

February 13, 2017

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, February 13, 2017. Commissioner Scott E. Givens called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Givens, Barry J. Eppley and Brian K. Hauptert. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented:

1. Utility permit from US Army Corps of Engineers – Salamonie Lake to bore under Salamonie Dam road to run a new water line from the observation mound to the upper Wabash project office. The work will begin in March and be completed by May. Hauptert made a motion to approve the permit. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. A supplemental agreement #3 with Butler Fairman & Seufert, Inc. for \$16,000 to provide right-of-way services for Bridge #118 on 75 E over Burr Creek. Hauptert made a motion to approve the agreement. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 81 inmates with 55 inmates housed at the Miami County Jail and 7 inmates at the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 20 new book-ins and 13 transports to the DOC. The peak population was 80.

Land stated he has received an invoice for the PS25 radio's upgrade from J&K Communications (October 3, 2016). Three additional radios were included in the invoice for an additional \$8,975. Land asked permission to pay for the additional radios being re-programmed. Eppley made a motion to approve the additional cost. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Keith Walters, County EMA Director was present with nothing to report.

Steve Downs, County Attorney requested that the commissioners pull from the upcoming Commissioners Certificate Tax Sale the parcel of property located at 1 General Street, Wabash (former GDX site). Downs stated he has spoken with IDEM. They are currently working on remediation and believe if the property is sold in a certificate sale it could complicate the process. Hauptert made a motion to remove the parcel from the sale list. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Downs stated the Memorandum of Understanding with Indiana Landmarks (regarding the Old Jail) is waiting on Landmarks review and approval. Jim Dils stated personal property will need to be removed prior to the sale closing, which is proposed to occur by March 1, depending on the time required to complete a land survey. Givens stated he would like to clarify the selling of the property. The county is contributing up to \$75,000 (of matching funds) plus the building to

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Indiana Landmarks. Landmarks will renovate the property, using more than \$75,000 of their own funds. The renovation is intended to create office spaces available for rent. This will put the property back on the tax role. This is cost effective for the county because to tear down the building to create a parking lot would cost twice as much and there would no revenue from property tax.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director was present with nothing to report.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor requested to purchase from cum cap two office panels to provide additional privacy for the payroll deputy due to the data that must be handled. An effort was made to obtain three quotes. Office Depot did not have the correct size. Staples' quote was \$279.99 each. Indoff's quote was \$258.00 each. Hauptert made a motion to approve the quote from Indoff. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, February 20, 2017.

Also present: Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Mackenzi Klemann, News Journal reporter David Fenker, Wabash County Central Dispatch Director Sandy Beeks and Butler, Fairman and Seufert Inc. representative Toby Steffen.