

**March 25, 2019**

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 25, 2019. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three commissioners present: Eppley, Jeff D. Dawes and Brian K. Hauptert. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the March 18, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Phil Adams, County Highway Supervisor presented a request from the Metropolitan School District to add stone to a bus turn-around located at 4394 E Old 24 in Lagro. Hauptert made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 112 inmates with 49 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 14 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 22 book-ins and 8 transports to other facilities. The peak population last week was 112. The total prisoner count was 176.

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

Mark Frantz, County Attorney representative was present with nothing to report.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director presented a municipal advisory services agreement from H. J. Umbaugh & Associates regarding a possible county jail project. It will update the last financial analysis which was completed in February 2017. The total cost is not to exceed \$15,000. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor was present with nothing to report.

Toby Steffen, Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc. presented an amended contract with Phend & Brown that was approved and signed March 18, 2019 for the 1100 N project. The amended contract does not change the amount approved but addresses some asphalt testing requirements. Hauptert made a motion to approve the amended contract and replace the previous (March 18, 2019) contract. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Steffen requested approval and signatures on a Notification of Contractor Award & Request of Funds letter to be sent to INDOT. It serves as notification that the county has secured and awarded Community Crossing matching grant project to a contractor. The requested funds for the grant are \$965,986.71. The matching grant funds are \$321,995.57. Dawes made a motion to approve the letter. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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Steffen also requested approval and signatures for the official bid tab which itemizes the project. This letter will be sent to INDOT. Hauptert made a motion to approve the bid tab. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Steffen presented Form 96 for approval. It is a standard part of the bid process which states previous and current jobs performed by the contractor. It also lists vendors that the contractor has used in the past. Form 96 will also be sent to INDOT after approval. Hauptert made a motion to approve Form 96. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eppley stated that the Indiana Department of Transportation recently held a public hearing on the 300 W/US 24 intersection project. The commissioners, after attending the meeting and listening to the public comment, decided they do not support the project as presented and will request that different avenues should be pursued. The commissioners will draft a letter to send to INDOT concerning the matter. Eppley stated State Representative Dave Wolkins and State Senator Andy Zay will be in Lagro on Saturday, March 30th (8:30 a.m. at Lagro Town Hall) to hear public comments on the project. The commissioners encourage concerned citizens to attend.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, April 1, 2019.

Also, present: The Paper reporter Josh Sigler.