

March 5, 2018

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 5, 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 February 26, 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.

The Lagro Canal Foundation previously requested \$20,000 (February 12, 2018) to replace the roofs on three buildings it purchased in 2017. The total estimated cost is \$50,000. LCF received a commitment for \$20,000 from an anonymous donor provided it could match the amount by June 30, 2018. Eppley made a motion to commit \$10,000 provided the additional \$10,000 could be raised. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Elaine Martin, Wabash County Clerk presented a notice of Election Day voting locations. There are ten locations around the county. On Election Day, a registered voter can vote at any of the ten locations. The commissioners agreed to the locations.

Martin also requested that the pay for poll workers be increased. The election board approved an increase of \$25 for both the election inspector and the election judges. She also requested an increase of \$1.00 per hour (\$9 to \$10) for the absent voter board. After some discussion, it was decided that the absent voter board position should also be paid by the job not by the hour. Downs and Martin will finalize the details on how to achieve this new method of pay. Eppley made a motion to approve all requests with the understanding that the absent voter board positions will be paid by the job. Givens seconded the motion it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Martin explained that during an audit with Child Services it was determined that the percentage of the deputy pay, for the person who handles child support, needs to be changed to reflect the amount of time the deputy devotes to child support cases. This deputy is paid from both the clerk's incentive fund and county general. The audit was for 2015 and 2016 during which the percentages changed and too much was paid from the incentive fund. The percentage change was reflected in the 2018 budget. However, in order to adjust the amounts that should have been paid from county general during those two years, county general needs to reimburse the clerk's incentive fund a total of \$10,000. The commissioners stated that to achieve this adjustment, either a transfer or an additional appropriation would need to be completed and approved by the county council. Martin stated she would speak with the council at their next meeting.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented two requests:

1. The Metropolitan School District would like to have stone placed in school bus turn-arounds at 7657 W 1100 S and 10685 S 700 W. Givens made a

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motion to approve the request. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

2. Two road-cut permits from Bowman Agri Corp to replace field tile crossing 700 E between 750 S and 800 S. Givens made a motion to approve the request. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Martin stated the inspection of the bridge on 1100 S, that sustained damage to the approach, has been postponed due to the high water on the inspection date.

Bob Land, Wabash County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 86 inmates with 40 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 6 in the Blackford County Jail. Last week there were 18 book-ins and 11 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 102.

Keith Walters, County EMA Director presented a Local Emergency Declaration due to all the recent rain and flooding. This declaration will allow the county to apply for FEMA disaster funds, if FEMA declares the State of Indiana as a disaster area and the bridge on 1050 S, which was damaged by flood waters, needs to be replaced. Givens made a motion to approve the declaration. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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

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

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 3/5/2018
2. Payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 2/24/2018.
The commissioners approved all claims and allowances.
3. Resolution 2018-85-02 establishing the intent to conduct a Commissioners' Sale to sell tax sale certificates for properties which are severely delinquent in the payment of property taxes. Givens stated that one property on the list has been discussed with the planning board and has been approved to be burned down. He asked for that parcel to be removed from the sale. Eppley made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-85-02 with the exception of removing the parcel that is going to be burned down. Givens seconded the motion it passed by a 3-0 vote.
4. A recommendation that the quote approved last week to replace a heating and cooling unit at the jail be paid from courthouse complex -jail facility current rather than EDIT. The commissioners agreed.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, March 12, 2018.

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Also present: News Journal reporter David Fenker, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Andrew Maciejewski, Wabash County Treasurer LuAnn Layman, Bob Brown, Beth Gillespie, Deborah Strange and Arthur Strange (the last three represented the Lagro Canal Foundation).