

**March 20, 2023**

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 20, 2023. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Hauptert, Barry J. Eppley and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the March 13, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

Phil Dale gave an update on the Envisioning Group of Wabash County, saying they will use the Community Foundation of Wabash County as the fiscal agent. Dawes said he has reservations regarding this self-appointed group and feels this request is outside the purview of the commissioners, to which Eppley agreed. Bob Shults stated this is an issue that has been voted on before, 80% of the voters do not want a new school and this is a dead issue. Denise Enyart stated when you pay for a study it makes it biased, our schools are fine and the funds could be better used elsewhere. Cheryl Ross stated the problem is not with the schools but with families. We need more God in the schools and remove the drugs. Eppley made a motion to deny the funding request for \$10,000 (presented 3/13/23). Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Brian Swihart, Chief Probation Officer, requested permission to ask the Wabash County Council for approval to appropriate funds for the 2023 Aaction grants. He read a list of the organizations which were approved to receive funding. Eppley made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, presented a contract with Gaunt and Son for the CCMG project of small structure replacement on CR 650 E and paving on CR E 1100 N. (bid was awarded 3/13/2023) in the amount of \$646,702.01. Dawes made a motion to approve the contract. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Tyler Guenin for the Wabash County Sheriff reported the jail currently has 76 inmates, with 17 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 23 book-ins and 5 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 82. The total inmate count was 139.

Steve Downs, Wabash County Attorney, stated he received contracts from Brian Swihart to review for part-time independent contractors. He also stated he is still working on the OnSolve contract for the CodeRED warning system. He recommended we may want to consider other vendors.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 03/20/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Jail Bond Packet #22 for \$39,636.40. Dawes made a motion to approve the payment. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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

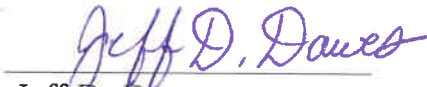
With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, March 27, 2023.


Also present: *In person*: Shelly Bauccho, Jim Dils, Lorelle Krom, Cheryl Ross, Jim Keaffaber, Bob Shultz, Brian Gottschalk, Dave Haist and Dan Metzger; *Via Zoom*: Jade Hall, William Carroll, Kandy Barker and Don Jervis.


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**WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
Brian K. Haupert  
Chairman

  
Jeff D. Dawes  
Vice-Chairman

  
Barry J. Eppley

Attest:   
Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor