

OCTOBER 3, 2005

The Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session on October 3, 2005 in the former Circuit Courtroom of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman of the Commissioners Les Templin called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes for the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as written on a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and approved unanimously by a 3-0 vote.

Bridge Inventory and Inspection Requests for Proposals were opened as advertised. Nine companies submitted proposals as follows:

1. United Consulting Engineers and Architects  
1625 N. Post Road, Indianapolis, IN 46219-1995
2. Bernardin-Lochmueller & Associates, Inc.  
6200 Vogel Road, Evansville, IN 47715-4006
3. Butler, Fairman & Seufert  
8450 Westfield Blvd, Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240-8302
4. FEBA Consulting Engineers, Floyd Burroughs & Associates  
14701 Cumberland Road, Suite 200, Noblesville, IN 46060
5. CEA Engineers & Surveyors  
9105 East 56<sup>th</sup> St, Indianapolis, IN 46216
6. WTH Engineering, Inc.  
567 West Westfield Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46208
7. Farrar, Garvey & Associates, L.L.C., represented by Brian Fredricks  
8925 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46260
8. USI Consultants, Inc.  
8415 East 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A, Indianapolis, IN 46216-2200
9. DLZ Engineers, Architects, Scientists, Planners, Surveyors  
2211 East Jefferson Blvd, South Bend, IN 46615

Brian moved to take the submitted proposals under advisement, seconded by Darle and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice reported to the Commissioners that there was still no official Notice to Proceed on the Old State Road 15 project. He also reported on a meeting of the Highway Supervisors Association concerning INDOT revising the consultant selection process to be compliant with the Brooks Act. Rice stated he agreed with the majority of the association members that consultants should be selected locally and not by the state. As a final matter to consider, Rice asked the Commissioners to set a date to advertise and receive highway supply bids. They decided to set the bid openings for November 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported 108 in jail this morning. He also reported he had been contacted by several groups and individuals interested in expediting an automatic railroad crossing at 50E and State

Road 15 at Treaty. Rice suggested a petition would allow the Commissioners to know what the public wants and if a petition were submitted the matter would come before the board for consideration and they would set a date for a public hearing. A discussion followed on the various ways such a signal could be funded, including through the railroad with a variety of programs or for the county to fund the project themselves. It was suggested that we might need to bring a railroad representative in to talk about the situation and a representative from INDOT also. Les asked if they should consider closing the road until something is done with the intersection, no decision was made. Striker also asked if the board had any dialog or decisions on the Jeep in his fleet, which he had suggested earlier, might be sold or donated. No decision has been made.

Commissioner Attorney Tom Mattern reviewed a revised contract for a Local Public Health Coordinator presented by Jane Skeans and Lori Foust of the Health Department. He stated that he still had some questions about the document submitted, noting that

- (a) The term was listed as retroactive to August 1,
- (b) Compensation was vaguely stated "as per the grant agreement" and the agreement was not a part of the contract,
- (c) The document used the term "appoints" rather than "contracts" in several areas,
- (d) The contract was stated to be with the "Wabash County Council" instead of the "Wabash County Commissioners."
- (e) The contract called for "full payment" instead of a specific amount based on the funding from a state or federal grant.
- (f) Mattern said the contract should state, "if performance was no in compliance with the state it would not be in compliance with the county."

The Commissioners asked Mattern to review the contract with Larry Thrush the Health Board Attorney and amend it for further consideration. (Keith Walters appeared before the board later and was in agreement with the decisions made.)

Employees of the Wabash County Extension Office Nancy Radabaugh, Matt Moorman and Teresa Witkoske were present to discuss their move to the second floor of the courthouse within a 30-day timeframe. They presented their concerns and demands concerning the move as follows:

1. Rooms upstairs need to be emptied by the EMA before they can assess the situation in those rooms thoroughly.
2. The ceiling in the former Superior Court Staff office must be fixed.
3. They would need adequate computer cabling run to continue working without interruption, as this is a very busy time of the year for them.
4. Telephone wiring would need to be installed into the rooms being considered, as the new courthouse phone system is not connected to this area.

