

## NOVEMBER 24, 2008

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, November 24, 2008. Chairman Scott Givens called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.\* with all members present: Lester D. Templin, Brian K. Haupert and Scott E. Givens. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the November 17, 2008 meeting were reviewed by the Board. Templin motioned to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Haupert and approved by a 3-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent, reported:

1. A request from Verizon to bury cable at two (2) locations; 3941W 50 N and 3925 W 50 N. Both location requests were reviewed and approved by Commissioners.
2. Amones stated he had viewed 140 N Jefferson Street regarding a petition to vacate request in Richvalley. Auditor Jane Ridgeway informed Amones this petition to vacate has been currently withdrawn and the owners stated they would possibly resubmit in the spring of '09.
3. Amones had received four (4) LOI's (Letters of Interest) for rehab on Bridge #61 from the following companies:
  - a. Butler Fairman & Seufert
  - b. Beam Longest & Neff
  - c. Janson & Spaan
  - d. United

Amones stated he will submit these names to the State and wait for the State's recommendation for him and Commissioners to review.

LeRoy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported;

1. The average Jail Population this week was 102.95.
2. Striker has been working with Beauchamp & McSpadden on the jail liability insurance renewal policy that will be up on February 2, 2009. One main concern is the continual overpopulation – a “safe-keep issue.” Striker stated he is also working with Jail Commander Henderson and the Sheriff's Attorney to address the issue of over population and work on a possible self-imposed cap of approximately 90 inmates in order to maintain adequate insurance coverage.
3. Striker presented three (3) bids to secure equipment for the 2009 year. Striker stated there is a need for three (3) new vehicles in the current fleet. The bids were as follows:

<b>Dorais Chevrolet</b> Chevy Impala	\$23,175.00*
<b>Wabash Valley Chrysler</b> Dodge Charger (V6- no Hemi)	\$21,971.00
<b>Southworth Ford Marion</b> Crown Victoria	\$27,155.00

Striker stated the State-suggested Fletcher Dodge in Franklin, Indiana was the lowest bid by about \$600.00, but travel cost is an issue and it would be good to stay within the area to support local business. Templin remarked that the State Board of Accounts could call question to this lower bid. Striker stated he

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would gladly go with Fletcher if required by State Board of Accounts. Striker also stated this will all hinge on the Council budget approvals. There is currently \$60,000.00 in the budget for vehicles. If approval is given for the \$21,971.00, there would be a need of approximately \$6,000.00 over the current budget. That amount would be taken from the Commissary Funds. Givens asked if needed equipment for police cars would come from what Wabash County currently had or new equipment. Striker stated it would be both. Two grants have been secured with the State for new equipment. One Grant was secured with the assistance of Bob Brown, EMA Director. This grant will allow for a new 800 MHZ radio system in the three (3) new vehicles. The second grant will allow E-ticketing (an all computerized mobile data system with a wand to print tickets in the cars) for the new vehicles. Templin made a motion to take under advisement until the Budget is approved by Council; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 3-0 vote.

4. Striker also reported on a two-fold system Video Conference/ Video Arrangement System that has been pursued since 2006. The three (3) Quotes are as follows;

<b>BIS Digital</b>	\$48,959.00
<b>DCW-G</b>	\$47,061.12
<b>VUGate Video Arraignment &amp; Consulting Systems</b>	\$49,721.00

