

January 5, 2015

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 5, 2015. Wabash County Auditor, Linda Conrad called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Barry J. Eppley, Scott E. Givens and Brian K. Haupert. Conrad requested nominations for Commissioner Chairman. Eppley made a motion to nominate Brian Haupert as Commissioner Chairman for 2015. The motion was seconded by Givens; it passed by a 2-0 vote. The meeting was then turned over to Haupert. He asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Givens made a motion to nominate Barry Eppley as the 2015 Vice-Chairman. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Linda Conrad. The minutes of the December 22, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Givens made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent was present with nothing to report.

Sheriff Bob Land reported the Wabash County Jail currently has 81 inmates with 8 inmates at the Miami County Jail. Last week there was one transport and 10 book-ins. The peak population was 85. He also requested permission to research the purchase a used 2008 4x4 Jeep Laredo and one other new vehicle. The commissioners gave their consent to proceed.

Keith Walters, County EMA Director stated:

1. In April, he applied for a Homeland Security Competitive Based Project Grant which would allow the EMA to replace aging computers and related equipment. An award letter was received on December 23. Walters requested approval to proceed with the \$12,340 reimbursement grant. Givens made a motion to sign the grant. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. All three commissioners signed the grant.
2. He received correspondence from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security that the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act 2015 does not provide FEMA with any non-disaster funding. At this time, all 2015 grants, including the Emergency Management Performance Grant and several other grant programs, will be delayed. EMPG is the salary reimbursement grant for the county EMA department.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator presented a new contract with MJV Group, Inc. which reduces the number of cleaning days provided at the judicial center from 3 to 2 per week and will reduce the monthly billing by approximately one-third. This change was approved on November 24, 2014. Haupert signed the contract.

Linda Conrad, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowance docket for January 5, 2015.
2. Veteran Service Officer Bob Brown was appointed in October but no paperwork was not signed at that time. Conrad requested that the appropriate document now be signed. Haupert signed the document.

January 5, 2015

3. Region III-A board appointment - Eppley made a motion to appoint Brian Hauptert. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.
4. Wabash County Tax Abatement Committee appointment - Eppley made a motion to appoint Scott Givens. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.
5. Stan Bagley submitted a request for Cheri Slee and Claude Markstahler to be re-appointed to a four-year term on the Laketon Area Regional Sewer District Board. Eppley made a motion to approve the appointments. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
6. The Convention and Visitors Bureau Board notified the Commissioners that Wade Weaver exercised his option to serve a third term.
7. Annual dues claims for signatures: Association of Indiana Counties, Indiana Association of County Commissioners and Region III-A
8. A claim for \$12,421.71 to pay the annual transitional reinsurance fee as required by the Affordable Care Act.
9. IDEM notices received for air permit applications by Manchester Tool and Die and Alfe Heat Treating, Inc.
10. Proposed Resolution 2015-85-02 forgiving repayment of monies transferred from the County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT) Fund to the County General Fund.

Prior to voting on the above resolution, Eppley read a statement. "As 2014 came to a close, it became clear that for at least the third year in a row tax revenues were not sufficient to cover the cost of services provided by Wabash County government. During those years, Wabash County Council, County Commissioners and department heads worked to reduce spending. Cash reserves were partially spent to meet cash flow needs. On August 25, 2014 it was clear revenues were not going to meet expenditures so the County Council requested a loan from the Wabash County Commissioners. The funds for the loan came from the Economic Development Fund. On September 29, the County Council determined there would not be sufficient funds available at the end of the year to repay this loan and the Council requested that the loan be waived. The Commissioners hereby, with this resolution, waive the repayment of this \$800,000 loan from the Economic Development Fund."

"It now appears that the 2015 budget will exceed the revenues and will spend most of the remaining cash reserves. Some of those reserves come from the Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) Fund. The CCD Fund was established by the Commissioners on June 17, 2002 to accumulate funds for large capital repairs and/or replacements. The tax rate for the CCD fund has been going down and in order to meet the needed projects in the future, this fund's tax rate needs to be restored to the original .0333 cents per hundred dollars valuation." Eppley then made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-85-02. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

January 5, 2015

Givens made a motion that all previous Commissioner board assignments remain the same in 2015. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Sandy Beeks, Wabash County Central Dispatch Director presented a service agreement with PowerPhone, Inc. for \$8,325. It is to provide training and support for the Central Dispatch staff in the handling of Emergency Medical Dispatch calls. Eppley made a motion to approve the contract which was approved by County Attorney Steve Downs. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The Commissioners will meet on Monday, January 12, 2015 in the meeting room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.