

**APRIL 29, 2013**

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, April 29, 2013. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with three 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 April 22, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Givens made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent:

1. Submitted a letter of opinion from United Consulting, Inc. in regard to a request to allow pedestrian traffic on Bridge 165 (the iron bridge in Liberty Mills.) The letter stated that the bridge should remain closed and that not even pedestrian traffic should be allowed.
2. Stated that 1100 N is now open after being temporarily closed due a collapsed pipe.
3. Requested permission to attend the IACHES Conference on June 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> in Indianapolis. Commissioners approved.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff stated there are 74 inmates housed in the Wabash County Jail and 8 inmates in the Miami County Jail. The peak population last week was 75.

Steve Downs, County Attorney:

1. Reviewed the Community Corrections Grant Agreement submitted by Community Corrections Director Jeff Hobson.
2. Presented a proposed ordinance to amend the Flood Plain Ordinance as approved by the Plan Commission. Haupert made a motion to approve as Ordinance No. 2013-85-04 on first reading; Givens seconded the motion and it passed by a 3-0 vote. Haupert moved to suspend the rules to allow for a second reading; Givens seconded the motion and it passed by a 3-0 vote. Haupert made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-85-04; his motion was seconded by Givens and Ordinance No. 2013-85-04 was adopted by a 3-0 vote. Downs will prepare ordinances for adoption by the towns of Lagro, LaFontaine and Roann.
4. Stated he is working with Circuit Court Judge Robert McCallen regarding possible options for continuing the CASA program in light of concerns about the future of the Youth Service Bureau.

Jeff Hobson, Community Corrections Director submitted for the Commissioners' approval the proposed Grant Agreement between Wabash County and the Indiana Department of Corrections. It is effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015 for the amount of \$366,000. Hobson explained he was concerned that the funding may be decreased when he was informed that 25% of Community Transition Program fees would no longer be received in advance. He stated he has since learned this will not be a problem for Wabash County and that the monies will not be decreased. He also stated that following the state legislature

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passing House Bill 1006, which revises the Indiana criminal codes effective July 1, 2014, there will be additional levels of felonies. This will cause the state to encourage local government to retain low-risk offenders locally instead of sentencing them to prison. He stated that no money was designated for additional funding but that the issue could be addressed next year by the state legislature.

Bob Brown, EMA and Central Dispatch Director reported that the county disaster declaration expires today. He is working on an official county damages list. He has compared that list with the Red Cross damage list and is now waiting to hear what happens at the state level.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator: Present with no report.

Linda Conrad, County Auditor: Present with no report.

Gene Cooper, accompanied by his son, Tim Cooper stated that they have a concern with the area under the Cooper Road Bridge over Mill Creek, specifically the inside of the creek bend which fills up with sand whenever the creek rises. He stated that the situation is getting worse every year and that they would like to see the problem addressed. Commissioner Eppley asked County Highway Superintendent John Martin to obtain recommendations from an engineer regarding what needs to be done.

Commissioners reviewed and approved Change Order #5 for the Grossnickle Ditch Drainage Reconstruction Project. It increases the amount of the contract price from previously approved change orders by \$113,988.47 for a revised total contract price of \$720,885.47.

Also present: Chief Deputy Auditor B.J. Grube and Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Sheila Rhoades.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was recessed. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, May 6, 2013 in the Commissioners' room on the second floor of the Wabash County Courthouse.