Striker recommended BIS Digital as the best system. Though it is not the lowest bid, Striker felt it has the best to offer and after the first year the cost for a few first year services would be lowered. The BIS system would be placed on the desk of the public defenders and they would have a direct link to the Jail with video contact with clients. Striker stated this will give assistance to the Public Defenders. It will save them time and money on travels. The system will also link directly with the Courts. This would eliminate the need for inmates to be walked to the court helping to minimize safety concerns. It will also save money for the Sheriff's department on transport costs. This system also can link with other County Jails and State Prisons that have this system in place. If any inmates need to deal with our courts out of our county, they could link by video to our court and do away with the need for transport. It can also be linked to Bowen Center and the County Hospital as well as the Circuit and Superior Courts that currently have a system that is in need of upgrading. This upgrade to the Courts would be done at no extra cost to the County. The two other Companies are in the process of adapting to have this same link system but do not currently have the same capabilities as BIS. Striker stated both Judges are on board with this new system. It will allow for an Audio/Video record for the court dockets. Both Judges also agree that it will save the county monies. There currently is \$40,000.00 in the 2009 budget and is ready for approval. Any additional monies needed would come from the Misdemeanor Funds. Also, any maintenance beyond the first year and service agreements would be discussed and negotiated at that time.

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Templin made a motion to approve BIS Digital Video Conference/ Video Arrangement System pending the approval of the Budget; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 3-0 vote. Templin also noted that Commissioners will approve the installation of the system. Any additional costs for any equipment, upgrades, or changes will need to be covered by that department or organization.

Bob Brown, EMA Director presented the following to the Commissioners;

1. A Reimbursement Grant from Homeland Security to be signed by Commissioners totaling \$4,136.00
2. Requested permission to go before the Council to request an Additional Appropriation for \$3,121.00 for Amateur Radio.

Brown discussed the District meeting held last Friday. A Grant totaling \$305,000\* is to be administered through Allen County. Wabash County will receive \$30,500 from that Grant that will be used on the cost of twelve (12) 800 MHZ handheld radios for the Wabash City Police Department which will be about 75% of the number of radios needed for them.\*

Steve Downs, Commissioners' Attorney informed Commissioners that the Highway Department's Annual Supply, Repair, & Material, Treated Timber Structures and Specifications, and Construction Equipment Rental Supplies Bids for 2009, submitted on November 10<sup>th</sup>, were compliant. Hauptert made a motion to approve all bids; his motions was seconded by Templin and approved with a 3-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator reported;

1. Dils presented a Change Order from Scarce-Rudisil for additional tuck pointing on the South Façade of the Court House totaling \$4,484.00. Templin made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 3-0 vote.
2. Commissioners and Dils discussed a possible meeting to be arranged concerning the South Side Facade Window Replacement Project at the Court House. Commissioners stated they would like to make sure all parties involved including Department Heads are aware of plans, responsibilities, and expectations concerning this project and how it affects their offices. Dils stated he will contact Dennis McKee, contractor on the project, to arrange a meeting with Commissioners.

Beverly Ferry, Wabash County Council on Aging presented the 2009 - 5311 Contracts - Operating Grant. Ferry requested Auditor, Jane Ridgeway, and Commissioner Givens to sign the Grant. Ferry stated they will be back at 250 hours per week starting in January. Ferry also stated that this submission does not include any capital request. Capital requests will be done in May or June of 2009. Grant was signed and approved.

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Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts, reported;

1. The election went well and all the machines worked nicely. There was only one call and one issue with one machine which they were able to reset with no more problems.
2. Draper stated as a County, we are looking at splitting precincts. There is no specific plan at this time but one idea would be that some of the larger precinct voters could be moved to the smaller precincts. Draper also stated the lines of the precincts were not accurate and they do need to set up different or new lines. They could use this process to move the voters as well. Commissioners asked if moving voters could possibly save on having to buy more machines. Draper stated possibly but at the same time the State may change its requirements after this election and she is unsure what type will be required or the amount of machines needed for the next upcoming election. Draper stated a need for two (2) more machines in the Clerk's office during early voting. They had a constant line and a great deal of waiting with only one machine.
3. Clerk's Office is still having an issue with carpet. Miller's Furniture was running tests on the moisture level. Draper will check with Miller on this issue.
4. There needs to be a Commission on Public Records meeting. Givens is allotted to head this up. Draper asked for December 22, 2008 at 8:30 and Commissioners agreed.

