

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 11th meeting were reviewed with one correction noted by Highway Supervisor Larry Rice: the completion date for the construction of Bridge 13 was changed by the state to October 23, 2005, instead of August 31st as noted in the minutes. A motion to approved the minutes with the correction noted was made by Brian, seconded by Darle, approved by a 3 to 0 vote.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice discussed a problem with side ditches along 950S being damaged. It was recommended that County Attorney Mattern send letters to property owners involved to meet with the Commissioners to discuss the situation. Rice also recommended that the design and construction contract for Bridge 505 be awarded to United Consulting. On a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote, the recommendation was approved. Rice also reported that he would like to have Bridge 175 re-submitted for project approval. The board unanimously agreed to approve Butler, Fairman and Seufert re-submit the project.

Bids received at the last meeting were reviewed for one (1) New Loader/Backhoe for the County Highway Department. Brian moved to accept the recommended bid of MacDonald Machinery Company, 3911 Limestone Drive, Fort Wayne, IN: 1-2005 Case 580 Super M-II with all options specified (48" Ditch bucket, Auxiliary hydraulics and Stabilizer rock guards) for a selling price \$68,500.00, Less trade-in (15,500.00) for a total net difference of \$53,000.00. The motion was seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote, following a discussion of the transport height differences in the bid backhoes and the required bid specifications advertised.

Rice then addressed the Cherry Springs Estates final approved plat questioning why the road was not in the center of the right-of-way. The commissioners asked Rice to discuss his concerns with the developers and verify an agreement on the road plans.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker and Deputy Mike Shrider were present concerning the traffic situation on Old 24 West by Wabash Alloys. In the interest of public safety, wanting to protect the public, motorists and picketeers in that congested area they discussed possible solutions for the county to make the area safer especially during this stike period. Following a discussion of speed limits, warning signs and possible temporary concrete barriers along the drive, Brian moved to proceed with an Ordinance to extend the 35mph speed limit a minimum of 500' past the driveways of Wabash Alloys and also notification of "reduced speed ahead warning signs". The motion was seconded by Darle and passed on a 3-0 vote. Sheriff Striker agreed to discuss the situation with Alloys and Union personnel and Highway Supervisor Rice agreed to check into the cost and availability of concrete barricades.

Also reported was a call from a Roger Waltz, a concerned citizen inquiring about the intersection of county roads 250 and 200 on the Dora Road where a fatal accident occurred last week. He had suggested the possibility of a four-way stop there and or speed reduction in that area. Sheriff department officials reported that the investigation into the accident on April 15th was not complete and so it had not been determined whether or not speed was a factor in this particular accident. In another matter, Sheriff Stiker asked the board about reducing the speed limits on County Road 1000S between Old State Road 15 and New 15 and also east on 1000S to 390E, as a lot of children use this area to walk or ride bikes to and from LaFontaine Elementary School. Also discussed was the speed on Thomas Road in LaFontaine from State Road 15 to Bruner Pike. The commissioners stated that any such changes to county roads would have to be done through public petitions to the County Highway department.

Stiker reported a jail population of 92 inmates this morning. He also updated the commissioners on his search for vehicles to trade in an effort to reduce the fleet of vehicles. The Commissioners agreed to a \$2000. or less limit for the traded vehicles to be paid from commissionerary funds. An agreement was presented to the Commissioners to sign to allow on-line banking for the Sheriff's department funds.

In addition, Striker reported that Community Corrections remodeling is nearly finished and that it should be completed by May 1st. He also reported that Jeff Hobson was meeting this week concerning the grant through the state for the next cycle.

Bill Stouffer and Jim Ridenour were present to inquire about any help from the county in purchasing carpet for the new museum. Because the carpet selected is a recycled product made of 10 percent corn stalk, they felt that the Green Building Program through Solid Waste might be available. It was suggested that they need to submit a written request to the Commissioners for funding to take to the Solid Waste Commission with a quote for the project and listing of materials to be used.

Councilman Paul Bergman was present to discuss the emergency plan he had written about hospital diversion procedures and to answer any questions the commissioners might have.

County Attorney Tom Mattern reported on the contract with William P. Shultz for trending for the county assessors and recomened that it was a good contract but should be signed by Shultz before accepted. Mattern also 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 presented quotes for a DM 400 series postage meter for her office to be purchased from the Clerk's Incentive Fund I, 4-D funds and to be partly reimbursed by Child Support monies. She would need to have the annual maintenance as a budgeted item in the county's 2006 budget and thereafter. Her recommended purchase would be from Pitney Bowes \$3906 with an annual maintainace fee of \$491. The commissioners agreed to the purchase. The Clerk then asked to purchase two more label printers from CSI to also be paid from Clerk's Incentive Funds at a cost of \$1446. Brian moved to approve the purchases, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote. She also requested permission to order the necessary Jury Selection System software at a cost of \$5482 to be put in the 2006 budget which will need to be in place by November, 2005. The current jury selection system is a part of the voter registration program which are being replaced by the state. In addition one new PC has been mandated for use at the counter by ISETS and will need to be in place by the end of the year. She has a quote from CSI for \$1332. with a maintenance upgrade of \$89. This was will be purchased from Clerk's Incentive Funds with part out of 4-D and reimbursed 66% by Child Support. Brian moved to approve the purchases presented, seconded by Darle and approved by a 3-0 vote.

The Commissioners then reviewed Monthly reports from the Clerk of Circuit Court, the County Treasuer and Weights and Measures, as well as the Prosecutor's Grant Quarterly Financial Report.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, April 25th, following the Wabash County Council meeting at 8:00 A.M.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST: _____
Jane E. Ridgeway, Auditor