$118,900.
2. For covered Bridge # 645 the Application for Funding for TE Money is a re-submittal for the Historic Structure for Design, Construction and Construction Inspection for a total project cost of \$ 900,000. with a local share of \$180,000.

Templin made a motion to approve the Applications for Funding for both bridge projects. His motion was seconded by Dawes and passed on a 3-0 vote.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice reported information regarding the bridge conference he recently attended. (A) A new bill for Covered Bridges for "SAFETEA-LU" funds is up 17% over T21 funds, but nothing has been appropriated in 2006 for Covered Bridges. Jones commented that United Consulting was monitoring the National Covered Bridge Fund last year. (B) On a state level, Rice has heard that due to reductions in the staffing we will probably not get a request for funding though at this time. Due to the prequalifications, "If you do not meet all the criteria you probably will not get any (funding)".

The Auditor presented the state Covered Bridge Certification which was signed by Hauptert.

Matthew Bobay of Butler, Fairman & Seufert Architects and Engineers gave the following report to the Board of Commissioners:

1. There is still a "shut-down" on Bridge 13 based on project over-runs.
2. Fox Contractors have begun work on Bridges 10 and 910 on the Old State Road 15 Phase II Project.
3. Due to the over-runs and under-runs on Bridge 13, he presented a Change Order of + \$98,000. the local share will be \$ 18,844.09. Rice stated there are not enough local funds appropriated for the additional but he would be able to transfer funds without an additional appropriation.

4. Bobay commented that they are trying to get reimbursement for the INDOT waste generator permit for lead that was removed that should be about \$1500.

The Commissioners signed the Change Order for Bridge 13 for \$106,000. on a motion by Templin, seconded by Dawes and a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported an average of 84 in jail population this week. He discussed working with the Planning Commission on re-writing a Junk Vehicle Ordinance for the county, and also searching for Liability Insurance with four different companies to replace the coverage that will expire on February 6<sup>th</sup>. He stated that one concern the insurance companies have is the population of the jail and the ratio of jail officers to population.

Commissioner Attorney Tom Mattern reported on the excess Delinquent Tax properties sale proposed by the Commissioners and that a public hearing needs to be advertised prior to the e being scheduled along with a Statement of Value from a realtor and Assessed Values. The board set March 6, 2006 for a hearing date and a tentative sale date of April 3, 2006 at 1:00 P.M.

Mike Nielson of Government Fixed Asset Services spoke to the board about GASB 34 compliance and Capital Asset Policy reporting. He presented his credentials and experience and asked to submit a proposal to review Wabash County's Policy on General Fixed Assets. The board told him he was welcome to submit a proposal.

Mary Ellen Clark of CASA presented her ICJI application for a grant for 2006. The commissioners were in agreement to waive the indirect costs ordinance requirements for the CASA grant and signed the application.

Cathy Bakehorn of ARC discussed a proposed fundraiser with the Board and asked permission to use the courthouse as one of the locations for the event to be held September 16, 2006. The Commissioners agreed to approve her request. Details will be presented at a later date.

Kathryn Carter-Lower of the Health Department presented the new fees ordinance approved by the Health Board at their January meeting. Based on the information that the Health Department can justify the increase in fees, Templin moved to approve the fee schedule as presented, seconded by Dawes and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Health Nurses Jane Skeans and Lori Foust presented quotes for carpeting and electrical work to be done in their office. The Commissioners moved to accept the lower bid of Ruppel for the electrical work at \$525.00 and the bid of Paul's Flooring due to a better quality of carpet quoted for \$806.00.

Both quotes were accepted on motions by Templin, seconded by Dawes and a 3-0 vote.

Amy Carpenter of APEX Benefits Group, Inc. was present to request permission to obtain quotes for the county's health coverage. The Board suggested that she wait a year as they have just recently contracted with Strategic Health Plans and think next year would be a better year for comparisons at this time.

The Commissioners also reviewed the Employee Computer Policy; a Letter from Dave Young of AAction grants; Request for funding by Wabash County Council on Aging and discussed plans to further develop the Commissioners Website.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, February 6th, in the former Circuit Court Room, second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.