

## DECEMBER 15, 2008

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, December 15, 2008. Chairman Scott Givens called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Lester D. Templin, Brian K. Hauptert and Scott E. Givens. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the December 8, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Templin motioned to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway reported;

1. Amones submitted a sample contract on Bridge 645 project, the North Manchester covered bridge.
2. Halderman Real Estate comprised a reference guide for prices on farm land that had sold near 1440N, approximately \$4860-\$5200 per acre. 1440N has a sink hole problem and the question is whether to close this road or not. Mark Metzger a land owner is one owner that does not want the road closed. Commissioners will review the reference guide and take the road closing question under advisement.

Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported;

1. The average population in the county jail last week was 108.14.
2. No traffic accidents this morning with the ice conditions
3. Auditor Ridgeway informed Striker that she had spoken with the State Board of Accounts regarding the accounting of fees for employee meals after the first of the year. Purchases will need to be done through the regular claims process schedule and will be paid twice a month and any emergency purchases should be done through the Sheriff's Petty Cash fund and turned in for reimbursement on a claim. SBOA informed Ridgeway that there is no authority for the department to have a separate checking account for food purchases. Ridgeway also confirmed that the Commissioners are to set the price for employee meals. Commissioners unanimously agreed with Striker's suggested \$1.00 as a fair price for the meals at this time with any fees collected to be turned into the Auditor's office with the monthly Report of Collections. Ridgeway has asked for this SBOA information to be expressed in writing.

Bob Brown, EMA Director presented a Grant agreement totaling \$3195.31 that Council approved at the December 1st meeting for Amateur radio Equipment. Brown stated that this is a reimbursement grant. Commissioners and the Auditor signed the grant.

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Steve Downs Commissioners' Attorney was present with nothing to report today.

Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts reported a need to pursue unpaid Docket Fees for child support. They are collected for the courts and are used to help reimburse county expenses. All cases remain open until penalties are paid. Draper stated that she and both Judges would like to use an outside source, EAGL Accounts Group Limited, to pursue the unpaid docket fees. Draper stated a report would be sent to EAGL. EAGL would send people to the clerk's office to field phone calls from individuals who receive notices of payments due. Draper brought a contract for Attorney Downs and Commissioners to review. Templin made a motion to take under advisement; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator reported;

1. St. Bernard's school would like to carol seasonal songs at the Courthouse this Friday. They will be caroling at other city and county buildings as well. Dils wanted to know if this was permitted. Templin stated it is a public building. Commissioners agreed this would be fine.
2. A letter from Pathfinders regarding recycling changes. Dils stated it will impact our mixed paper pick-up. The Corrugated cartons from the jail are our biggest usage with some smaller usage of other mixed papers as well. Our last service date will be Wednesday, December 31. Dils stated they will pull the dumpster soon then after that date. Dils stated we currently have a once a week pick up. Dils stated he had contacted Wabash Valley Refuse. Dils is waiting to hear back from them on services available and costs.
3. Dils had a letter from the IHTC (Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center) and wanted to know who should address. Commissioners Attorney Downs stated he would contact Councilman Bob Fuller to review.

Kelley Schenkel, Assessor, asked Commissioners what the policy was on the transition for Noble Township Assessor Brenda Conner from Elected official to an employee with 3 prior year's non-elected experience and a total of 30 years with County government. Schenkel stated Conner had accrued 18 days of time off over the last 30 years and had kept a tally on those days. Schenkel wanted to know if Conner would she be able to keep these days. Schenkel also asked how Conner would start in on her vacation pay. She currently has three (3) weeks. Ridgeway also stated they would need to address the Level II certification for deputy pay amounts. Templin stated Conner would receive her sick leave prior to January 1, 2007 payout and will then start out at the beginning of the

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year at a zero (0) balance. This will also need to be addressed with the out-going Treasurer Luann Layman. Templin stated they will take into consideration years of service, but to also understand not everything will be carried over or the same. Templin stated Conner will be starting as a new employee in some sense of the word. Commissioners unanimously decided to take these matters under advisement.

