

JULY 17, 2006

The Wabash County Commissioners, Brian Haupert and Les Templin, met in an early session at 8:00 A.M. with Circuit Court Judge McCallen and Superior Court Judge Goff to discuss the Public Defender Services. Following discussion, the Commissioners had three main questions about the creation of the Council: 1) Would it save money for the county, 2) Would it be a better system than is currently in place, 3) Could it reduce the jail population? Both Judge McCallen and Judge Goff feel that all three questions could be answered yes. Discussion was held about the funding for the council. It was stated that a separate departmental budget would exist for this council. After much discussion on the issue, it was decided that the next step would be to set up a conference call in the next few weeks with a State official to gather more information on the development of a Public Defender Council.

The Wabash County Commissioners then met in regular session. President Brian Haupert called the meeting to order with two members present: Brian Haupert, Les Templin. Darle Dawes was absent due to illness. Minutes for the July 10th meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Templin, seconded by Haupert and approved with a 2-0 vote.

Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent, reported the following items:

1. Thursday, July 13, a Highway Truck upset into a side ditch off State Road 15 S. The driver of the vehicle was okay and the truck can be repaired.
2. 95 miles of the Chip and Seal Project is complete for the summer to date.
3. Received payment on road damage. Only one now remains unpaid.
4. Due to new EPA Standards, beginning January 1, 2007 all Diesel engines will be required by law to use ultra low sulfur fuel. Any trucks built after December 31, 2006 will have new engines that will specifically burn this new ultra low sulfur fuel. Any trucks built before December 31, 2006 will require special filters to allow this new fuel to work on the old engines. Due to the changes in the body and the chassis this new engine requires, there could be up to a \$15,000.00 increase on each new truck built. Rice requested to purchase two trucks before this December 2006 deadline. Replacing extra filters would be less cost than actually purchasing the trucks with this new engine. Rice stated that the bids received earlier in the year are still good. The Commissioners will contact the State Board of Accounts to see if the current bids could be accepted.

Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported:

1. An average of 95.95 jail population last week. Currently there are a total of 104 inmates with 20 that have actually been sentenced.
2. Continued A/C problems in the jail are being repaired again.

3. Hot water line cracked in basement needs repaired.
4. E-911 needs to acquire quotes for battery back-up units for the County and Wabash City. Sandy Beeks, E-911 Coordinator, feels it would be best to replace with new units rather than to repair existing ones. They are looking to consolidate the back-up system. The Commissioners wanted more details on the quotes received and pending that approved this emergency appropriation for Equipment for E-911. An official Request for an Additional Appropriation will have to go before the Council next month.

Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts, informed the Commissioners that Quality Electric would be in this week to work on the A/C in her office.

The Geographic Information System, GIS, Committee presented their findings, proposed funding and costs to the Commissioners. The GIS Committee has been researching and gathering information since September of 2005. The Committee had advertised a request for qualifications and bids. After considering the bids received from Sidwell, Schneider, Manatron and WTI (Where Technology Happens), the GIS Committee recommended that Wabash County go with the Schneider Company system. Templin motioned to go before the County Council with the recommendation. It was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 2-0 vote.

Commissioners signed and approved the following:
Payroll Claim and Allowance for the two week period ending July 15, 2006.
Monthly Report - Clerk of the Courts for June 30, 2006.

The Board of Commissioners reviewed the following:
IDEM-NPDES Individual Permit for New Schoonebeek Dairy, LLC, Harry Bekel, Operator.
IDEM - Request for Approval Voidance Confined Feed Operation - Dale Farms, Inc. (3)
Letter from Thermafiber concerning the Health Department.
Notice of Tort Claim filed by J. Barshney from Scottsdale Indemnity Company.
CASA Quarterly Financial Report as of June 30, 2006.
Invitation from Vreba-Hoff Dairy Development for an open house - July 26.
Certificate of Liability Insurance for Verizon Enterprise Solutions (2)

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, July 24, 2006, in the former Circuit Court Room, second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse following the County Council meeting.