

FEBRUARY 2, 2009

Wabash County Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, February 2, 2009. Chairman Brian Hauptert called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Brian K. Hauptert, Scott E. Givens, and Barry Eppley. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the January 26, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Phil Amones, County Highway Superintendent reported;

1. He is waiting to hear from NF&S regarding questions on invoice submitted to him at last week's meeting.
2. Sent application to INDOT for 50E railroad crossing at Treaty.
3. INDOT has set out a call for projects. Amones would like to submit an application for Bridge #104 at 500 W & 500 S and Bridge # 24 south of SR114 on Ogden Rd. Commissioners unanimously approved.
4. Road School is March 10, 11, & 12. All are invited. Amones stated he would be attending.

Toby Stephen of Butler, Fairman & Seufert reported;

1. Request for approval on a change order totaling \$240.00, Bridge #13 - Mississinewa Bridge. The bridge was painted and the rivets were peened. After the peening, the paint had to be re-touched. The contractors on this project, Baker & Schultz, stated it had to be done this way. Eppley made a motion to approve change order; seconded by Givens, passed with a 3-0 vote, and signed by Commissioners.
2. BF&S is working with INDOT on old SR15 from 1000 S to SR 124. The final construction records have been completed. BF&S are working with INDOT to speed this through.
3. Bridge #175 in Richvalley is moving forward. BF&S is planning to have a site meeting in March.

Leroy Striker, Wabash County Sheriff reported;

1. The average daily population in the jail last week was 112.19.
2. Givens asked for an estimate of expenses for the inmate transfer being requested at a hearing on February 5th. Striker stated currently there are no fees involved. The county where the inmate is to be transferred could decide to charge a \$35.00 per day fee or waive that fee. Givens asked the reason for the transfer request. Striker stated that this particular inmate has been causing incidents with other inmates and refuses to be compliant with rules set forth. To insure the safety of all inmates involved and the staff, Striker made the transfer request. He stated this is called a Safe Keep. With each Safe Keep, a State mandated court hearing must take place prior to the transfer of the

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- inmate. Commissioners discussed the need to address a specific line item for any expense on inmate transfers.
3. The average daily population continues to increase. Striker stated they have been working with community corrections and probation to try and use the EHD (electronic home detention) system, but still have inmates that are a safety risk to the public and must be incarcerated. Due to the continued increase, Sheriff Striker, Superior Court Judge Goff, Circuit Court Judge McCallen, Community Corrections, Prosecutor's Office, Probation, and the Jail Commander will be meeting every Friday to discuss methods of reducing the inmate population.
 4. Received a letter from the ACLU. He will forward this to County Attorney Steve Downs. Striker stated this is being addressed and all charges/allegations are false.
 5. The video conferencing in the courts should be up and running this week if all is on schedule.

Bob Brown, EMA Director and Mike Howard, Planning Commission Director reported on the GIS grant totaling \$14,894.00. All monies received must be spent on GIS related projects/items. Howard stated they have been investigating what type of data the State requires for about six (6) months and we have looked into how it could benefit our county. The GIS committee has reviewed and discussed the research and agreed to release data to the State. There are four (4) specific types of data we will provide the State; 1) address points, 2) parcel data, 3) boundary data, and 3) street center lines. Howard stated approximately thirty (30) counties have already submitted data to the State. We would have a two year contract with the State. The Schneider Corporation and WTH would create a web portal to pull data and update our information. This would be a cost of \$5,000.00. That would leave \$9,894.00 from the Grant. One of the requirements with this grant is that we make an itemized list detailing what the money will be spent on and submit it to the State. Brown stated he was fairly certain the money must be spent by the end of the year. Both Howard and Brown stated this would not be a problem. Howard would like to see a long term working relationship with the State on updating the aerial photography more frequently, possibly 1/3 of the State once a year. Givens made a motion to proceed with the grant process; seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, reported;

1. The IHTC claim was settled.
2. Downs will follow-up with Striker on the Safe Keep Inmate Transfer Request.

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Jim Dils, County Coordinator, reported;

