

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the former Circuit Court Room, Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Les Templin called the meeting to order with all members present. Minutes for the April 4th, meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian, seconded by Darle, approved by a 3 to 0 vote.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice reported that he had received notification from INDOT to proceed with the construction of Bridge 13 with a completion date of August 31, 2005. Toby Steffan of Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. brought market estimate reports for the Commissioners approved for the 950 S - 300W Project.

Bids were received and opened at 10:00 A.M. as advertised for one (1) New Loader/Backhoe on behalf of the Wabash County Highway Department. The following bids were received:

1. MacDonald Machinery Company, 3911 Limestone Drive, Fort Wayne, IN:
 1-2005 Case 580 Super M-II with optionals 48" Ditch bucket, Auxiliary hydraulics, and Stabilizer rock guards:

Selling Price with options	\$68,500.00	without options	\$68,500.00
Less trade-in	(15,500.00)		(15,500.00)
Total net difference	\$53,000.00		\$50,087.00

2. Holt Equipment Company, LLC, 25166 State Road 2, South Bend, IN:
 1-2005 Deere 410G Backhoe Loader with 48" Ditch bucket, Three function Loader Hydraulic Control Valve and Stabilizer Cylinder Guards:

Selling price with all options listed:	\$70,200.00
Less trade allowance	16,500.00
Trade Difference	\$53,700.00

3. Southeastern Equipment, 3333 West Coliseum Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN:
 1-New Holland LB75.B Loader Backhoe: \$57,900.00
 Less Trade value 9,000.00
 Total net difference \$48,900.00

Brian moved to take all bids under advisement, seconded by Darle and passed by 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported a jail population of 89 inmates in jail this morning. He also reported correspondence with the DOC regarding the current inmate safekeeping claims. He stated they felt that these claims would be the responsibility of Wabash County but asked them for a determination in writing. Striker also stated that Health Solutions will be checking into whether or not they might be liable for some the medical costs involved.

Sheriff Striker also reported checking on reducing the departments fleet of vehicles due to cars needing replacement, repair, etc. He stated they are trying to save money with gas prices so high and also discussed the possibility of helping EMA to replace a vehicle with one the extra ones from the Sheriff's fleet. He also reported that Community Corrections painting was nearly complete and they have hopes of holding an open house by the end of the month.

Bob Brown, EMA Executive Director, presented the board with the quarterly report for SEMA grant funds and reported 1761 and 1/2 Volunteer hours with 166 hours of training and 318 hours of incidents/assists with city, county and fire departments for the quarter. Brown stated he would be attending the Ortho photography conference coming up soon and had invited other involved county department officials to attend. He stated that if Senate bill 201 is signed by the governor it will make all EMA directors required to be full-time and will have to be phased in by 2009.

County Attorney Tom Mattern once again reminded the Commissioners of the April 21st, 3:00 P.M. hearing on the Phase II project of Old State Road 15 condemnation.

County Clerk Lori Draper reported on the project of reviewing all polling places to be in compliance with handicap assessibility which has to be completed by December 31, 2005. She was also given permission for Draper Construction to install cabinet and shelving in her office at no cost to the county. The Clerk also discussed paper shredding needs for her office and asked about purchasing a commercial paper shredder from her Clerk's 4D funds and possibly a new postage meter also. The board asked County Auditor Jane Ridgeway to set up a meeting with the county officials to discuss the shredding and mailing needs of all the offices and to report back on the requests.

Ralph Bolinger and Barrie Bunnell of Bunnell Land Surveying presented the Final Plat of Cherry Springs Estates Subdivision along with the Restrictive Covenants and Conditions for the subdivision, the Revised Driveway Entrance Plan Drawing and Road Plans for the project. After reviewing the plans and specifications, the Commissioners voted to accept the plans on a motion by Darle, seconded by Brian and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Robert Robinson of Liberty Mills was present to request that the Commissioners vacate an alley between lots 6 and 7 in the original Comstock Plot of Liberty Mills owned by Robinson and his son. Following discussion the Commissioners stated they would need a request from the son also in the form of an official petition through the County Highway Department and County Attorney Mattern advised that they would then still need an advertisement and hearing set by law.

The Commissioners then decided to set the County Surplus Property Auction for the current year on June 24, 2005 at 4:00 P.M. at the highway garage. On a motion by Brian seconded by Darle and approved by a 3-0 vote, they signed a Property Auction Contract with Tony Stout. The auditor was asked to notify all the departments of the date set.

Bob Cook and Scott Linn of Phoenix Tech (formerly NX Communications) addressed the commissioners regarding network and maintenance issues at the courthouse and requested to do a study to see if savings are available from maintenance contracts now in force to work as consultants to interface the systems for the county. The board gave their approval for the study at no cost to the county, as they said they have no problem with the company looking at the systems and reporting back to them.

County Assessor Kelly Schenkel reported to the board about a contract for a trending adjustment program with William P. Schultz Jr for changes in values every year instead of large reassessment costs. The board asked County Attorney Mattern to review the contract.

The Commissioners also reviewed repair claims for the historical marker and memorial hall repairs as well as the CASA Quarterly Report.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, April 18th at 9:00 A.M.

 Lester D. Templin, Chairman Darle V. Dawes Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST: _____
 Jane E. Ridgeway, Auditor