

May 7, 2012

Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, May 7, 2012. Chairman Brian K. Haupert called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present: Haupert, Barry J. Eppley and Scott E. Givens. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway. The minutes of the April 30, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed 2-0.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent:

1. Presented two (2) supplemental funding applications:
 - a. Bridge #24 on Ogden Road. Requesting an additional \$72,000 in federal funding. Commissioners signed application.
 - b. Bridge #645 – the North Manchester covered bridge. Requesting an additional \$253,800 in federal funding. Commissioners signed application. Steve Jones, Jon E. Clodfelter and Scott Minnich of United Consulting Inc. updated Commissioners on Bridge #645. Clodfelter stated INDOT has extended the Call for Projects but only for current projects that need additional funding. Jones stated they have had difficulty with this project due to State historical change requirements mid-way through the project, issues with funding and difficulty identifying one (1) parcel owner. Efforts are underway to obtain additional funding and procedures are underway to properly identify and/or remedy the situation regarding the unknown parcel owner.
2. Stated Bridge #14 on 800 E over Pony Creek between 800 N and 900 N has been closed. After inspection on Friday, May 4th, United Consulting recommended this bridge be closed due to excessive deterioration since the last inspection. Martin requested permission to obtain cost estimates for repairs to this bridge. Commissioners gave unanimous approval.

Wabash County Sheriff Bob Land:

1. Stated the average daily population for the week ending May 4, 2012 was 95.42; one (1) inmate is housed at the Miami County Jail.
2. Presented estimates to replace the computer server at the Wabash County Sheriff's Department:
 - a. CDW \$35,523.60
 - b. GovConnection \$34,341
 - c. Intrasect Technologies \$36,700Land recommended Intrasect because they provide the best option for the back-up system and are a local company. Givens made a motion to approve Intrasect; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote. Land presented the purchase agreement with Intrasect. Commissioners signed agreement.

Bob Brown, EMA and Central Dispatch Director stated the LEPC EMA Exercise in Table Top Format will be held Tuesday, May 22nd in the Nixon Room at the Honeywell Center. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M.

Steve Downs, County Attorney:

1. Stated he spoke with Wabash County Surveyor Cheri Slee regarding the Woodring Road request in Laketon. Slee informed Downs that Blocher Farms holds ownership of the roadway known as Woodring Road as well as the portion of 200 W to the start of Tamarack Street in Laketon. Neither the county nor the Pleasant Township Fire Department has any ownership of that roadway. Any improvements would require an easement for R-O-W or a purchase agreement for full ownership. After much discussion, Highway Superintendent Martin recommended not to chip and seal or maintain this section due to the fact there are not enough funds to maintain current county roads. Commissioners unanimously agreed. Downs stated he would inform the Pleasant Township Fire Department that neither they nor the county own Woodring Road and of the Commissioners decision not to maintain this section.
2. An invoice was received totaling \$1,000 from Prosecutor William Hartley Jr. who is requesting assistance from Wabash County to cover the cost of the 3rd round of K-2 prosecutions. Downs stated this is being prosecuted under the State statute not the county ordinance. Auditor Ridgeway stated there is a balance of \$4,800 in the K-2 fund. Commissioners will take under advisement.
3. Stated he is working with the Convention and Visitors Bureau; assisting with setting the CVB up as a classified not-for-profit organization.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, presented a copy of the agreement from Romary Associates, Inc. regarding design proposals for the Wabash County Treasurer's office. Dils stated Treasurer Sharon Shaw had contacted Noble, Steuben and Elkhart counties regarding work performed by Romary; all were positive. Dils stated there was one (1) concern with the agreement; which requested a 50% down payment upon approval of the project. Dils stated he will contact Romary on this issue as that is not the practice of Wabash County. Eppley made a motion to approve the agreement; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway:

1. Presented the Accounts Payable Claims and Allowance Docket for 5/07/12. Commissioners unanimously approved.
2. Presented the Tiede, Metz and Downs invoice for April 2012 totaling \$1,585. Commissioners gave unanimous approval.
3. Presented the 2012 Second Quarter Allocation Request from ARC of Wabash County totaling \$14,625. Commissioners gave unanimous approval.
4. Presented the First Half 2012 Allocation Request from the Otis R. Bowen Center totaling \$90,315. Commissioners unanimously approved. Ridgeway stated there is an increase of approximately 3% for 2013.
5. Presented the report of the SRI Commissioners' Tax Certificate Sale:

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- a. Twelve (12) properties sold for a total of \$14,027.
- b. Two (2) properties had a surplus; ten (10) will have taxes written off.
- 6. Presented the 2011 Annual Report of the Public Defender Board.

Items for Commissioners' review:

Commissioners' Review of Capital and Economic Development Project three year plan. Givens made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash River Defenders Request totaling \$750. Eppley made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Pending Lagro Township Trustee Appeal

Commissioners reviewed the Introductory Period section in the Wabash County Employee Handbook; specifically language which established pay for a new or re-hired full-time employee at 85% of the base salary for the first 90 days. They discussed whether this differential may prevent offering a competitive starting wage to individuals with experience. Eppley made a motion to discontinue the practice of paying only 85% of the base salary during an employee's first 90 days; his motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.

No other business, the meeting recessed. The Commissioners will meet on Monday, May 14, 2012 in the meeting room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse starting at 9:00 A.M.

*Approved as written – May 14, 2012