

NOVEMBER 22, 2010

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, November 22, 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 November 15, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Auditor Ridgeway stated the Commissioners did not officially accept the bids for the Highway Supplies and Rental Bids that were presented and approved by County Attorney Steve Downs at the November 15th meeting; with two exceptions: St. Regis Culverts and Stello Products Inc. neither submitted the required affidavit. On further research, Stello Product Inc.'s affidavit was found and is compliant. Givens made a motion to accept the Highway Supplies and Rental Bids as recommended by Downs; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent: stated the drainage structure on 700 S west of 400 W has been installed; completion is set for today.

Steve Downs, County Attorney:

1. Stated he has completed a Snow Ordinance draft and it is under review by EMA Director Bob Brown.
2. Stated he is working on ordinances for junk trash - debris and weeds - vegetation which are under review by Plan Commission Director Mike Howard.
3. Stated Wightman-Petrie has submitted a memo of explanation of soft costs on the Laketon Wastewater Facility project. Downs stated he had hoped for a more specific explanation of fee estimate costs.

Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts:

1. Stated the CSI equipment in the Clerk's Office is in need of emergency repairs; it is not backing up. Draper requested an emergency purchase of parts. Commissioners unanimously approved request.
2. Stated the CSI equipment is in need of a new firewall; will present quotes at next week's meeting.
3. Stated she and Judge Christopher Goff are requesting permission to send one (1) employee from each of their offices to the State Court Administration Training in Indianapolis on Dec.8th or 9th; cost will be mileage only. Commissioners unanimously approved.
4. Requested permission to attend the Newly Elected Recorder's AIC training in January at the Indianapolis Airport - registration cost is \$50. Commissioners unanimously approved.
5. Stated it was discussed at a prior meeting that Township Trustees may be able to help provide persons to assist the county with work projects.

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Draper stated individuals receiving Public Assistance from the township in the past, has been used to “work off” funds obtained by individuals through the county but only if the individuals were put on the workman’s compensation insurance of the entity for which they are working.

6. Stated the highway department employees have been a great benefit for moving furniture in the Clerk’s Office both before and after the laying of carpet. Part of the carpet installation has been completed. Draper stated no further work will be completed this week but will resume on Monday, November 29th.

Elaine Martin, Clerk Elect:

1. Informed Commissioners that Tricia Highley has been hired for Martin’s soon to be vacated position. Highley will start training with Martin on December 1st.
2. Requested permission to attend a Child Support Reimbursement meeting at the Kosciusko County Judicial Center on December 8th. Commissioners unanimously approved.

Bob Brown, EMA Director was present with no report.

Steve Hicks,

1. Stated there are 77 inmates in the jail this morning but had no official report from the Jail Commander.
2. Requested permission to hire Sheriff-elect Bob Land in a merit deputy position as of December 1, 2010 to help with the transition of the new administration. Once Land assumes the Sheriff’s position on January 1, 2011 the deputy position will then re-open for a new hire.
3. Requested permission to hire Dan Johnson as of January 1, 2011; approved by the Merit Board. Commissioners’ approval today will allow Johnson to attend the police academy on January 3rd. Commissioners unanimously approved both requests.
4. Stated the Sheriff’s Department has appropriated funds for vehicle purchases in 2011. Hicks presented two (2) quotes for two (2) Dodge Chargers:
 - a. Wabash Valley Chrysler – \$21,873 per car
 - b. QPA from the State - \$24,000 per car

Hicks requested permission to order the two (2) vehicles from Wabash Valley Chrysler. Hicks stated permission today will allow for arrival of cars in February. Givens made a motion to approve acquisition of two (2) Chargers from Wabash Valley Chrysler for \$21,873 per car; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator:

1. Stated the annual maintenance agreement for the clock on the top of the courthouse is up for renewal. Requested permission to renew for up to a

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cost of \$400. Givens made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed by a 3-0 vote.

2. Stated Lisa Rhoads from Rhoads Window Shop measured the courthouse windows last week. She stated several employees at the courthouse had commented it would be a good idea to leave the arch above the second mullion, on the first floor windows, free of a shade to allow in natural light. Commissioners stated they wanted to make sure all first floor elected officials were in agreement with this change prior to installation. Dils stated he would verify consensus.

Jane Ridgeway, Auditor:

1. Presented the Clerk of the Circuit Court Monthly Report for November, 2010. Commissioners unanimously approved.
2. Presented the Weights and Measures Monthly Report for November 15, 2010. Commissioners unanimously approved.
3. Requested a date be set for an employee Christmas carry-in luncheon at the courthouse. The most favored date was December 13th. Commissioners unanimously approved.
4. Stated the Moonlight Garden Club requested permission to place a small marker at the Veterans' Memorial noting that they maintain the area. Ridgeway stated Veteran Service Officer Max Reed has given his approval. Commissioners unanimously approved.

Beverly Ferry, Chief Executive Officer, Wabash County Council on Aging, Inc., submitted the third quarter transit report and the 5311 and 5317 grant invoices totaling \$95,387. Commissioners unanimously approved and signed invoices.

Commissioners recessed at 9:30 A.M. and reconvened at 10:00 A.M. for a Hearing requested by Richard Siders to Petition to close a portion of Spring Street in Disko. At the May 17, 2010 Commissioners' meeting, Commissioners granted permission to Chuck Shane of Chuck Shane Gravel LLC to improve the northern portion of Spring Street on the north side of State Road 114. Resident Richard Siders stated this road goes right through two (2) of his parcels. Siders stated he has no problem with the fact that the road is there but stated the road is not completed properly and would like to make sure it is surveyed and the proper procedures are followed for the road construction. Siders also stated he was not contacted prior to changes to the area and has concern for a light pole and a stop sign that are too close to the road. Shane stated he has submitted a request to the State to review the position of the stop sign and is waiting on a reply. Shane also stated Siders' property is such that no permission would be granted to build a home on the property and it only has an unused garage on the property which is not maintained. Shane stated he requested this access due to the fact that on State Road 114 where the driveway is located for his company, he has concerns with the speed of traffic and the curve at the area. Siders stated in the 45 years he has been in the area there has never been one accident at this site.

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Givens stated this is an established right-of-way and permission was granted to Shane to improve this area and that there are no specifications on the improvement of any gravel roads in Wabash County. After much discussion, Givens made a motion to take this request under advisement; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed by a 3-0 vote.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, November 29, 2010 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse starting at 9:00 A.M.

*Approved as written – November 29, 2010