

## **SEPTEMBER 4, 2007**

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners: Meeting Room. President Les Templin called the meeting to order with all members present: Lester D. Templin, Brian K. Hauptert and Scott E. Givens. The minutes from the August 27, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved as written on a motion by Hauptert, seconded by Givens and a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported an average daily population in the jail of 83.66 this past week with only 72 at one point. He discussed his vehicle fleet situation. He would like to use insurance proceeds from a damaged vehicle involved in a deer accident which he estimates at \$3000 to \$4000 plus Commissary and Misdemeanant Funds to purchase a new replacement vehicle and also order a second new vehicle to replace a worn-out vehicle with the funds that have been tentatively approved by the Council for 2008. Striker stated that he feels if he orders them soon they would be delivered and ready in March or April of next year and could order before price increases. Hauptert made a motion to allow Striker to proceed with the purchases of both cars; his motion was seconded by Givens and approved 3-0. Striker also discussed the purchase of a 3/4T 2007 GMC transport van as discussed with the Council for the 2008 budget. He would like to work with a local dealership for the best possible deal in order to expedite this purchase to be ready after the first of the year. If necessary he could make payments from his Commissary funds. Hauptert moved to approve proceeding with the purchase of the van subject to the final budget approval by the Council set for September 10<sup>th</sup>. Givens seconded the motion and it passed on a 3-0 vote. In another matter, Striker reported that the new replacement for the storm-damaged air conditioner compressor is "in the works" to be delivered this week.

EMA Director Bob Brown submitted his report for the Commissioners and Auditor Jane Ridgeway to sign for reimbursements for the fiscal period October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006. He also noted to the Board that the automatic commercial door opener installed at the Annex garage building was difficult to open when the power was out. He discussed options with the Commissioners.

County Coordinator Jim Dils presented a change of agent letter for the Board's approval concerning employee life insurance coverage.

Clerk of the Courts Lori Draper discussed purchasing new voting machines with the Commissioners; presenting quotes from Microvote General Corporation. She plans to use \$45,000 from her 2007 budget and \$63,000 from the proposed 2008 budget for the 64 new machines. She noted that she may be required to purchase external printers for each of the machines to be compliant with new laws and would need to ask for Additional Appropriations in 2008 of approximately \$64,000 if necessary. She also needs new polling place signs and would like to order "yard signs" at a cost of \$5 - \$10 each for the 25 polling places. The Board unanimously agreed to allow the Clerk to proceed with the purchase. In another matter, Draper informed the Commissioners that the carpet in her office is "very badly wrinkled" again and they discussed the possibility of replacing it with carpet squares.

County Recorder Nancy Gribben informed the Board of Commissioners that a formal complaint had been filed against her office from a vendor for refusing to sale imaging of documents. She stated that her Recorder's Association had advised against the sale and that three other counties had also been sued. She asked to request an Additional Appropriation from the Council for legal representation.

Treasurer LuAnn Layman informed the Commissioners that she would like to invite some collection company representatives to discuss an agreement to collect delinquent personal property taxes for the county. They were favorable to her suggestion. She and the Auditor also informed the Board that there are currently 144 properties eligible for the 2007 Tax Sale to be held on October 16 at 10:00 A.M. Hauptert asked if they could set a date for a Board of Finance meeting to designate that earned interest be allocated to the Rainy Day Fund that Council has resolved to appropriate to use for unused Employee Benefits upon retirement or termination. It was decided to meet as the Board of Finance on September 17 at 8:30 A.M.

Wabash County Health Nurse Jane Skeans presented a quote from Skyline Electric Inc. for the purchase of a commercial refrigerator with an alarm. The Commissioners decided to hold off on a decision until she has more quotes and figures for the additional miscellaneous items needed for setup and maintenance of the unit.

The Board discussed a contract agreement for a new Commissioner and Council Attorney with the hope of securing someone as soon as possible.

A new proposed Lodging Ordinance from the Health Department which includes fees to be charged was reviewed once again by the Commissioners. Following discussion, Hauptert moved for adoption of the Ordinance as presented. Givens seconded the motion that was approved by a 3-0 vote.

The Board reviewed claims presented as advertised for payment. With a few exceptions denied for more information, they approved the remainder of the claims and allowance docket.

Wabash County Surveyor Cheri Slee asked if the Commissioners were going to approve disbursements from the CEDIT Fund for all of the expenses to be reimbursed by the TIF district bond proceeds. The Auditor and Council had discussed setting up appropriations for the reimbursable expenses from the County Economic Development Income Tax Fund so that better tracking could be done instead of many different departments and reimbursements would be easier to track. The Commissioners approved the TIF districts development expenses to be paid and reimbursed within the CEDIT fund on a motion by Givens, a second by Hauptert and a 3-0 vote.

Toby Steffan of Bulter, Fairman and Seufert was present with an informal report about litigation with the painters involving the Bridge 13 project. This litigation is between the contractors and subs and does not involve the county.

Also reviewed were the following:

Department of Justice: Certificate of Acknowledgment

IDEM: Notice of Decision – G & S Metal Consultants

IDEM: Receipt of Air Permit Application – Ford Meter Box

Quality Electric, Inc. – Invoice 10310 – AC repair

An IT Consulting Agreement with Wabash Electric Information Technologies Division for the Courthouse computer systems was reviewed an extension of the agreement was approved through the end of 2007.

No other Business, the meeting recessed; the next meeting will be held Monday, September 10 in the Commissioners meeting room at the Wabash County Courthouse following the Council meeting at 8:00 A.M. and the Final 2008 Budget Hearing.