

May 30, 2006

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on May 30, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. President Brian Hauptert called the meeting to order with 2 members present: Brian Hauptert and Les Templin. Minutes for the May 22nd meeting were amended by Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent, as follows: (1) The request from Verizon for a new phone line was at 3441 W 1400 N ¼ mile west of State Rd 13, (2) Rice had inquired on road 300 W and 950 S not 900 S, (3) Work on the 300 W project is being done during daylight hours and Saturdays not Sundays, and (4) Wabash County had included an “Escalation clause” not an Exclamation clause regarding the supplies bid. The amendments were approved on a motion made by Templin seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 2-0 vote.

Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent, reported the following:

1. Old 15, Phase II project –Bridge Contractor McCoy Construction is finished and should be out today.
2. There is no change on the 950 S -300 W project but funds may be available for upgrades on the roads.
3. The new highway trucks are in and ready for use.
4. Rice presented the proposed Chip and Seal projects:

Area 1	800N	from SR 13 to East County Line	8.0 mile
	175E	from 900N to 800N	1.0
	1400N	from 500E to East County Line	1.25
	Grist Rd	from Singer to Dead End	.30
	800E	from SR16 to SR114	6.0
	Singer Rd	from Manchester Corp to 300E	2.5
	1300N	from 325E to East County Line	<u>2.7</u>
			21.75 mile
Area 2	100 N	from SR13 to 100E	1.0
	100 E	from 500N to SR16	1.0
	150 E	from 500N to SR16	1.0
	200N	from SR13 to 300E	3.0
	500E	from Blue Star Hwy to SR16	<u>5.0</u>
			11.0 mile
Area 3	500E	from Division to 50S	.5
	50S	from 500E to 750E	2.5
	650E	from 50S to 100S	.5
	Pefley Rd	from Dam Rd to Sal Park	.3
	Cemetery	from 600E to Dead End	.4
	390E	from 350S to SR16	2.5
	350S	from 390E to 600E	2.1
	Old 24	from Wabash to Lagro Corp	3.4
	Old 24	from Lagro Corp to Blue Star	<u>1.3</u>
			13.5 mile

Area 4	600E	from SR124 to South Co. Line	6.0
	America Rd	from SR124 to South Co. Line	6.1
	1000S	from Old 15 to 390E	.5
	100W	from F.S Trail to South Co. Line	1.0
	1050S	from Lafontaine Corp to 600E	1.8
	950S	from SR15 to 50E	<u>2.1</u>
			17.5 mile
Area 5	550W	from 400S to Mississinewa Rd	4.5
	700S	from SR13 to West Co. Line	5.9
	650W (900S)	from SR124 to 550W	3.6
	Elliott Rd	from 700W to 775W	2.0
	700W	from Creek Bridge to Elliott Rd	
	475W/500W	from 400S to SR124	2.0
	1000S	from 300W to Dead End	.6
	1150S	from 700W to 450W	<u>2.4</u>
			21.1 mile
Area 6	150W	from US24 to 300N	3.0
	100W	from 50N to 200N	1.5
	Lakeview Est.	from 200S to Dead End	.3
	200S	from Old24 to West Co. Line	<u>2.3</u>
			7.1 mile
Area 7	200W	from SR114 to North Co. Line	3.0
	200W	from SR16 to Laketon	4.1
	1050N (1100)	from Ogden to West Co. Line	6.6
	300W	from SR16 to 800N	2.0
	900N (850)	from 200W to 400W	<u>2.2</u>
			17.9 mile

The Chip and Seal proposed project totals **109.85 miles**.

Leroy Striker, Wabash Co Sheriff, reported:

1. There was an average of 91.9 in Wabash County Jail last week
2. The Current and prior State Jail inspector, State Fire Inspector, and the City Building Inspector have been conferred with concerning expansion and changes in the County Jail set to take place this summer. There is a need to expand due to over population and the dramatic increase in the female inmates. The current GED room at the jail will be converted into cell blocks that will add additional beds. It will be for minimum-security inmates. There is space in the basement at the jail to convert into the GED and meeting room. Templin stated the Sheriff should acquire quotes on the work. Commissioners agreed to go to the jail following lunch today to fully understand the proposed changes. Stiker also reported that he had contacted Beauchamp and McSpadden Insurance about

the upgrades which will be more compliant with inspections due to the liability insurance in the hopes of lowering the cost.

3. In Final Phase of the car trade consideration was made that the old vehicle may be given to EMA. Bob Brown, EMA Director, would appreciate this due to the need to replace an existing vehicle in North Manchester. The old EMA vehicle could possibly go into the County Surplus Sale on June 23, 2006.
4. The Final Selection process for new officers is now in the physical testing qualification stage.
5. The air conditioner in the lower part of the jail went out over the holiday weekend. It was possibly hit by lightning. Dick Smith, Sheriff's Department Maintenance Superintendent, will get estimates and have repaired this week. Auditor Jane Ridgeway, will report incident to the insurance company for possible loss coverage.

Tom Mattern, Commissioners Attorney, presented The revised Speed Ordinance: 2006 85-5. It is to reduce the speed limit to 40 MPH on River Road, north of Pike Street. Commissioners and Highway Superintendent Rice reviewed the ordinance. It was approved and signed by President Hauptert. The ordinance will be advertised by Wabash County Auditor, Jane Ridgeway.

