

## **JANUARY 7, 2013**

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 7, 2013. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members present: Eppley, Brian K. Haupert, and Scott E. Givens. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Linda Conrad. The minutes of the January 2, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Givens made a motion to approve the minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Haupert and passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent:

1. Submitted a utility permit request from Frontier Communications to bury in the R-O-W along 300 E and bore under 1100 N. Haupert made a motion to approve the permit; the motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Stated that the right-of-ways for parcels adjacent to Bridge 14 are in the process of being secured and the project should go out for bid within a few weeks.

Bob Brown, EMA and Central Dispatch Director:

1. Stated the cost for Novatek to evaluate the condition of all three (3) portable generators was \$1,323.60. The recommendation was to bring these generators up to working status one unit at a time. It was decided to hold the invoice to determine the proper funding source.
2. Stated there was a recent problem with some of the Central Dispatch business phones but has been corrected.
3. Stated he will send the Commissioners an electronic copy of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for review prior to the next meeting.

Wabash County Sheriff Bob Land:

1. Stated there currently are 80 inmates in the Wabash County Jail; 5 inmates are housed at the Miami County Jail. Last week's peak jail population was 83.
2. Stated that Securus Technologies is upgrading the inmate telephone services this week which will include new phones in the visitation booths.

Wabash County Recorder Lori Draper:

1. Stated she plans to replace four (4) computers, a document-receipt printer, a scanner and also add one (1) additional printer. Draper stated she is waiting for additional quotes. The costs will be paid from the Security Protection Fund and the Recorder's Perpetuation Fund.
2. Stated the Indiana Recorder's Association suspects some abstract companies may be illegally re-selling document images. Since she is required to sell all images her current vendor Fidlar Technologies has offered to watermark such documents for a one-time installation charge of \$2,000. She stated Fidlar has agreed to "grandfather" the county's

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existing abstractors at the current cost of only seven (7) cents per image. Draper requested that County Attorney Steve Downs review the Fidlar image program contract. The Commissioners agreed.

3. Draper stated her office recorded 1,500 more documents in 2012 than in 2011.

Steve Downs, County Attorney: Present with no report

Teresa Witkoske, County Extension Director reported that a \$5,983.59 salary reimbursement will be returned to the county from Purdue University because the local Extension Office has not had a youth educator since September 2012. She suggested that \$3,000 of that amount could be used to help pay for extra hours being worked by current part-time and future summer help since it is not known when a youth educator will be hired. Hauptert stated that the money would need to be appropriated into the 2013 General Fund. Hauptert made a motion for Witkoske take her request to Council. The motion was seconded by Givens and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Auditor Linda Conrad presented: the covered bridge certification for signatures, IDEM decisions for North Manchester sanitary sewer permit application and Treaty Dairy permit application, a tort claim notice and a summons to appear. Conrad then requested the Commissioners make an appointment to the Region III-A District Economic Development Board. Givens made a motion to appoint Hauptert to the Region 3 III-A Board; the motion was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 2-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator requested that an Executive Session be scheduled to address personnel matters. Commissioners directed Dils to proceed with scheduling the session at 8:30 A.M. on January 14, 2013.

Keith Bryant, with United Consulting and Donna and Ken Anderson with Kenna Consulting and Management Group were present to discuss the grant application process for a proposed wastewater project. Bryant explained the City of Wabash is willing to accept wastewater from the Northcliff Addition if it is attached to the City sewer system. The City will also support the Commissioners efforts to obtain a Community Focus Fund Grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) to construct a wastewater infrastructure system to serve the residents of the Northcliff Addition and possibly Speicherville. A draft copy of a proposed agreement between the City of Wabash and the Commissioners was submitted for consideration. Bryant introduced Donna Anderson, a certified grant administrator with whom the City has worked many times to obtain grant funding. Anderson explained the requirements and scheduling of an OCRA grant application (see documents on file in the Auditor's office) and answered questions concerning the income survey and other possible funding sources to assist with the resident's costs. Project matching costs and possible sewer billing options were also discussed.

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Commissioners requested that Anderson send a cover letter and related information regarding the income survey to Conrad in order to begin the process to find out if the project qualifies for OCRA grant funding.

Wabash County Assessor Kelly Schenkel was present at 10:00 a.m. to request that the Commissioners accept and open bids received for Assessment Services as advertised. Schenkel stated she received only one (1) bid for each service from Accurate Assessments. The bids were:

New construction services - \$17,500.00 per year.

Trending services - \$29,500.00 per year.

Givens made a motion to take the bids under advisement; the motion was seconded by Hauptert and passed by a 3-0 vote. Schenkel stated an additional appropriation will need to be requested from the Council because no monies are available in the Reappraisal Fund due to financial assistance provided to the GIS program.

### **Commissioners reviewed/approved:**

Association of Indiana Counties annual dues invoice  
Indiana Association of County Commissioners annual dues invoice  
Low Associates annual maintenance invoice for Auditor's financial software  
Living Well in Wabash County semi-annual allocation for \$13,000.00  
Tiede, Metz and Downs December 2012 invoice  
Hoosier Heartland allocation request for \$3,000.00  
Official Bond for County Surveyor

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was recessed. The Commissioners will meet in Executive Session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, January 14, 2013 to discuss personnel matters and at 9:00 a.m. to conduct regular business. Both meetings will be held in the Commissioners' Room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.  
Approved as written.