

## **APRIL 2, 2007**

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, April 2, 2007. Chairman Lester D. Templin called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with two members present: Lester Templin and Brian Hauptert. Scott Givens was on vacation. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2007 meeting as written. It was seconded by Templin and approved with a 2-0 vote.

Larry Rice, County Highway Superintendent, presented a Notice to Bidders for one (1) new Mowing Tractor with a Side-Mount Mower. The bids are to be received at 11:00 A.M. on April 23, 2007. The Commissioners signed the notice as presented. Rice also presented a blueprint for the Bachelor Creek Christ of Christ Expansion of Sewer Project into the City of Wabash sewer to bore under County Road 400W\*. The Commissioners present reviewed the plans and signed a Letter of Approval for the project. Lastly, Rice reported on the FEMA Conference he and EMA Director Bob Brown attended last week and stated that Wabash County can expect to receive 75% reimbursement of approximately \$19,000 of overtime and supply expenses incurred during the recent snow emergency plus 3% administrative costs.

Bob Brown, EMA Director, discussed with the Commissioners the recent L402 NIMS course changes for Elected Officials. He also informed the Commissioners that he needed to purchase a vacuum sweeper for his department. In addition, he reported that his volunteers had completed removing the old pipes and duct work in the basement area.

Wabash County Treasurer LuAnn Layman discussed with the Board the concern about rumors that the State Legislature is considering additional Property Tax Replacement Credits for the current tax year. Auditor Jane Ridgeway reported that her office has completed the Spring Abstract of Taxes for 2006 pay 2007 and received State pre-approval on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> for certification to collect taxes by May 10<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>. The Treasurer stated that she must send the data file for Tax Statements to be printed by Miami Systems, Inc. by April 9<sup>th</sup> in order to have them printed and mailed to the taxpayers in time to meet the deadline prior to collection. If the State Legislature should pass the bill being considered and increase the credits after the Tax Statements are printed and mailed there would be a great deal of work and expense to send amended Statements. Layman commented that she would need an Additional Appropriation in her budget in order to pay to have a second mailing done to all taxpayers. All taxing units in the County rely on the collection and settlement of the Property Taxes for a major part of their

budgets, a delay in collection of taxes could cause the schools, cities, towns, townships and libraries to have to borrow operating money and incur interest expense. It was the consensus of the Commissioners present to move forward with the Tax Statements to collect the taxes on schedule as certified to date unless there is a major change made by the legislature by next Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Jody Lundquist spoke with the Commissioners concerning drainage problems on some property she owns on 100S. She showed pictures of the flooding and asked the Commissioners for permission to dig out the drainage ditch and install new culverts at her driveway and the driveway of her neighbor Paul King. She stated that she and King were both willing to pay for the culverts. The Commissioners asked Rice to check on the situation and make a recommendation about the requested work.

Commissioners also signed and approved a Notice of Polling Places submitted by Clerk of the Courts Lori Draper establishing two new polling places for Noble 2: First United Methodist Church and Noble 5: First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St, Wabash.

Commissioners reviewed the following items:

Letter from Wabash Circuit Court RE: Ordinance for costs of confinement  
Custodian R. Smith's hours for the Pay Period ended March 31, 2007

Manchester Community Schools request for stone or gravel at a bus turn-around

State Surplus Property listing – Wabash County Willow Island

OCE Lease Agreement: Correction of Name and/or Address for Circuit Court copier

Commissioners also reviewed and approved:

Accounts Payable Claim & Allowance docket as advertised to be paid April 4, 2007.

No other Business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, April 9, 2007 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.