Roger Tate, Habitat for Humanity, presented plans to bury a four (4) inch, gasket sealed, non-perforated PVC pipe. They will bore under and along Mulberry St, Sims St, and Bidwell St-CR 900N to an open trench north to a filter field area. An open trench will also be dug west to allow access to a power source for the pump in the filter field. A tracer wire will be installed for future locating. Commissioners asked Amones if this would cause any problems. Amones stated he did not believe so. Commissioners also asked if utilities and drainage tiles were to be avoided. Steve Shankster, Shankster Brothers of Silver Lake, stated the boring company would use a Hydro Vac to help locate utilities, but they could not see any drainage tiles. Shanks stated if any problems arise they will be fixed. After discussion on the project, Hauptert made a motion to proceed; his motion was seconded by Templin and approved with a 3-0- vote.

Commissioner Hauptert discussed the need for the Commissioners to approve the Budget changes proposed by the County Council for the General Obligation Bond Payments for the Judicial Building. Hauptert made a motion to pay the Bonds from the General Fund - Commissioners Account (0001—29) starting in 2009 and the Ambulance fees from the Wabash County CEDIT Fund (0121; his motion was seconded by Templin and approved with a 3-0 vote.

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Auditor, Jane Ridgeway, reported;

1. Veterans Service Officer, Max Reed, informed her that his old computer is expecting problems and would like to have a newer version. Lori Draper, Clerk of the Courts stated she did not have anything available at this time. Commissioners stated Reed should contact EMA or Solid Waste Management to see if they have anything to offer.
2. Ridgeway reported the GIS Committee has set its fee schedule and would like approval from the Commissioners to go before the Council next week. Templin made a motion to approve the GIS fees as presented; his motion was seconded by Hauptert and approved with a 3-0 vote.
3. Ridgeway reminded the Commissioners to set a time and place for the Courthouse Christmas party. Ridgeway recommended having it in the EMA conference room as a carry in similar to last year. Bob Brown, EMA Director, stated using the EMA room would be fine. The date was set for Monday, December 22, 2008, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. This way the Commissioners would be in house and could join the employees. Commissioners agreed this would be fine.
4. Ridgeway also reminded the Commissioners of the need for an Employee lunch/break room at the Court House. Commissioners stated they are still taking this under advisement.
5. The hallway heaters are not working well several offices have no heat at all this morning. Hauptert stated he had spoken with Larry Hoover at Quality Electric to inform him of the concern with heater issues. Jim Dils, County Coordinator will follow up with Quality Electric on this heater issue.

Cheri Slee, Surveyor, reported;

1. Her earlier Request to buy a chair for her office for assistant surveyor, Kelvin Grumpp from Quill is higher than originally requested because the chair they had chosen is no longer on sale. Commissioners stated they would like for Slee to do a price comparison with K&R Office Supply.
2. Slee received a report from GIS Coordinator at Hancock County stating that the GIO at State could possibly receive significant funding and a portion would go to local government. Counties could receive a portion of that funding depending on the number of parcels that they maintain. This brings up an issue of combining parcels. We will lose money if we combine existing parcels. Slee stated this is something to keep in mind.
3. Presented items to be reviewed at the next Drainage Board meeting.

Toby Steffen of Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc. gave an update of Bridge #175. Steffen stated the bridge is 75% complete. Field check will probably be done late winter early spring when they get to about 90% complete. Also, they are

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acquiring a permit to do some rip-rap on one of the piers. This will help with diverting debris. They are looking possibly at a June construction date which should take about 90 days to complete. The project is progressing well.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items:

Weights & Measures Monthly Report – October 16-November 15, 2008

Governing Subscription

IDEM – Buckeye Pipeline

IDEM – Culver's of Wabash

IDEM – Wabash Valley Landfill

IDEM – DHS Farm, LLC

IDEM – Laketon Refinery

Russ Reid – Federal Funding for Wabash County

Department of Weights & Measures Annual Conference

Mediacom

Indiana Casino Gaming News

Wabash County Tourism Commission Minutes

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, December 1, 2008 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse following the County Council meeting at 8:00 A.M.

\* Amended with approval on December 1, 2008.