

MARCH 29, 2010

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 29, 2010. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Eppley, Brian K. Hauptert and Scott E. Givens. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the March 22, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Hauptert made a motion to approve as written; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Local resident, Ted Oldfather, discussed his concerns and requested repairs on Bridge #155 (.3 miles south of 1400 N on Meridian Road). Highway Superintendent Phil Amones stated this bridge was inspected two (2) years ago and was given a sufficiency rating of 62.8. This rating suggests that the bridge is not deficient or obsolete. Amones stated a bridge must have a rating of 50 or below to qualify for federal aid funding assistance. Amones stated he submitted Bridge #155 two (2) years ago for federal aid and submitted Meridian Road one (1) year ago, both were denied. Wabash County bridges are set for inspection this year, tentatively beginning in May. Bridge #155 will be re-evaluated. Amones stated he will continue to make requests for financial assistance on the replacement of the bridge. Givens thanked Oldfather for his time and stated that due to the large cost of this project, we rely on federal funding. Givens also stated we will make every effort to ensure the concerns about this bridge are addressed.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent, presented a request from Dewayne Krom to cut the road at 5669 N 300 W to place a pipe under the road. Crumb will do the work and supply the materials. The county will replace the asphalt for a fee of \$5 per foot. Hauptert made a motion to approve the request to cut the road at 5669 N 300 W at \$5 per foot; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Steve Hicks, Major Chief Deputy Sheriff, stated the average daily population in the jail last week was 109.54. Commissioners and Hicks discussed that it may be time to look at more options for lowering the inmate numbers.

Bob Brown, EMA Director:

1. Presented the bids for public safety radio equipment and associated equipment presented at last week's meeting:
 - a. Emergency Radio Service - \$390,088.17 includes maintenance agreement
 - b. J & K Communications - \$302,629.28 includes maintenance agreement.

Brown recommended J&K Communications. Hauptert made a motion to approve the J&K Communications bid totaling \$302,629.28; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.

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2. Met with INdigital Communications Venture Corporation at the NINA conference last Thursday. INdigital is upgrading the system that we are set to have installed for central dispatch. INdigital informed Brown that Wabash County will receive the upgrade at no extra cost. They plan to have the system up and running by June.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, stated he continues to work with Solid Waste Board Attorney Doug Lehman regarding the Central Dispatch Solid Waste Lease Agreement.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, was present; no report.

Auditor Jane Ridgeway:

1. Presented a claim for the Region III-A: Economic Development District & Regional Planning for the 2010 Wabash County Local Dues totaling \$12,445. This will be paid from the CEDIT Funds. Hauptert stated this will need to have a line item created as it is an annual fee. Commissioners unanimously approved.
2. Requested Commissioner appointment to new County Tax Abatement Committee. Hauptert made a motion to appoint Scott Givens to the County Tax Abatement Committee; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 2-0 vote.
3. Spoke with Wells Fargo Bank regarding a possible grant to improve the handicap accessible entrance on the west side of the courthouse. Wells Fargo stated that Wabash County should apply for the grant.
4. Reported that the tax statement data file has been sent to the printer. Treasurer Sharon Shaw is working closely with the new printing company to ensure the taxes are sent out by April 23rd. Tax information should be available on the website by the end of this week.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

IDEM – Change in Ownership – CFO: Nick Kopkey & Randie Kopkey
IDEM – Notice of Public Comment – POET Bio-refining
DNR – nomination to the National Reg. of Historic Places
Invitation to CPI Supply Spring Expo – March 31st – Greenwood, IN
Mediacom agreement expiration –April 15, 2010

Jeff Hobson, Community Corrections Director, presented the Community Corrections Grant application for July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 for a total of \$207,612.00. Commissioners unanimously approved and signed the grant application.

Rick Price of North Manchester stated he is unable to attend the Public Drainage Board meeting in North Manchester at 10:30 A.M. this morning regarding the Grossnickle Drain but wanted to know what the plans were

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regarding the project. Eppley stated the project is moving forward and they are currently pursuing a grant for funding of the project.

At 9:35 A.M. the meeting recessed. Commissioners reconvened at 10:30 A.M. for a Drainage Board Public Hearing in North Manchester at the Public Safety Building regarding the grant applications for reconstruction of the Grossnickle Drain in North Manchester. On a motion by Hauptert and seconded by Givens, they unanimously adopted Resolution 2010-85-03 authorizing the submittal of the disaster application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and addressing related matters.

No other business, the meeting recessed Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, April 5, 2010 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room on the second floor of the Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.

*Approved as written