

JANUARY 31, 2005

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. in the former Circuit Court Room, Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Les Templin called the meeting to order with all members present. Minutes for the January 24th meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian, seconded by Darle, approved by a 3 to 0 vote.

County Attorney, Tom Mattern, updated the board on the eminent domain/condemnation process for property located on Old State Road 15 S. A hearing will be scheduled for the middle of March. The Commissioners signed an intent to proceed.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice discussed the Bridge 13 project, stating that the project had been awarded to Baker & Shultz and there would be a pre-construction conference set soon. He also updated the board on the Bridge 208 rehab and recommended that they proceed with the granting of bids per the Construction Inspection Agreement with United Consulting Engineers. The county's share of the costs is unknown until the job is bid but we will get credit for what has been spent to date.

Rice also discussed damage to county roads being done by construction. The board decided to research the situation and consider writing an ordinance to address the problem.

The commissioners unanimously approved a request by Verizon to bury cable along a section in front of 4030E 1000N.

Rice presented the commissioners the completed county highway fixed asset inventory which has been done to comply with the required GASB 34 reports. The board expressed their appreciation to Rice and to Phil Amones for the all of their hard work.

Community Corrections director Jeff Hobson and Greg Wehling of Moake Park Architects presented the finalized low bid of D-T Construction of Silver Lake for the remodeling of the work release program in the basement of the jail. After the revised bid of \$102,933 was reviewed by Attorney Mattern, the Commissioners awarded the project to D-T on a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Sheriff Leroy Striker reported 81 inmates in the jail today. He presented an agreement for inmate health services with Health Professionals, LTD. On a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote, the Commissioners approved and signed the agreement.

Striker also presented 3 bids received for three new vehicles: Moser Motor Sales of Berne, \$21,892.25 each; Bob Schwartz Ford of Peru, \$22,492.00 each; and Crain Ford of Warren, \$22,792.00 each. Brian moved and Darle seconded the motion to purchase the cars from Moser Motors at the lowest bid and the motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

John Harris came before the board to discuss the possibility of running a drainage tile in the right-of-way of Co.Rd.400N due to a problem with an easement. The Commissioners reviewed the situation and suggested that Mr. Harris exhaust all other options first.

County Treasurer Luann Layman presented quotes for bonds for her deputy and extra help. Brian moved to accept the quote of \$389. for \$100,000 coverage. The motion was seconded by Darle and passed by a 3 to 0 vote.

Circuit Court Clerk Lori Draper presented the HAVA survey for the voting precincts and discussed the recommendations of the report in order for the county to be in compliance with the required handicap accessibility. The commissioners stated they would continue to monitor the progress to meet the Federal standards.

Commissioners approved re-appointing Barry Eppley and Lawrence (Ralph) Murphy to the Wabash City Plan Commission, on a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and a 3 to 0 vote.

Julianne Lassus representing the Lutheran Preferred Network spoke to the Commissioners concerning the county's health insurance. She was told that the county had contracted with Strategic Health Services and she said she would be discussing the company's rates with them for comparisons at renewal time.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be February 7, 9:00 A.M.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Jane E. Ridgeway, Auditor