

JULY 16, 2012

Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, July 16, 2012. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Hauptert, Scott E. Givens and Barry J. Eppley. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed 3-0.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent:

1. Presented seven (7) utility permit requests from NIPSCO:
 - a. 436 E 250 S
 - b. 487 E 250 S
 - c. 1275 E 250 S
 - d. 1378 E 250 S
 - e. 1398 E 250 S
 - f. 1722 E 250 S
 - g. 2110 E 250 S

Givens made a motion to approve all requests; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote.

2. Stated an official notice was received from INDOT regarding approval for the R-O-W services for Ogden Road, Bridge #24 over Otter Creek. Martin stated a letter has been submitted to Butler Fairman & Seufert authorizing them to proceed with the project.

Wabash County Sheriff Bob Land stated the average daily population in the jail for the week ending July 15, 2012 was 86.28; six (6) inmates are housed at the Miami County Jail.

Bob Brown, EMA and Central Dispatch Director:

1. Stated the Samsung business line phone system at Central Dispatch has been replaced by Indigital Telecom (the 9-1-1 vendor). This will allow updates for new technology to be added to the present system. New MEVO phones which can accept 9-1-1 "rollover" calls and business calls have been installed and programmed at no cost to the county. The MEVO phones expand the dispatch capability to answer calls when extra personnel are needed to assist during major emergency events.
2. Stated the Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana has requested Brown join their board of directors. Commissioners gave unanimous approval.

County Attorney Steve Downs was present with no report.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator was present with no report.

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Jennifer Scott and Pat Lynn of the Wabash County Animal Authority presented a proposal for restructuring the Animal Shelter. Scott stated their Board has decided to transition from county-funded employee wages and benefits to an independent 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization. Currently the Animal Shelter is ineligible for grant funding. Lynn stated there are several project goals that are outside the scope of the current budget and this change would allow the organization to apply for grants. They have been in talks with Foundation Group, Inc. which helps organizations transition to non-profit in an average of four (4) months; a transition which could take up to a year. During the past sixteen (16) years the Foundation Group has worked with the IRS to assist many organizations to become non-profit; the fee for their services would be \$1,200. Scott stated the plan is for the new non-profit organization to then contract with Wabash County, City of Wabash and the Town of North Manchester for their services. Eppley stated this is an admirable goal and could be beneficial to both the county and the Animal Shelter. Eppley stated he would like to retain the current budgeted requests for the Animal Shelter to ensure adequate funding is available until the transition can be completed. Scott was in agreement with the hope that the Animal Shelter will not need the full 2013 allocation. Commissioners gave unanimous approval to cover the \$1,200 cost for the services of the Foundation Group and to leave the 2013 Animal Shelter budget figures as prepared.

Jane Ridgeway, Auditor:

1. Presented the Payroll Claims and Allowance for Pay Period ended 7/07/12. Commissioners unanimously approved.
2. Presented the Accounts Payable Claims and Allowance Docket for 7/16/12. Commissioners unanimously approved.
3. Presented the ARC of Wabash County request for 3rd quarter 2012 allocation totaling \$14,625. Commissioners gave unanimous approval. Hauptert signed request.
4. Presented the Auditor's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports for June 2012
5. Presented the monthly report – Clerk of the Circuit Court for June 2012

Commissioners Reviewed

IDEM Notice of Decision: Approval – Manchester Metals
County Council Packets for July 23, 2012 meeting

Beverly Ferry, Executive Director, Living Well in Wabash County COA:

1. Presented the 5311 and 5317 quarterly invoice grant requests. Hauptert signed both grant requests.
2. Stated LWIWC offered a program for riders under the age of 18; \$20 for unlimited ridership during the summer.
3. Worked with the Wabash County YMCA in assisting youth who are involved with the Performing Arts programs this summer.

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Hauptert opened the floor for public comments. Several individuals were present who wished to re-visit the issues regarding Cause Number 85C01-1202-MI-153 filed in the Wabash Circuit Court and the concept of a “Common Law Court.” Downs stated the “Common Law Court” concept no longer exists in Indiana so it is not a viable option; Commissioners each agreed based on their individual research and legal opinion of the County Attorney. Downs stated that the true authority in this matter rests with the court system. Commissioners agreed to assist within the limited scope of their authority. Dennis-Alan, Dale-Francis, Lou Studio, Michael Dyson, Dick Winkelman, Donald Holmes, Tom Chrisman, Dave Pefley and Roxy Roser all expressed opinions on the matter.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The Commissioners will meet on Monday, July 23, 2012 in the meeting room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse starting at 9:00 A.M.

Reminder:

The Wabash County Council will meet on Monday, July 23, 2012 in the meeting room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse starting at 5:00 P.M.

*Approved as written – July 23, 2012