Donna Bogert appeared for AAction Committee Representative Trisha Hanes and presented the proposed AAction Grants for 2009. Templin asked about any changes in the grants. Bogert stated they had lessened the amount they funded to Bowen and funded Northfield after prom for the first time. Funds are evenly divided to education (\$6,900), law enforcement (\$7,900), and Intervention (\$5,350). They are required to equally distribute between 33-40% to each of these. Administrative costs are around \$1,500.00 for the part time clerical, Missy Lundmark. Bogert stated they have served around 7,000 kids this year. Templin wanted to know more about the Wabash County Tobacco Free program. Bogert stated the program starts with training the high schools students to mentor younger kids –junior high and elementary level to fight smoking and smokeless tobacco. This program was created because no funding is given for junior high or elementary ages. They feel the younger kids are more apt to listen to kids closer to their age. Cuts have had to be made at the schools. They understood and were grateful for the funding they were allotted. Commissioners thanked Bogert for all the hard work.

Commissioners acknowledged new North Manchester Police Chief Jeff Perry who was present at the meeting.

At 10:00 A.M. Commissioners broke for Drainage Board meeting. Following Drainage Board, Commissioners and Highway Superintendent Amones reviewed the engineering company scoring from the State for the engineering firms who had submitted a Request for Proposal qualifications letter. Commissioners and Amones also revisited the 1400 N project. Commissioners unanimously agreed for Amones to move forward and discuss with the land owner if he would be willing to sell a portion of his property at a reasonable price. This would all the road to go around the sink hole and allow the road to stay open.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator discussed a request from Prosecutor Bill Hartley for an additional phone for a new full-time employee, Becky Cordes, set to start January 1, 2009. Because this request will require the purchase of an expansion module for the system (\$850.00) and a phone (\$250.00) the total cost would be approximately \$1,100.00. Commissioners unanimously approved the request. Commissioners,

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County Coordinator Dils, Auditor Ridgeway, and Commissioner Elect Barry Eppley discussed additional costs that may be involved to update the capacity of the voice mail system.

Commissioners reviewed Curt Campbell, Ag & Natural Resource Extension Educator-Extension Office, as representative to the Planning Commission replacing Doug Rice. Templin made a motion to appoint Curt Campbell; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners discussed David Wilson's request to vacate – Servia. Commissioners agreed to vacate the alley between lots 10 & 11, but not the extension of Tanner Street. Commissioners did not feel it is in the County's best interest. Hauptert made a motion to vacate alley; his motion was seconded by Templin and passed with a 3-0 vote.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

Payroll Claims and Allowance Docket for Pay Period ended – December 15, 2008

Accounts Payable Claims and Allowance Docket advertised for payment – December 15, 2008

Monthly Report – Clerk of the Courts – November, 2008

AIC Letter – Dues for 2009 totaling \$2,690.10

Barnes & Thornburg – Re: North Manchester Ethanol \$4.5M Solid Waste Facility Revenue Bonds

Wabash County Highway – Field Entrance Expenses \$656.78 – materials only

Maximus 2007 Indirect Cost Audit

IDEM: Notice of Public Comment: Renewal of Operating Permit - Alumitech of Wabash, Inc.

IDEM: Notice of Decision: Revocation for – CertainTeed Ceilings

IDEM: Notice of Decision: Approval for Experimental Operation – Wabash Alloys, LLC

IDEM: NPSED CAFO Information: Rod Merrick, Owner/Operator, Homestead Pork, LLC

IDEM: CAFO Response to Public Comment: Mark A. Sellers, Re: Homestead Pork, LLC

Republic Services of Indiana, LP, Wabash Valley Landfill: Letter

IDEM: Request for Additional Information – Wabash Valley Landfill

Reimbursement for David Wilson for Advertisement on vacate request in Servia totaling \$36.00

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, December 22, 2008 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.