

October 5, 2015

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, October 5, 2015. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Hauptert, Barry J. Eppley and Scott E. Givens. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Linda Conrad. The minutes of the September 28, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent was present with nothing to report.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 84 inmates with 46 inmates housed at the Miami County Jail. Last week there were 4 transports and 25 new book-ins. The peak population was 91.

Land also stated:

1. The voice mail system at the jail went out last Friday. Intraset is working on the issue. He can get a re-furbished system for approximately \$1,500. The commissioners agreed he should purchase the re-furbished system.
2. The new DVR system was installed and is working properly.

Kelly Schenkel, Wabash County Assessor stated there is a new exemption fee for personal property which takes effect for 2016 pay 2017. Personal property originally priced under \$20,000 will no longer have to pay personal property taxes. This change will result in approximately \$49,500 less in tax revenue for the county. Personal property owners affected will still be required to sign and return to the assessor's office a notarized Personal Property Exemption Form. If this is not received there is a \$25 penalty. In addition, the county may create an ordinance to impose a local service fee up to \$50. This would affect approximately 923 taxpayers. The assessor's office will either send out the normal postcard with additional information on it or send notices directly to the personal property owners who are affected. Hauptert stated the code reads that it needs to go in front of the county's fiscal body and that Schenkel will need to present it to the county council to determine if a fee is charged and the amount. It was recommended that county attorney Steve Downs review the documents.

Steve Downs, County Attorney was present with nothing to report.

Jim Dils County Coordinator/HR Director requested:

1. Appointment of Sam Daugherty as the Veterans Service Officer. Givens made a motion to appoint Daugherty as the new VSO (effective today). Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Adoption of the 2016 County Holiday Schedule, which is the same as the state schedule. Eppley made a motion to adopt the holiday schedule. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. Approval of a request from the Wabash County Animal Shelter for the county highway department to install a gravel drive on the north end of the

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east fence. They believe this will assist them in being considered to be added to the mobile Purdue Spay/Neuter program. The commissioners asked Martin to look into the matter to see if it would interfere with any state highway regulations. The request was tabled until Martin can review the request.

4. Permission to purchase a used lawn tractor. The options are:
 - a.) 2007 4-wheel drive Simplicity Legacy with 450 hours and a 60" deck for approximately \$5,200 or
 - b.) 2010 2-wheel drive Simplicity Prestige with 150 hours and a 48" deck for approximately \$5,100. The freight cost for a snow blade is unknown. The trade-in value of the current tractor is \$250. Givens made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the 2007 4-wheel drive tractor up to \$5,200, to be paid from Cum Cap. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
5. Permission for the highway department to replace several small sections of sidewalk around the courthouse. The cost of materials is not expected to exceed \$1,000. The commissioners agreed to the work being completed.

Dils also stated a Hoosier START representative visited three buildings last week to provide employees with information about this deferred compensation benefit.

Linda Conrad, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances docket for 10/5/2015
2. Payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 9/26/2015
3. Demolition notices for 409 Manchester Avenue and 1207 Pike Street.
4. Notice that the Wabash County Tax Sale will be held Wednesday, October 7, 2015 @ 10:00 a.m. in the commissioners' room at the courthouse.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

Also present were: Greg Harnish, Rich Mofield, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Mackenzi Klemann and 105.9 The Bash reporter Tim Arnett.