1. Templin asked Mattern if he had made contact with an attorney to represent Wabash County on the Bardsney case. Mattern stated he had not. Mattern is waiting on a statement from the Insurance Company on this case. Mattern has entered as a representative for himself in the Bardsney case.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, reported:

1. There is a problem with the Air Conditioning unit that runs the recorders office. It is freezing up and water is dripping into his office area.
2. Had a Conference call on Friday with Keith Walters, Public Health Coordinator., Lori Foust, Health Dept. Nurse, and Brown discussing the amount of work needing to be done concerning the pandemic flu planning. Keith Walters is a contracted position with the county. Templin stated because of Walter's contract, Walters can work as many hours as deemed necessary to complete his position. The EMA Director is an employee program at 29 hours per week. Hauptert stated that North Manchester wanted to be informed of work on the planning. Brown and Walters will inform Dan Hanfield for North Manchester as to where they are in the planning.

Dr. Jeffrey Pyle, President of Wabash County Board of Health, was present and commented to the Commissioners his concern that the media is combining the bird flu and the human form of the Asian Flu and that it could cause a panic. He also stated there where 10 teams across the state to help known as the Animal Surveillance & Emergency Response Team (ASERT). They could be used as another emergency response to assist the county.

2. At the last Health Board Meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, fee changes were recommend within the Health Department as follows:

<u>Hotel Ordinance:</u>	\$50 for lodging of 1-10 rooms
	\$125 11-30 rooms
	\$200 31+ rooms

If approved, Wabash County will be the first to have this type of ordinance.

Septic Permits \$100 new installation permit
 \$50 repair permit

An Ordinance is now in place but fees are not currently charged.

Pre-Plan Food Review Fee \$20 per hour with a one hour minimum.

These Fees would go into the County Health Fund. Pyle stated the Health Department is trying to be more self-sufficient by establishing these fees. Templin made a motion to accept these proposed fees, subject to change and adjustments. It was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 2-0 vote.

Melissa Middleton of 5431 E. 250 S. Lagro was present with some of her neighbors and supporters with concerns about a proposed variance for a Contained Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) set to be built on Dora Road. Ms. Middleton stated she has nothing against hog farms or farmers but believes this is a “hog factory”. She claims the original number of hogs reported to be contained was 3000 but now is 8000. The operation is to be on land owned by Mike Schuler. Ms. Middleton and others are concerned about the lower property values, offensive odor, runoff, pollution and road damage. Others present with Ms. Middleton speaking in opposition of the CAFO were: Bill Cook, Minister of the Dora Christian Church, of 2325 S. Salamonie Dam Road whose “church has a half million dollar” campus very near the proposed site; Barbara Shacox, P.O. Box 1572, Richmond; who has experienced similar problems in Randolph County and shared the problems that had developed there; Bonnie Hahn of 9936 W. 200S, Andrews who shared the problems Huntington County residents had with a contained dairy operation; Leslie and Robert Patterson of 801 S. State Road 524, Lagro spoke and showed pictures of the Salamonie Reservoir and clean up that had to be done there with the dairy operation and also spoke of health concerns from the contamination possible. Virginia Daihl Coplea 3022 S 600 E, Lagro stated her family farm is directly over the fence from where the operation is to be and she is concerned about her property values as well as the costs involved to test her wells and do land surveys. Ms Coplea expressed concerns that the commissioners were not willing to help people like her who have lived and worked in Wabash for decades. Sharon Adcock of 5620 E 250 S, Lagro voiced her concerns and fears of the CAFO also. The group presented a Request for Wabash County Commissioners and the County Plan Commission to establish as soon as possible zoning ordinances requiring new CAFOs planning to undertake certain activities within Wabash County to prepare a County Environmental Impact Statement (CEIS) to examine the environmental and community impacts resulting from major corporate CAFO projects, to analyze alternatives to the proposed projects, and to select the most environmentally sound alternative for those projects. And to develop and enforce new ordinances for enforcing county wide air and waer health regulations regarding the ...stated community health issues.

Mike Howard, Wabash County Plan Director, Tom Mattern, Commissioner Attorney and both Commissioners Les Templin and Brian Haupert addressed the group with concern. But Templin noted that Wabash County Officials “have very narrow power and have to be very careful with how they handle it.” They also explained that the State IDEM issues such permits for CAFOs and as long as they are in compliance with the state regulations there is nothing that the county can do. In answer to requests from the group that county bridges could have weight limits posted Highway Superintendent Rice stated that the bridges are not posted because they meet state and federal limits. This group will be meeting with the County Planning Commission on June 27th.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the following after Darle Dawes had joined the meeting.

1. Grant Agreement for the Community Corrections. Templin motioned to approve, It was seconded by Dawes, signed and approved with a 3-0 vote.
2. IDEM—Laketon Refining Corp—Notice of Decision: Approval, effective immediately.
3. IDEM—Important renewal notice for: (1) Confined feeding operation Approval Renewal—Manure Management Plan for Matt & Kimberly Christman, Farm #260, and (2) Renewal for Randy Curless, Farm ID# 358.

Commissioners also reviewed the change order considerations for the Prosecutor and Surveyor Office Construction Projects presented by Jeff Kumfer of Scarce Rudisel Architects.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The Commissioners will meet again on Monday, June 5, 2006 at the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M. with Executive Session following at approximately 11:30 A.M.

President, Brian Haupert

Vice President, Darle Dawes

Les Templin

ATTEST: _____
Auditor, Jane Ridgeway