5. Lighting would need to be addressed. The board felt that they could work with this after the move and when the department had decided where workstations would be located.
6. The extension office feels that carpeting and painting should be done now before the move.

One of the main concerns is that such a move cannot take place in 30 days and that they need more time to make it right, maybe even just another month if possible. Also that Art DeArmond from Purdue will do specs for the new office area once it is decided exactly where they will be and is working on their needs.

The Commissioners stated that the county is under a push to complete the needed moves as quickly as possible and several details will have to be worked out following the move as it is going to cost the county nearly \$5000. a month if all current moves cannot be done by January 1, 2006. Les stated that they have already received a lot of criticism that they are spending too much on the second floor remodeling and they would appreciate the cooperation of the employees of the offices involved to work together. He said they would address the issues one at a time. The board gave these suggestions to the extension office employees to help expedite the move, as they must still shoot for November 1st:

- A) Begin boxing what you will not need in the next couple of months.
- B) Complete a needs assessment of priorities.

Les also stated that they can work on cleaning out the area, fixing the ceiling, cleaning the carpet, and contacting the phone and electrical companies. Radabaugh inquired to be sure that the county would cover all costs for the relocation. The board also stated that they hope to have another surplus county property sale at the county highway garage before winter to sell some of the items being moved from storage, etc that are not needed.

Wabash County Emergency Management Director Bob Brown presented the following:

1. His quarterly EMA report, mentioning that two new volunteers have completed training.
2. Homeland Security Grant guidelines and if no objections for the next round of grants (due February 2007) the EMAC will be meeting to discuss law enforcement areas of the grants.
3. Brown stated the volunteers would like to have the Jeep in the Sheriff's fleet back but have no money for repairs to make it safe so they have no objection to the county selling it.
4. As to the move, Brown stated that his department's equipment purchased by grants must be secure but he could move it to the Extension conference room as soon as it is available.

5. In another matter, Brown stated one of his volunteers is willing to destroy the hard drives from the old county computers so that they could be moved, sold or destroyed.

Lori Draper, Wabash County Clerk of the Courts, presented to the Commissioners:

1. A proposal for \$5482.00 from C.S.I. for Jury Management system updates. Brian approved the purchase, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Draper also discussed a proposal for scanning equipment, which will include six new PCs with MS 2000 to be used in the research room and the microfilm room. She will be switching three of the new computers with others in her office, which will allow all employees to be able to scan from their PCs. The new contract will call for back up tapes to be stored offsite. This project will be at a cost of \$44,785.00 and will be paid partially from her Clerk's Record Perpetuation Fund. She asked permission of the board to request an Additional Appropriation for \$38,285. for the scanning program to be in place yet this year. Brian moved to approve the request, seconded by Darle and passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. She suggested that the Commissioners explain the paving project at the Urbana Community Building discussed at last week's meeting with the officials of the Somerset Lions Club as all have been very helpful in meeting HAVA compliance for polling places.
4. Draper reminded the Commissioners during the court storage move to the basement of the courthouse she is working on a locked up room in the Judicial Center for the storage of some files and is still needing shelves for the large books as they need to be stored flat.
5. She also discussed voting machine storage needs.
6. Draper reported that she is still not getting along with the new postage meter and is working with the company to change meters if necessary so she will be able to send certified mail electronically from the meter instead of having to go to the post office.
7. Finally, Draper reminded the Commissioners of the state mileage rate change effective October 1, 2005. They had received a copy of the notice from the Auditor and will present a copy to the council at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion before taking any action.

Chairman Templin signed a letter of support for the CIE Ethanol project planned for Grant County with the approval of the other two commissioners.

As to the second floor-remodeling project, following discussion, Brian moved to remove the carpet from the base bid and award the contract purchase to Miller Furniture of Wabash on the recommendation of County Surveyor Cheri Slee and the quote received from Millers. Darle seconded the motion and it passed by a 3-0 vote.

The board then reviewed the response from Pillar Corporation on terminating the lease for the Prosecutor's offices as of December 31, 2005.

No other business the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 11, 2005 at 9:00 A.M. due to the Columbus Day Holiday.