

June 18, 2018

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, June 18, 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 June 11, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Givens seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote. Hauptert abstained because he was absent on June 11th.

Doug Bogert, Wabash County Animal Shelter manager gave a brief overview of shelter activities. He explained that the shelter has been operating with a deficit for several years. Last year (2017) was the first time it ended the year in the positive, which was largely due to a donor making a \$10,000 matching contribution. Bogert stated the shelter's roof is original and will soon need to be replaced but funds are not sufficient for that type of expenditure. The shelter would also like to add-on to provide more kennel space, including a "quarantine" area for dogs. Bogert requested consideration for the county's 2019 allocation to be \$70,000 to \$75,000. The 2018 allocation was \$65,000. The commissioners thanked him for his presentation.

Angela Christopher, Purdue County Extension director presented information regarding the 4-H funds which the county contributes each year. Christopher stated the \$5,000 allocation is spent for non-livestock judges and to help send youths to 4-H camp and training. Christopher introduced Karson Pratt a member (starting eighth grade) who attended one of the training camps. Pratt stated the camp experience helped him obtain skills which he has used to start his own business of raising and selling chickens. Christopher stated the program is extremely beneficial for the youth and allows them to be involved and help contribute to economic development in the county. The commissioners thanked them for the information presented.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented:

1. Utility permit from Frontier Communications to bore along the west side of 100 W, south of the cell tower between 100 N and 200 N to provide fixed broadband service. Givens made a motion to approve the permit. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. A contract status inquiry from Ohio Farmers Insurance Company for Primco's surety bond on the Bridge 118 project (75 E over Burr Creek) stating the contract is complete. Hauptert signed the form.
3. Requested the bid opening date for Bridge 155 (Meridian Road over Clear Creek) be re-scheduled for July 9, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. The re-scheduling is due to a misunderstanding in advertising the bids. The commissioners agreed.

Tyler Guenin, Chief Deputy Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 92 inmates with 35 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail, 8 in

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Elkhart County and 2 in the Blackford County Jail. Last week there were 17 book-ins and 18 transports to other facilities. The peak population for last week was 90.

Bob Brown, County EMA Assistant Director requested approval to apply for two grants being offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. The State Homeland Security Program Grant will be for specialized terrorist and all-hazard equipment. The Emergency Management Performance Grant will be used for emergency communication upgrades. The commissioners gave their approval to proceed.

Steve Downs, County Attorney stated:

1. He has circulated a revised memorandum of understanding with Grandstaff Hentgen for use of the lower level of their facility as a staging area for the coroner until a permanent location can be established. Downs will present the final MOU for signatures at the next meeting.
2. A revised permit application has been circulated which has resulted in several questions. He requested input regarding suggested revisions so the permit application may be finalized.

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

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented the accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 6/18/2018. The commissioners approved all claims.

Shepherd stated the county has received a one-time distribution in LIT funds due to an error by the Indiana Department of Revenue. From 1990 until now a couple of errors have been discovered. The IDOR has calculated the amount and has disbursed funds to the counties which were impacted. Wabash County received a total \$178,289.41. On June 14, 2018 that amount was disbursed to all the taxing units. Wabash County Government's share was \$48,444.41.

The commissioners reviewed the following item:

1. IDEM Notice – 30 day period for public comment – POET Bio-refining

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, June 25, 2018.

Also present: News Journal reporter David Fenker, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Andrew Chrisman, County Central Dispatch Director Sandy Beeks, County Plan Director Mike Howard and Pat Lynn.