

AUGUST 1, 2005

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse at 8:00 A.M. Chairman Les Templin called the meeting to order with all members present.

Minutes for the July 25th meeting were approved as written (with a typo correction noted by the Auditor amending "before" estimates to "below" estimates for bids received for the Phase II of the Old State Road 15 project) on a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and approved by 3 to 0 vote.

County Highway Supervisor Larry Rice reported 105 miles of chip and seal projects have been completed to date with 40 to go. He also requested permission to file an additional appropriation request with the County Council for \$90,000 from the Cum. Bridge fund for Construction/Inspection of Bridge 13. Brian moved for approval, seconded by Darle, and approved by a 3-0 vote. Claims were reviewed from Verizon for damages filed against the Highway Department. Rice requested permission to attend the LTAP seminar on Drainage Issues if it works into his schedule. Permission was granted. Rice also reported the Bridge 13 project is moving along well and should be paved next week, also that Bridge 208 is progressing well in the early stages as expected.

Sheriff Leroy Striker reported 102 inmates in jail today, and questioned the benefits of the county having unemployment insurance which he understands could benefit employees with educational grants. Following discussion the board stated that they feel the county personnel policy is for education required for an employees job description not necessarily for the possibility of advancement when there are no current openings. Attorney Mattern stated that since an employee can deduct the cost of educational training as an income tax deduction, it would seem to be "double-dipping" for the county to reimburse all such expenses. Striker suggested that the board consider "revisiting" or modifying the personnel policy manual to explain this position clearer.

Sandy Beeks, E-911 coordinator requested that the commissioners "pull" the \$60,000. from the budget for North Manchester as the E-911 advisory board had voted 3-2 in favor of doing so to establish a Central Dispatch. Dave Young of the North Manchester Police Department asked the Commissioners to re-consider the recommendation and felt that since North Manchester has approximately 18 1/2 % of the county's population, \$ 180,000 would be appropriate for their own dispatching unit. Brian stated that no decision has been made on central dispatch to date and that we could still request additional appropriations for it after the new year's budget. Beeks stated that she had not included the \$60,000 for North Manchester in her 2006 budget requests and the board asked to modify her budget as if there were not to be a Central Dispatch at this time as the deadline for budget requests is here and no formal agreement has been reached. Following discussion of proposed funding for a new Central Dispatch system, Brian stated that he would have to see a formal presentation on paper in order to access the financial pros and cons, as it is hard to make a decision based on discussion. Striker stated he felt all of the considering had been done by the advisory committee and now Beeks is presenting their recommendation to establish a Central Dispatch to the commissioners. Brian concurred but would like to have an Executive Summary as to the conclusion of the advisory board to study before making a decision, he moved to take the matter under advisement, seconded by Darle who stated he was "lost and doesn't know what is right but would like to think we are moving forward." The motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

Kris Hitler of AFLAC was present with a refresher of updated information on AFLAC financials, facts & figures and stated that her company has 92 policy holders in the county's employment and 15 in the vision program. She also said they have not had an increase in premium rates in 30 years.

In a discussion with Ralph Bolinger concerning the drive at his Cherry Springs Estates subdivision he presented a Certification that the roadway constructed has been to the specifications of the Wabash County Highway Department and a Request to turn the Cherry Springs Estate Road over to the county. Rice reviewed the RE: Bolinger Estates Roadway memo stating we (the contractors) put in a water division asphalt bump to divert water to the ditch on the Farbaugh Drive. This was done to keep the water diverted to the ditch. The drive has an incline to the south off the roadway, and The responsibility for this is up to the property owner if it ever gets torn out, not Wabash County. This memo was signed by Rice, Mike Hileman Contractor-Gaunt & Son Asphalt and Ralph and Gloria Bolinger, owners. Bolinger presented a copy of the covenants of the subdivision and the board told him he would need an Ordinance prepared before the county could accept the road.

Joe Eddingfield representing the Town of Lagro was present to inquire about property at 1018 Washington Street in Lagro belonging to Bill and Shelby Dillon which the town would like to tear down as an unsafe building. It has been through the Tax Sale twice and the town would like to have possession of it through a Commissioners Sale. The commissioners requested that he check into the proper procedure for the county to deed it to Lagro.

EMA Director Bob Brown reported on the new Homeland Security grants.

The Commissioners also reviewed:

- a) Payroll Claims for the period ending July 30th.
- b) Accounts Payable claims submitted and advertised for payment.
- c) Community Corrections letter of update from director Jeff Hobson.
- d) IDEM Construction Permit Application for the Town of LaFontaine WWTP Improvement.
- e) IDEM Confined Feeding Operations for Bill Urschel Farm # 4417.
- f) IDEM New Application for Manchester Metals, LLC. Title V-Significant Permit Modification application from the Office of Air Quality.
- g) INDOT Annual Meeting invitation.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, August 8, in the former Circuit Court Room, Wabash County Courthouse.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST:

Jane E. Ridgeway, Auditor