

October 15, 2019

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners' present: Eppley, Brian K. Hauptert, and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the October 7, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

David Cox with G6 Communications, LLC gave a brief overview of his company, which has been in business for over 12 years. Their staff attends all the state/local/school classes to better understand their customers' needs. They have been working with the City of Wabash for the past three years. G6 provides an all-inclusive IT managed services contract (excluding hardware).

Phil Adams, County Highway Supervisor was present with nothing to report.

Toby Steffen with Butler Fairman and Seufert stated:

1. 1100 N reconstruction project is nearing completion. There will be a progress meeting on Wednesday, October 16 at 10:00 a.m. A change order will need to be issued due to some unforeseen expenses for additional concrete work. The ERC (Employee of Responsible Charge) will need to be changed from John Martin as soon as possible.
2. Old U.S. 24 has tentatively been approved for the 2019-2 Community Crossing Grant for \$1,000,000. An award letter will be coming soon. The plans are about 90% completed. This will be very similar to the contract for the 1100 N project. The next step is to request a contract with INDOT (David Armstrong) to begin this process.
3. Bridge 909 contract (American Road over Treaty Creek) has been signed with Butler, Seufert and Fairman, but no notice has been received. The bridge is not in dire need of repairs. This project is fine to put on hold.
4. Martin had a contract with BSF to do the next section of PASER rating. Currently the county is okay but in 2020 the roads will need to be reviewed to make sure they are in the MVH of the State as well as re-rate the county roads. This project may begin in the next month or two depending on the weather. The highway department will be notified once the company is out on the roads.
5. Bridge 144 (1050 S over Grant Creek) is stable but the end vents were taken out during flooding. BSF is currently waiting on the Army Corp and DNR for approval to move forward on permitting. BSF is ready to go on the project. Very little to do on this bridge, which is in good shape except for the end vents. When more information is obtained on permitting Steffen will inform the highway department.
6. The next round of Federal Aid process was sent to Martin. The county is currently under contract with USI (United Consulting Incorporated) for Bridge 110 (500 S over Treaty Creek). This would be a good one to apply for the federal funds.

October 15, 2019

Three things to look for in federal funding is cost, right of way and environmental. Bridge 110 has all three factors.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff stated he would have the jail report next week.

Baker presented for approval a contract with Elkhart County to house inmates. Downs has reviewed the contract. Elkhart will charge \$40 per inmate. The contract runs until the end of December 2020. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Keith Walters, EMA Director requested permission from the LEPC to apply for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant. The available monies will be used for a commodities flow study. The grant amount will be for \$16,000. This is a matching grant. The matching portion will come out of the LEPC fund. Hauptert made a motion to authorize Walters to apply for the grant. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Steve Downs, County Attorney stated:

1. Notice has been received in regard to a class action law suit pending in the Northern District of Ohio concerning opioid issues. All counties and municipalities are members of the class action unless they choose to opt out. The commissioners agreed to stay in the class.
2. John Martin had sent him an agreement between to Butler Fairman & Seufert to provide on-call services. These can be used for a variety of projects from drains to bridges. Dawes made a motion to approve the contract. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. Reported on the Northcliff sewage situation. A letter was sent to all Northcliff residents asking if they would be in favor of being annexed into the city to be able to hook onto to the city sewer. Every resident would have to agree for the annexation to take place. Thirty-two letters were sent out; to date eighteen have been returned. There is a split of 10 for and 8 against so it doesn't appear annexation is an option. Downs stated that the situation we don't want to occur is for IDEM to order a sewer district to be implemented, which would be much more expensive for the citizens. This needs further review before advising the commissioners on how best to proceed.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director was present with nothing to report.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented the payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 10/05/2019. The commissioners approved all claims.

October 15, 2019

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, October 21, 2019.

Also present: First Deputy Auditor Shelly Baucco, Wabash County Central Dispatch Director Sandy Beeks, Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper, Wabash County Plan Director Mike Howard and Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Rob Burgess.