

## February 12, 2024

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, February 12, 2024. Chairman Jeff D. Dawes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Dawes, Brian K. Hauptert and Barry J. Eppley. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Shepherd requested that the January 22, 2023 meeting minutes be amended as follows: "RG Zachrich Construction, Defiance, OH, Bridge #109; Milestone Construction, Fort Wayne, IN, Bridge #109; RL McCoy Inc, Columbia City, IN, Bridge #109; Pioneer Associates, Inc, Albion, IN, Bridge #109." The minutes incorrectly stated Bridge #509.

Dawes stated the commissioners have been made aware that three of highway department trucks had repairs performed on them to address problems caused by malfunctioning emission control systems which were intended to extend the working life of the trucks. The repair work removed an emission control system, which was believed to be allowed under the EPA regulations for emergency vehicles. However, we believe those EPA regulations were misinterpreted and the repair work should not have been performed in the way that it was. We have also discovered another truck the county purchased from a dealer, that came from another county, also had its emission control system removed. We have removed the affected trucks from service until we can resolve these issues. The county has self-reported the issue to IDEM and is awaiting direction on how to resolve the issue. We anticipate correcting the repair work to restore the emission control systems which were removed.

Commissioner Dawes, for Cole Wyatt, Wabash County Highway Superintendent, presented a utility permit for Eads and Son to repair service 2,133' W of 400 E near 4141 N 400 E. Hauptert made a motion to approve the utility permit. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Tyler Guenin, for the Wabash County Sheriff, presented the jail report. Currently the jail has 88 inmates, with 7 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 22 in the Fulton County Jail, 18 in the Cass County Jail and 16 in the Tipton County Jail. Last week there were 20 book-ins and 7 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 88. The total prisoner count was 151.

Marcie Shepherd, County Auditor, presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 02/12/2024. Hauptert made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Payroll claim and allowances including withholdings for pay period ending 02/03/2024. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote
3. Monthly LIT Distribution for \$1,475,186.34 to all taxing units. Hauptert a motion to approve the distribution. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Dawes asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns; none were heard.

Dr. Patricia Walters from the Board of Managers of the Walters Duffey LLC, expressed appreciation for the attention the commissioners gave to her concerns over the last year. Walters said she learned a lot about local government when she came and reported her concerns. She is happy with the outcome and thanked Mr. Wyatt, with the highway department, for his help.

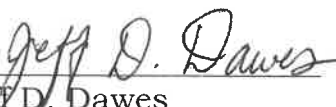
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With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, February 19, 2024.

The commissioners reviewed the following: IDEM Notice: Air permit application – Ford Meter Box Company

Also present: *In person*: Shelly Baucco, Mark Frantz, Louella Krom, Bill Burnsworth, Nicky Burnsworth, Tyler Niccum, Cheryl Ross, Chris Hickman and Dave Nelson. *Via Zoom*: Phone, Connie, KBarker, Don Jervis, Brian Swihart, Amanda's iPhone, Jade Hall, KandiC, Suzanne Peebles and bhegel.

**WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff D. Dawes  
Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry J. Eppley  
Vice-Chairman

  
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Brian K. Haupt

Attest:   
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Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor