

May 23, 2016

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, May 23, 2016. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Eppley, Scott E. Givens and Brian K. Haupert. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Linda Conrad. The minutes of the May 16, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Haupert made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented:

1. Utility permit from Frontier Communications to bore under 300 W to install service to 1658 N 300 W.
2. Utility permit from Frontier Communications to bore under Millcreek Pike to install service to 4335 Millcreek Pike.

Givens made a motion to approve both utility permits. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Martin also stated:

1. Work is progressing on removal of the railroad via-duct on 700 W.
2. Bridge inspections will be completed by the May 31 deadline. Butler Fairman & Seufert will reduce Bridge 13 (Mississinewa Road over the Mississinewa Reservoir) to one lane today for inspection of that bridge.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 88 inmates with 51 inmates housed at the Miami County Jail. Last week there were 10 transports to the DOC and 25 new book-ins. The peak population was 89.

Keith Walters, County EMA Director was present with nothing to report.

Steve Downs, County Attorney was present with nothing to report.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director was present with nothing to report.

Linda Conrad, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. IDEM notice of a wastewater pre-treatment system for Midwest Poultry.
2. IDEM notice of an air permit application for POET Bio-refining.
3. Hearing notices for two unsafe buildings located at 421 N Cass Street and 107 Walnut Street. Both properties are in Wabash. The hearings will be held at Wabash City Hall on June 16 at 4:00 p.m.

Mary Hibbs spoke about a drainage issue which is causing flooding on her property in Liberty Mills. Rodney Dollarhide also spoke on the same drainage issue stating the drain is plugged with dirt and has never worked properly. The commissioners agreed to investigate this issue.

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Pat Lynn and Wabash County Animal Shelter Director Doug Bogert stated they will be asking the City of Wabash and the Town of North Manchester to help provide financial support for the Animal Shelter. They asked that the county continue its current level of support in 2017.

Eppley stated a transfer of funds is needed to purchase a new topper for the surveyor's truck. He noted that the request which was approved last week was incorrect and will not be implemented. Givens made a motion to transfer \$1,300 from Cum Cap-Courthouse Phone System to Cum Cap-Motor Vehicles to pay for the new topper. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eric Ratts and Tammy Wyss Senn with DLZ presented results of a recent feasibility study for the Wabash County Sheriff's Office and Jail. They provided a handout for those in attendance and for County Council members who were not in attendance. They noted that the next step would be to obtain a financial assessment regarding the county's options to fund such a project.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Tuesday, May 31, 2016.

Also present were: Plain Dealer reporter Mackenzi Klemann, 105.9 The Bash reporter Tim Arnett, Randy Curless, Bill Ruppel, Sandy Beeks, Elaine Martin, Steve Hicks, Dick White, Jerry Hults and Steve Smith.