1. Universal Valuations had sent a building appraisal agreement for 2009. Dils spoke with Beauchamp & McSpadden and they informed him that the appraisal is money well spent. The appraisal would be a cost of \$560. Givens made a motion to approve building appraisal with Universal Valuations totaling \$560; seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.
2. He spoke with our current elevator maintenance company Oracle to negotiate on their pricing. After checking out other companies and comparing, Oracle was willing to lower their total annual cost \$656 for a projected cost of \$4036 on a maintenance agreement for the elevators in the courthouse, the judicial building, and a dumb waiter. This would be a one year contract set to renew each April. This is lower than any competitor rates. Oracle also offered a 3% discount if the elevator fee is paid annually rather than quarterly. This would save an additional \$115. Givens made a motion to accept Oracle as vender and to pay annually for the 3% savings; seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.
3. There are several pipes from the old heating system in the basement that Dils stated would be good to remove to clean-up and improve the appearance of the courthouse. These pipes are wrapped with a substance that Wabash County Environmental Health Specialist Jennifer Swango had taken samples and sent to the State Department of Health. The material was confirmed to be a form of asbestos. In its present state, fully and completely contained, it is not a health concern. Dils requested Commissioners approval to obtain quotes on cost of removal of this substance which would need to be done by a certified firm. Commissioners unanimously approved Dils acquiring quotes.
4. Contractor Jeff Kumfer is continuing to work on drawings and specs for bids on new doors for the Courthouse.
5. Dils and the Auditor will be a meeting with our group health insurance representatives on Wednesday February 18. Commissioners are welcome and agreed it would be appropriate to also invite Council members.

Dallas Duggan, Chief Probation Officer, informed Commissioners he is still working with Dils on finalizing quote information on the construction changes to the probation office. Duggan also requested permission to go before Council to ask for an appropriation of funds from probation user fees for the purchase of a desk, chair, bookshelf, and a computer for a new employee. The total cost would be approximately \$2,500.00. Eppley made a motion to approve request to go before Council for additional appropriation; seconded by Givens and passed with a 3-0 vote.

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Laketon residents Allen and Maria Kline are renters at 30 E Wayne Street. The Kline's came before Commissioners as representatives of their landlord who was unable to attend. The property at 30 E Wayne has a septic system which is hooked to an old drain tile. In October 2008, Kline's had the septic system emptied and were told it would be three (3) to four (4) years before it would need to be done again. But, on Monday January 26, raw sewage backed up into their bathroom twice in one day. Kline's had to have the septic emptied again. Kline stated he checked the septic system yesterday and it was full again. They have decided to move but wanted to make sure this issue is addressed before another renter moved into the home. Environmental Health Specialist Jennifer Swango was present at the meeting. With this particular property it sounds like there is a clogged or broken drain tile and is leaking fluid back into the Kline's septic system. One issue is that most of the old drain tiles were not put in by the county and not maintained by the county. Any expense would be the home owner's. One temporary fix would be to put a back flow valve on the septic system to keep the water from flowing back into their septic. Swango stated she would contact Shankster Brothers who serviced this septic system for the Kline's for any ideas on a fix or if any other issue may be at hand. Swango stated this is an ongoing problem in Laketon. It is the reason creating a sewer district in Laketon is in process. Swango requested contact numbers for the Kline's landlord to work with her on a solution.

Clerk of the Courts Lori Draper requested permission to attend the Northern District meeting March 11 and 12. Draper also requested permission to attend the AIC meeting in Indianapolis on February 25. Draper, Surveyor Cheri Slee, Plan Commissioner Director Howard, and Assessor Kelley Schenkel will all be attending. The cost is \$75.00 per person for the day. Givens moved to approve attendance of both meetings; seconded by Eppley and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Assessor Kelly Schenkel informed Commissioners that the new construction contract was not approved by the State. State requested a different model contract form be used. Schenkel stated at the time of submission all other forms were on the website to be down loaded except the new construction model contract. State mailed her the approved contract form. She has redone the contract on the proper form and will re-submit. Commissioners unanimously approved to re-submit the correct new construction contract and signed the contract.

Commissioners recessed temporarily to attend the drainage board meeting. At approximately 11:00 A.M., Commissioners re-convened and met with Steve Jones of United Consulting. Jones gave an update on the North Manchester covered Bridge #645 and other potential bridge projects.

Surveyor Cheri Slee requested \$199.00 be approved for the purchase of an office chair. Commissioners unanimously approved the request.

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Commissioners inquired on a plat question concerning a drain issue in Twin Lakes. Auditor Jane Ridgeway stated she was unaware of the situation but would investigate this issue. Commissioners also discussed the proposed federal stimulus package. Currently the package would provide monies the county could use to improve a few roads. Highway Superintendent Amones stated there were three (3) specific roads he would suggest; 200 W Laketon, 1100 N Crown to co line, and America Rd.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the following items;

Accounts Payable Claims and Allowance Docket advertised for payment 2-2-09

Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center claim request – an agreement is being written by Downs

Courthouse sweeper purchase request – Commercial Sweeper - *Commissioners requested more quotes*

IDEM – Notice of Public Comment – Ford Meter Box Company

Pathfinders Services, Inc – Monthly Newsletter

IACC – 2009 Dues Claim

Wabash County United Fund – Letter of Intent request

Registered letter from Dexter Axle

No other business, the meeting recessed. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Monday, February 9, 2009 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse at 9:00 A.M.

Approved as written – February 9, 2008