

AUGUST 29, 2005

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on August 29, 2005 at 9:00 A.M. Chairman Les Templin called the meeting to order with all members present. Minutes for the August 22nd meeting were approved with the notation that the board gave Highway Supervisor Rice permission to proceed with getting "quotes for a new unloader" not to proceed on the purchase. The motion was made by Brian, seconded by Darle and approved by a 3 to 0 vote.

County Highway Supervisor Larry Rice reported to the Commissioners as follows:

- 1) Pleasant 49 Bridge was not done this week as NIPSCO did not finish their installation.
- 2) Old State Road 15 Phase II Project is ready and waiting on the state to invoice and proceed.
- 3) A request from Verizon to bury cable on 250S @ 2295 E. west 128' to a residence for a medical emergency situation.
- 4) Requested the Commissioners meet with the Roann Covered Bridge Association as he feels we need a plan or agreement of responsibility for the testing and maintenance of the bridge.
- 5) Asked the Commissioners to review the Indiana Right-to-Work Committee report he received.
- 6) Rice also reported to the Commissioners that Jack Easton of United Consulting would be attending their next meeting to present a change order for Bridge 208 for \$231.00.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported a population of 98 in the jail this morning. Striker also presented, on behalf of Sandy Beeks E-911 Coordinator, a bill from the Wabash Police Department for the UPS system at a cost of \$691.70. Brian moved to approve the invoice, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3 to 0 vote.

The Sheriff also reported that in an attempt to find ways to help the county save money, he was suggesting that they consider selling an antique Jeep that is in his fleet or donate it to the museum as it is more of a liability to the Sheriff's department and may be an asset to the county. They agreed to seek an estimate of the value of the vehicle and consider the suggestion.

Sheriff Striker answered Commissioner Dawes about the recent anhydrous thefts in the county and the additional security measures in place for the problem.

Commissioner Attorney Tom Mattern reviewed the proposed Lodging and Septic Ordinances presented by the Health Department. He stated he believes the

Health Board attorney Larry Thrush has reviewed the laws accordingly but questioned the amount of the fines and possible jail time. Following a discussion with Environmental Health Specialist Jennifer Swango, the board asked that Thrush review and rewrite the ordinances and they be presented again. Mattern also presented the Commissioners with the two speed ordinances for the LaFontaine area that were approved at last week's meeting for their signatures.

Darle asked about concrete chunks placed on county right of way in Urbana. Mattern commented that if they were on county property the board would have the right to ask that they be removed but suggested that the county consider a survey of the property in question to be sure of the boundaries.

Emergency Management Director Bob Brown reported also on the anhydrous release last Saturday night in Urbana and his department's involvement in the incident. He commented that new legislation may force an additive to be added by 2006 to render anhydrous unusable if stolen. He will check back and bring more information as the Local Emergency Planning Committee continues to address dangerous situations such as this. Brown also reported that he has meet with Steve Johnson of Solid Waste Management about the emergency switch over work done by Quality Electric at that location. Finally he reported that "The Wall" exhibition last week at Paradise Springs went well and there was a good turnout and good flow of traffic as EMA volunteers assisted with handicap access.

Clerk of the Circuit and Superior Courts Lori Draper asked if the Commissioners had made any decisions about moving her office's records from the second floor of Memorial Hall as the Prosecutor's office will be moving into that space? She also gave the board information requested on fire protection and emergency services relating to townships.

Dave Corner of Trane Consultants presented the board information about his company and projects they have worked on with local schools for energy conservation savings. He asked for the possibility of studying the courthouse and other county buildings and the Commissioners said that they would consider his proposal.

Courthouse Custodian Ron Harris appeared before the board to discuss his overtime hours and schedules for security of the courthouse.

County Health Nurses Jane Skeans and Lori Foust appeared before the board for a review of a contract for the new Local Public Health Coordinator. The Commissioners asked that the contract be re-written as a contractual agreement instead of an employer-employee contract. Commissioner Mattern also reviewed the presented contract and agreed that the one presented was definitely written as an employee agreement. Les stated it should not include

vacation time and should have a definite termination of contract clause. Darle asked why this job is so large and needed now. The nurses replied that in case of a large scale health disaster such as smallpox, anthrax or pandemic flu emergencies the Local Public Health Coordinator would have a plan in place and trained volunteers to assist with setting up clinics for mass inoculations.

The Commissioners also reviewed and approved the Payroll Claims Docket and Allowance for the pay period ended August 27, 2005.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 6, in the former Circuit Court Room, second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.