

MARCH 12, 2007

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 12, 2007. Chairman Lester D. Templin called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Lester Templin, Brian Hauptert and Scott Givens. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2007 meeting as written. It was seconded by Givens and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Larry Rice, County Highway Superintendent, reported a request from Verizon to bury cable. It will be an extension of existing cable for a new residence at 359 S 300W. The Board approved the request.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported the Average Daily Population last week in County Jail was 97.57; current population is 104. Also, there was continued discussion regarding the contract with Two Brothers for the county's four generators. Rice asked if the contract included repairs. Striker stated it was a maintenance agreement and any repair cost would be an extra expense.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, presented Commissioners a Memorandum of Understanding for Locating Community Warning Sirens within the City of Wabash. The Commissioners signed the agreement.

Larry Manning and Steve Johnson, representing the LaFontaine Christian Church, presented a request to expand the water lines of the Town of La Fontaine along County Road 250E. The church is planning to build at 1100S and 250E and would like to extend the water lines along Thomas Road. Commissioners and Larry Rice reviewed and discussed the blueprints. Templin stated they would take the request under advisement and asked the church to contact them next week.

Beth Ann Stratman, of Emergency Radio Service, Inc., gave a presentation on a wireless Network Fleet internet based system. This system includes maintenance updates on all vehicles and GPS locating ability. Rice is interested in the product for the Highway Department trucks. Although the program cost is higher than Rice had anticipated, Commissioners stated it is worth considering.

At 10:00 A.M., the Commissioners received bids for (1) New Bucket Front End Loader for the Highway Department as advertised. After receiving the bids filed with the Auditor, Hauptert made a motion to close the bids. It was seconded by Givens and approved with a 3-0 vote. The Highway Department will be trading in a 1996 Case; Base listed is actual cost, Net is with the trade in.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Base</u>	<u>Net</u>
MacDonald Machinery Co Inc., Ft. Wayne	Case 2007 721 E	\$120,058.00	\$ 72,558.00
Holt Equip. Co., South Bend	John Deere 6245	\$129,200.00	\$ 92,700.00
Southeastern Equip. Co. Inc, Ft. Wayne	2007 New Holland	\$131,965.00	\$ 89,465.00
Rudd Equip. Co., Ft. Wayne	Volvo L 70 F	\$129,758.00	\$102,758.00
B & W Equip Co. Inc., Ft. Wayne	Daewoo DL250	\$116,898.00	\$ 76,898.00

Tom Mattern, Commissioners' Attorney, also reviewed the bids that were submitted. Hauptert made a motion to take all bids under advisement. It was seconded by Givens and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners accepted the Resignation of County Highway Superintendent Larry Rice who is retiring from Wabash County Government in May. This position will be advertised and applications accepted until March 30, 2007. Commissioners asked Auditor Jane Ridgeway to also advertise for a new County Coordinator position as well. Job Descriptions and Applications for both positions will be available in the Auditor's office. Commissioners plan to begin the selection process for both positions April 2nd.

Bob Lundquist, of Lundquist Appraisals, spoke with Commissioners on behalf of property owner, George Bitzer, regarding a 36.718 acre piece of property that Bitzer had formerly platted as Rosewood Hills Subdivision. Bitzer had to post a \$40,000.00 bond for this subdivision which he did through a mortgage with Beacon Credit Union. Bitzer did not sell the property in the subdivision form, nor were any improvements done on the land. Bitzer now intends to sell the 36.718 acres in its entirety. Bitzer wants to vacate the subdivision according to Indiana Code 36-7-3-10; he is also requesting a letter from the Commissioners to Beacon Credit Union for permission to release the mortgage on the property. Commissioner Templin stated he will contact Beacon Credit Union. Tom Mattern, Commissioners Attorney, will review all information submitted. Plan Commission Director Mike Howard stated he felt all necessary steps have been taken to vacant the subdivision according to the code and the request was in order.

Commissioners reviewed the following items:

1. Circuit Court Order for increased 2006 Tax Sale Costs based on Jones vs. Flowers filed by Steve Hart.
2. Circuit Court Status Hearing set for Town of La Fontaine/ Newman Commissioner Certificate Sale.
3. Letter from Pattersons regarding Proposed Terra Nova Dairy, Farm ID#6530.
4. INDOT PO # 07022390 - provision of rural public transportation – Council on Aging grant.
5. IDEM letter – permit application -- Wabash Crossing Retail Center.

Commissioners also reviewed and approved the Payroll Claim & Allowance docket for the Pay Period ending March 10, 2007, including Jail Officer J. Montague's final pay. This will be Wabash County's first payroll paid by Direct Deposit which will be more cost effective for the County and convenient for the employees.

No other Business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, March 19, 2007 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.