

January 22, 2018

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 22, 2018. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Hauptert, Scott E. Givens and Barry J. Eppley. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

A public hearing was held for the parcel of land the Wabash County Fair Board would like to acquire through a tax title deed. David Magley stated he just became aware of the property being in a tax sale and the Fair Board's effort to obtain it. He has been under the impression that he owns the land, his garden is even on it. He believes there was an error on his original deed which left off this small parcel. He is aware that back taxes are due but would like additional time to check into the matter before the commissioners take further action. Eppley made a motion to close the public hearing. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to table the requested land acquisition by the Fair Board. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Jeff Hobson, Community Corrections Director and Sarah Lochner, Chief Probation Officer presented the 2018-2019 Community Corrections Grant application for approval. The application is for \$573,454 for community corrections and \$250,700 for probation. Hobson spoke about how the grant funds are being utilized for various programs other than incarceration. Lochner spoke on the program that probation has within the grant which works along with community corrections. The commissioners expressed appreciation for their efforts and the programs being funded by the grant. Eppley made a motion to approve the application. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Trisha Hanes, Assistant Chief Probation officer requested permission to submit the application for the 2018 AACTION Grants: Community Drug-Free program. Hanes stated that funding is moving away from supporting one-time events in favor of supporting on-going programs. Givens made a motion to approve submitting the grant application. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented:

1. The LPA/Consultant contract with United Consulting for the 2018-2021 Wabash County Bridge Inventory and Inspection Report. This is a four year agreement. The contract amount is \$408,204.44 of which the Federal Highway Administration will reimburse 80% thru INDOT. Wabash County's portion (that is not reimbursable) is \$81,640.89. The bridge inspections are mandated by federal law to be completed every 24 months. Wabash County has 157 bridges with 11 of those requiring inspections every 12 months. The funds to pay for the contract will come from the Cumulative Bridge

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fund. Givens made a motion to approve the bridge inspection contract with United Consulting. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

2. A utility permit from AT&T to bore and plow new service on the west side of 600 W from approximately 150' south of 10560 S 600 W to Frances Slocum Trail. Givens made a motion to approve the permit. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 86 inmates with 33 inmates housed in Miami County Jail and 3 inmates in Blackford County Jail.

Land presented the 2017 Wabash County Jail Information Report which included statistical comparisons between 2016 and 2017. Included in the statistics were:

1. In 2017, the daily average population (including all facilities) was 142.6.
2. The civil processing numbers are lower due to going paperless. Therefore, the monies received for civil processing will need to be evaluated at budget time because they help fund the sheriff's pension plan.
3. The timeframe for receiving reimbursement from the DOC for inmate transfers is an ongoing problem. The county is required to submit bills within ten days of receiving them but the DOC does not have a deadline for remitting reimbursement to the county, which often takes six months. Land is currently on a committee which is looking into this for future changes.
4. The annual jail inspection is scheduled for March 8, 2018. A new DOC inspector has been appointed for the northern portion of Indiana.

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

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

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director stated that last week the commissioners approved the installation of a new Wi-Fi router for the health department for a total of \$746.50. After further discussions with Intraset Technologies, they have agreed to replace the router at no cost to the county.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. The payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 1/13/2018. The commissioners approved all claims.

Shepherd stated an agreement with Norfolk & Southern Railway has been received and will be submitted to Downs for review. The agreement is for a private crossing on the former Wabash County Farm property.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, January 29, 2018.

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Also present: News Journal reporter David Fenker, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Andrew Maciejewski and Wabash County Recorder Lori Draper.