

MAY 7, 2007

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, May 7, 2007. Chairman Lester D. Templin called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Lester D. Templin, Brian K. Hauptert, and Scott E. Givens. Hauptert made a motion to approve the Monday, April 30, 2007 with one correction requested by Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent; #2 on highway report "heavy traffic" not heavy rain. It was seconded by Givens and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Larry Rice, WC Highway Department Superintendent, reported:

1. Legal Notice to receive salt bids was signed by Commissioners.
2. The Report on a contract for final inspection for Bridge 13. Hauptert made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Givens, approved with a 3-0 votes, and signed by Commissioners.
3. Claim submitted from United Consulting Engineers for engineering work; acceleration and deceleration lanes, for new quarry, Kentner Creek Stone. Funds will be taken from the On-Call Engineering line item. Hauptert moved to approve payment. It was seconded by Givens and approved with a 3-0 vote.
4. Presented a list of roads to be considered for weight limits. Sheriff, Leroy Striker, Rice and Commissioners discussed ordinances, how other counties deal with similar operations, possible postings, and state statues regarding weight limits. Commissioners stated this needs attention and will be taken under advisement.

Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff reported,

1. An average daily population last week in the jail of 100.52. Population today: 109.
2. Last week air conditioning in cell 3 went down. Striker stated this was an Emergency repair and had Wolford Heating & Cooling come and assess the situation.

Bob Brown, WC EMA Director, discussed the need to finish the weather ordinance. Commissioner Templin, Brown, and Mattern will work together to address the weather ordinance and deal with IC Codes and details pertaining to Penalty Provision.

Tom Mattern, Commissioners Attorney, reported:

1. A Request for an Executive Session to discuss a Tort Claim. Commissioners set May 21st at 8:30 A.M.

2. Mattern has been working with POET to revise the Letter of Understanding between POET and Wabash County. Haupert made a motion to approve as revised. It was seconded by Givens, approved with a 3-0 vote and signed by Commissioners.

Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts, reported:

1. A computer in Judge McCallen's office is dying. Draper stated she is willing to obtain a new one through her current contract with CSI. Since McCallen is a IV-D Judge, they could use the IV-D Incentive funds to cover the cost. Draper stated they also need Excel for four (4) computers in the clerk's office which could also be paid from the IV-D fund. Commissioners requested Draper acquires quotes for the necessary equipment and software.
2. Draper stated the ISETS computer at the counter in her office was no longer working. They have been using an older computer from prior Judge Vanderpool that is working OK for now. Draper stated she is getting a quote from CSI to covert the data on the older computer to the newer computers.
3. Draper informed Commissioners of the Clerk's Conference to be held in June. She will need two (2) rooms and will be taking 3-4 deputies with her. Commissioners unanimously approved the attendance of the Clerk's Conference.

Kathy Carter-Lower, Deputy Registrar/Office Administrator Health Department, reported:

1. The Health Board is continuing their search for a new Health Board member.
2. Lynn Dannacher, Health Department, requested contractual help for the upcoming fair and festival inspections. A retired food sanitarian may be available to assist her. They will know more next week.
3. The GIS data program with Purdue will not be funded from the Local Health Maintenance Fund as had been requested and approved. Carter-Lower requested permission to go to County Council to request an Additional Appropriation from the County Health Fund. Commissioners unanimously agreed to amend the original approval and they unanimously approved for the Health Department to request an Additional Appropriation of \$9,000.00 from the County Health Fund.

Brenda Purdy, 3226 S 700 W, came before the Commissioners to ask permission to acquire* a .33 acre piece of land that she has been maintaining and thought was her own for some time. After having a survey done, Purdy realized the .33 piece of land was owned by the County. Acquiring* the .33 acre of land would allow her to sell a portion of her current property without having to file a variance. Commissioners stated Larry Rice, Highway Superintendent and Tom Mattern, Commissioners Attorney, would need to review all information on the matter.

Tom Ogan, of 2844N 300W, brought his concerns before the Commissioners about the new Ethanol plants. Ogan wanted to know if the County could put “safe guards” in any agreements that the land would be converted back to farmland by the company owning the Ethanol Plants in the event that the plants would close. Commissioners discussed the economic advantage for county farmers that the plants could provide. Commissioners also informed Ogan that monies for building and designing the area will be in a TIF. This does not give the monies to the Plant but rather, monies are given to EDG of Wabash County to plan for these issues. Ogan and the Commissioners also discussed Tax Abatements and Bonding.

Commissioners reviewed the following items:

1. Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission Minutes – March 14, 2007.
2. Notice of Common Construction Wage meeting for the Solid Waste District to be held May 4, 2007 with Brian Hauptert as Commissioners representative.
3. Notice of Tort Claim/William Wesley Frank.
4. Public Defender Commission letter about funding for 4th quarter

Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

1. Custodian R. Smith hours for pay period ended April 28, 2007.
2. Purchasing flag swags for the courthouse for \$190.00 – to be ordered by Custodian R Smith
3. Agreement with City of Wabash: Ambulance and Rescue Service – approved, and sent on to County Council for approval
4. Accounts Payable Claim & Allowance Docket as advertised for payment
5. Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket for Pay Period ended May 5, 2007 including Final pays for V. Reahard and L. Meyer
6. IDEM expired Approval – Confined Feeding Operation: M. Christman

Commissioner Lester Templin made an Official Announcement: Phil Amones has been appointed as the new Highway Superintendent, replacing Larry Rice who is retiring. Amones is to begin his new position on June 1, 2007.

No other Business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, May 14, 2007 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioner’s Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.

*amended May 14, 2007