

SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, September 11, 2006 following the Wabash County Council meeting. President Brian Haupert called the meeting to order with all members present: Brian Haupert, Les Templin and Darle Dawes. Templin moved to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2006 meeting with Rice's request that a clarification be noted in the minutes that the Auditor's office and Highway department had agreed to use a new 9-digit account number for the new financial accounting system. Templin's motion was seconded by Haupert and approved by a 2-0 vote.

Larry Rice, Highway Department Superintendent, gave his weekly report to the Commissioners:

1. The railroad crossing at the County Farm property has been in place and the Railroad Track Superintendent was given a key to access the property if needed.
2. Rice gave his recommendation regarding the petition from Laketon residents requesting a four-way stop sign be placed at Potawatomi and Lake Streets. Rice stated that he sees no criteria to recommend a stop sign at this time. Templin moved to accept Rice's recommendation. It was seconded by Dawes and approved with a 2-0 vote to not establish a four-way stop at this time.
3. Rice presented weight limits for the ten county bridges to the Commissioners and recommended changes in the ordinance to reflect the approved limits to be posted. The only change would be changing the bridge at Liberty Mills from a 5 ton to a 3 ton limit.
4. Rice reminded the Commissioners of the upcoming Scoping Meeting for the Flood Plain and the board stated they thought Matt Moorman should be included as a GIS contact person.
5. Finally, Rice reported the Town Street Restoration project is 1/3 done at Liberty Mills.

Matt Bobay of Butler, Fairman and Seufert presented Change Order #5 to the Board on the

Old State Road 15 Phase III project. This change order pertains to field material costs. The contractor will be paying back the State and then Wabash County should be reimbursed its share. Templin moved to approve Change Order #5 as requested; his motion was seconded by Dawes and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported the following items:

1. The Average population at the Jail this morning is 111. Eleven of these inmates are scheduled to be transported to the Department of Correction as soon as they have room.
2. Striker asked that as generator maintenance contracts come up for renewal, the Commissioners would ask for quotes to combine the generators at a savings to the county.
3. The sheriff asked about personnel policy changes that could affect retirement benefits. Templin informed him that he is working on revisions to the policy to be considered by a committee of the Commissioners and the Council in the future but that until changes are made, the county will honor the current existing manual.

Stan Myers of Ecowater Systems was present to discuss the recent quotes received by the sheriff's department to replace the water conditioning system at the jail. Myers explained his quote and evaluated the differences that he saw in the systems quoted. He asked the Commissioners to reconsider a previous decision to accept a lower bid from Young's Culligan. Templin stated that he felt that both systems met the specifications the county had set forth and that because of that "we are under statute to have to accept the lowest bid as presented. The state does not consider location of the vendors and if we do not accept the lowest (comparable) bid we are violating a state regulation." Commissioner's Attorney Tom Mattern stated that "by law the county must accept the lowest and best bid."

Bob Brown, Emergency Management Director, presented a letter for the Commissioners to sign stating that Wabash County EMA agrees to adopt the concepts and principles of NIMS and names Robert Brown, Executive Director of the Wabash County Emergency Management Agency as our NIMS Coordinator to work with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security on any future NIMS compliance issues. The Board approved and signed the letter. Brown also gave an update on the progress of the electrical work being done in the EMA ECO room and told the board he was waiting for Quality Electric to return and finish the project.

Nancy Radabaugh of the Wabash County Extension office was present to inquire about the requested funding for the 4-H grant by the Commissioners. The Board had decided to request the same as the present year and not an increase at this time. The Wabash County Council had approved this in the 2007 Budget at \$4275.00 for the coming year.

The Auditor reviewed the Commissioners Tax Certificate Sale held September 5th with the board stating a total of 10 property certificates were sold out of the 23 offered for sale at total proceeds of \$7100. County Auditor Jane Ridgeway also requested that the sale of Tax Certificate #8525004 to Shirley and Larry Wrisk for \$100. be voided due to a misrepresentation. The property had been advertised as .55 acre and an error had been discovered by the Assessor's office

and changed to .18 acre prior to the sale.* Templin moved to void the sale as recommended and his motion was seconded by Dawes and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Keith Walters, Local Public Health Coordinator, presented the board with a contract for financial assistance from the Indiana State Department of Health for a Subrecipient of Federal Funds Grant Agreement EDS# A70-7-0563163 to commence on August 31, 2006 and remain in effect until August 30, 2007. He also presented an Addendum to his contract to serve as the Wabash County Local Public Health Coordinator. The Commissioners discussed Walters's personal situation and asked him about returning to active duty with the Wabash City Fire Department. Walters stated he was waiting to hear from Indianapolis about the physical given him and his pension status as a result. Templin asked "Will you be able to fulfill both duties?" Walters replied "I will if I can but I don't know". The former contract states that if he is not able to fulfill the duties and obligations of the position the agreement would be voided and funding would cease. Following discussion Walter's stated that "If I cannot fulfill Attachment A" (being the Federal Grant Agreement between the Indiana State Department of Health and the Wabash County Health Department) I will immediately resign the position. Templin moved "Based on the statement Walters has made and the terms of the grant agreement to approve the Addendum to the Contract". This motion was seconded by Dawes and approved by a 3-0 vote of the board.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the Payroll Claims and Allowance Docket for the period ended September 9, 2006. They also reviewed the following:

1. Additional Appropriation Request for Legal Consultant
2. Tort Claim Review
3. A letter from Shirley Vergon of 135 W Lake Street, Laketon concerning a sewer problem.
4. A letter from Donald V. Jacobs and Michele A. Jacobs concerning a guardianship case.

No other Business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, September 18, 2006 at the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.

*Minutes amended by deleting "without notification of the Auditor" – see October 2 minutes.