

NOVEMBER 28, 2005

The Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the former Circuit Courtroom of the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, November 28th. Chairman Les Templin called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes for the November 21st meeting were approved as written on a motion by Darle, seconded by Brian and a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff Leroy Striker reported an average of 88 jail inmates this past week. The Sheriff and the Auditor also reviewed the year-end emergency expenses for building repairs to be paid from the County Misdemeanant Fund. The Commissioners approved the Emergency Expenditures on a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and a 3-0 vote. The Board also reviewed and approved a letter concerning the County Employee Christmas Luncheon. The luncheon will be paid by the employees attending no county funds will be involved.

Shelly Wakefield, Building Code Enforcement Officer and Donald H. Bradley, Code Enforcement & Plan Review Code Compliance Officer of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security Division of Fire and Building Safety were present to discuss State Statutes with the Commissioners. They offered to send samples of ordinances and codes relevant to County Building Codes, Inspectors, fees and inspections. They stressed that “zoning” is completely separate from “Building Codes”.

Bids were received and opened at 9:30 A.M. as advertised for the new offices for the Prosecutor to be located on the second floor of Memorial Hall. Brian moved to close the bids, seconded by Darle and approved by a 3-0 vote. Bids received were as follows:

- (1) Miller Furniture: Carpeting only, two options at \$6596.66 and \$7019.59.
- (2) D-T Construction of Silver Lake: Base bid of \$119,899. less \$6195. for carpet, and \$1150. for electrical option.
- (3) D & C Construction of South Whitley: Base bid of \$138,559. less \$4937. for carpet, and \$4520 for Voluntary Alternate 4: Install phone and data wiring.

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

Clerk of the Courts Lori Draper commented about the “sewer gas” smell still presenting her offices and requested permission to install a new cash drawer in her office. Commissioners also discussed moving the Clerk’s storage files and voting machines from the second floor of Memorial Hall and the extra help that would be needed for the move.

Highway Supervisor Larry Rice gave his weekly report to the board as follows:

- 1) Old State Road 15 was closed today south of 124 to LaFontaine and work has begun on the Phase II of the project.
- 2) The 950 S Project is currently in "limbo".
- 3) The Bridge 13 project is set for a finish date of December 15th.
- 4) Bridge 208 is now open to the public.
- 5) Rice requested 15 minutes of the County Council meeting on Monday to discuss a Local Option Highway Use Tax (LOHUT).
- 6) Rice also addressed the Group Health Insurance appropriation his department that is running higher than projected in the 2005 budget. The Auditor said she would report the final figures for the year-end and see what can be done for transfers or additional appropriations.

The Commissioners also approved the claim for the new Skid loader purchased by the Highway Department on a motion by Brian, second by Darle and a 3-0 vote.

A letter from Jim Burnette was reviewed concerning horses being kept in the unincorporated town of Laketon. He has requested that the Commissioners or the County Planning Commission look into the situation. He and other residents are not only concerned for the animals but also that it is doing to the surrounding area.

The Board reviewed quotes for phone and data wiring in the second floor project. Quotes were received from Cleaver Cabling and The Phone Line, Inc. Following review of the quotes, Scarce-Rudisel architect Jeff Kumfer stated that the wiring for the Surveyor's and Veteran Service Office was included in the original base bid of the construction contract and should not be included in these quotes. Revised quotes were requested.

A discussion of holding a Commissioners Sale for properties that have not been sold in Delinquent Tax Sales for two years was held with Commissioner Attorney Tom Mattern. The board decided set a Commissioners Sale for March 6, 2006.

Also approved was a lease for a new copy machine for the County Assessor's office at \$100 a month on a motion by Brian, seconded by Darle and a 3-0 vote.

An additional proposal from Quality Electric, Inc. to install a telepower pole for Power & Communications at the Surveyor's desk was approved at a cost of \$332.00 for the new office. This request was approved on a motion by Brian, a second by Darle and a 3-0 vote.

No other business the meeting recessed. The next meeting will be Monday, December 5, 2005 following the Wabash County Council Meeting at 8:00 A.M.