

June 12, 2006

Wabash County Commissioners meet in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on June 12, 2006 at 9:00 A.M. President Brian Haupert called the meeting to order with all members present: Les Templin, Darle Dawes, and Brian Haupert.

The minutes of the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent, requested a correction: The 3 phase project reported last week is not a new project, it is part of the current LR&S budget for streets. The minutes with the amendment as noted were approved on a motion made by Templin, seconded by Haupert, and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Leroy Striker, Wabash Co. Sheriff, reported:

1. An average population of 101.4 in the Wabash Co. Jail last week. Hope to move at least 4 DOC prisoners by the end of the week.
2. Sheriff's Department is always looking for ways to further protect Drug Task Force Members. Striker introduced an ordinance passed by Wabash City that he would like the county to review. The ordinance would make it illegal to possess any Radio Frequency Indicators. Commissioner Attorney Tom Mattern took the ordinance for review.

Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent introduced Matthew Bobay, Construction Engineer with Butler, Fairman, & Seufert. Bobay gave a monthly progress report on BF&S projects in Wabash Co:

1. Bridge 13 is officially completed.
2. On Old State Road 15 Phase II, all bridgework is finished.
3. Bobay presented change order, #2, to the Commissioners for Structure #25. The walls had deteriorated. The project is running approximately \$75,000.00 over. Wabash County's portion of this cost is \$14,000.00. Templin motioned to approve Change Order #2. It was seconded by Dawes and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent, reported the following items:

1. 28.9 miles of the Chip & Seal project have been finished.
2. The Commissioners signed the notice of the bid date for salt as set last week.
3. Rice spoke with Tom Martin of LTAP. Martin had faxed Rice information considering other counties ordinances for road damage. This type of ordinance could be considered for Wabash County. A sample Draft had \$50,000.00 per mile as a bond.
4. Rice also spoke with Carl Comerford, Engineer for INDOT. Comerford is heading up the 950S project. Rice stated the monies for the park road project should be available.

5. Rice is working with a local property owner (Cly) on a water drainage situation.

Nancy Hoffman, ARC of Wabash, introduced Donna Wilhem, Board Secretary, and Jeff Meyers, Board Treasurer. Hoffman reported ARC is operating at a deficit and has been at a loss for the last 3 years. The current June 30 fiscal report will still show a deficit although it is not as large a loss as in the past. ARC has had reduced funding from the state. Last year they moved to more Federal funding. Hoffman stated ARC has not received an increase from the State in the past 2 years. ARC has had to make some changes due to the current financial situation:

1. A freeze on enrollment. (ARC is working on some new grants to lift the freeze.)
2. Have had to reduce staff.
3. Employees are paying a higher portion of group Insurance, 15%.
4. Case Manager Services have been discontinued.
5. Semi-Independent living programs had to be discontinued. They had been in existence since the late 1980's. The program operated at a loss, which was offset by other programs and good business practices.

ARC's Shelter workshop continues to thrive. It has 65 individuals. ARC also has a Community based Shelter work program. An individual works out in an industry with an ARC Supervisor assisting. ARC also has a Shredding Business that is beginning to take off. ARC has transportation provided through Council on Aging. The transportation advisory Council works with the Council on Aging and Bev Ferry.

Hoffman stated the goal is to have a balanced budget again and not depend on State or Federal grants. ARC received a \$48,150.00 Subsidy from Wabash County last year. Hoffman informed Commissioners that the 2007 Budget request was an increase of \$5,350.00 for a total of \$53,500.00. The Commissioners stated that they would take the request for the 2007 Budget increase under advisement. Hoffman stated how grateful they are for all the support and help that is given to ARC from the county.

Ernie Passwater, Commissioner Appointed Representative of the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission, and Ron James, Executive Director, gave a presentation. The WRHCC has been in existence since 1991. They maintain 41 Square miles of water of the Wabash River. They laid out their Vision for the WRHCC:

“Our vision is to help local communities preserve, enhance, and interpret

for educational and inspirational benefit the unique and significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources of the Wabash River Heritage Corridor: promote public/private partnerships; create a Corridor identity; expand a variety of opportunities and linkages;

encourage a broad range of economic development improving the quality of life for present and future generations.”

WRHCC has what they call the River Odyssey Program. It involves two artists who have captured some of the beautiful landscapes along the Wabash River and painted them for all eyes to see. James stated it would be wonderful if the County could set up some Public Art Money to possibly purchase some of these paintings to have in the Wabash County Courthouse. WRHCC also are focused on tourism, have a newsletter, and will be involved in the Paradise Springs Festival September 16-17. They will have what they call the Water Trail map opening at the Festival. WRHCC asked the Commissioners to approve a Cooperative Agreement for Public Information Kiosks at Access sites and a Cooperative Agreement for Public Information Signage at Bridge sites on 4 Bridges in Wabash County. The WRHCC in both the Cooperative Agreements wrote an Insurance Clause stating WRHCC is only asking for “existing and usual services, maintenance, insurance and operations at the access site/bridge site indemnifying Commission as to any claim asserted arising from the Kiosk/sign or the information provided.” Following review and discussion, Templin moved to approve both Cooperative Agreements. Dawes seconded it. It was approved with a 3-0 vote and then signed by Brian Hauptert, President.

Keith Walters, Local Public Health Coordinator, reported:

1. A Pandemic Flu Drill will start Friday and go through the weekend.

Auditor Jane

Ridgeway, the Commissioners, EMA and others will be involved in a Table Top Exercise that will inform county of “How are we going to keep things going” in industry and government in this type of situation. Walters has been working with the State on revisions of the Wabash County Pandemic Flu Plan.

2. Walters presented a request to revise the Term of his current Contract with the County.

The Amended Term would be August 1, 2005-August 30, 2006. Templin motioned to

amend contract as stated. It was seconded by Dawes and approved with a 3-0 vote. The

Amendment was signed.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, informed Commissioners that a Tornado Siren meeting was held this morning.

Templin motioned to resend the motion of the June 5, 2006 Commissioners meeting that accepted the resignation of Phil Mendenhall from the ABC

Board. This motion is due to the fact that Mendenhall had been appointed by the County Council not the Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners reviewed and approved the following:

1. Approved payment for Building repair on the Old State Highway Building to Overhead Door Company and Curran Roofing from the CCD fund.
2. Change Order: D-T Construction Services, Inc. for the Surveyors and Extension Offices.
3. Claim for AC repair from Wohlford Heating & Refrigeration-County Jail.
4. Custodian, Dick Smith, hours- Pay period ending June 10, 2006.
5. IDEM -Town of Roann-Wastewater Treatment Plant
6. IDEM-Manchester Metals-Receipt of Air Permit Application.
7. IDEM-Keith L Clupper, Sr.-Change of Ownership Confined Feeding Operation.
8. USDA-GIS mapping of Wabash County Farm.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, June 19th, 2006, at 9:00 A.M. in the former Circuit Court Room, second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.