

March 13, 2023

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 13, 2023. Vice Chairman Jeff D. Dawes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with Barry J. Eppley present. Brian K. Hauptert on vacation. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the March 6, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

Phil Dale gave a presentation on behalf of the Wabash County Education Visioning Group. He stated the group was formed to explore the needs of Wabash County students after high school. It is composed of members of our public bodies and citizens from throughout the county. WCEVG needs professional consulting services on issues relating to education and community development. The cost for such services would be approximately \$65,000. Although the funds are not needed at the present time, a commitment that the funds will be available when needed would assist with determining the amount they would need to raise from the private sector. Currently the group has commitments from the City of Wabash - \$10,000 and Wabash City Schools - \$2,500. They are asking for a commitment of \$10,000 from the Town of North Manchester and \$2,500 from Manchester Community Schools. WCEVG hopes the MSD schools will also become involved. Dale asked if the commissioners would pledge \$10,000. Dawes asked if this was in connection with the Imagine85 program. Dale said the group was an outgrowth of that program. Eppley asked if they had a board of directors. Dale stated "not at this time." Eppley made a motion to take the request for \$10,000 in funding under advisement. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

Lori Draper, Wabash County Circuit Court Clerk, requested approval for Election Day voting locations. Draper said that on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm voting can occur at:

1. Zion Lutheran Church; 173 Hale Drive, Wabash, IN 46992
2. First United Methodist Church; 110 N. Cass Street, Wabash, IN 46992

Early voting will be possible in the Clerk's office at 69 W. Hill Street, during normal office hours of 8 am-4 pm April 24th during office hours of 8-4 through May 1, 2023. The Clerk's office will also be open for voting Saturday, April 29, 8 am - 12 pm. Eppley made a motion to approve the voting locations. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, requested the commissioners approve the lowest bid received from Gaunt & Son (March 6, 2023) of \$646,702.01 for the CCMG project of small structure replacement on CR 650 E and paving on CR E 1100 N. Dawes made a motion to approve the bid. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported the jail currently has 79 inmates, with 19 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 3 in the Fulton County Jail and 48 in the Tipton County Jail. Last week there were 24 book-ins and 9 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 94. The total inmate count was 146.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 03/13/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.
2. Payroll claims and allowances with withholdings for pay period ending 03/05/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.
3. Amendment of Jail Bond Packet #21 (March 6, 2023) with only \$1,765,412.92 to be dispersed. Eppley made a motion to approve the amendment. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

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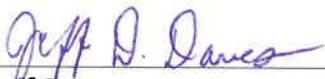
Dawes asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns. None were heard.

With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, March 20, 2023.

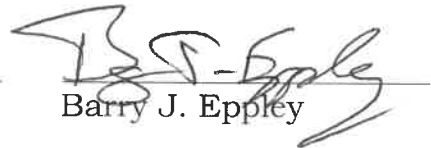
Also present: *In person*: Shelly Baucco, Mark Frantz, Jim Dils, Keith Walters, Tyler Guenin and Greg Harnish; *Via Zoom*: Brian Swihart, Jade Hall, William Carroll, Kandy Barker and Don Jervis.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brian K. Hauptert
Chairman



Jeff D. Dawes
Vice-Chairman



Barry J. Eppley

Attest: 

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor