

September 30, 2019

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, September 30, 2019. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners' present: Eppley, Brian K. Hauptert, and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the September 23, 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.

LuAnn Layman, Wabash County Treasurer presented:

1. A Memorandum of Understanding with TRECS (September 9, 2019) for signatures. Downs previously approved the MOU. Hauptert made a motion to approve the MOU. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. A contract with Master's Touch to print property tax statements in 2020. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract and authorize the Treasurer to sign it. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Doug Bogert, Wabash County Animal Shelter Manager stated a person was recently bitten by a dog within the city limits. The animal's owners did not want it euthanized as numerous neighbors requested based on the animal's previous aggressive behavior. When Bogert looked through the current Animal Control Ordinance he discovered it is lacking some proper procedures:

1. It does not allow for the manager to make some enforcement decisions, only the animal warden. Currently there is no warden.
2. No procedures are in place for an appeal of the warden's decision.

Fortunately, this incident did not require the need for an appeal. Bogert requested the ordinance be updated to reflect current procedures and an appeal process be established. Steve Downs, County Attorney stated the City and the County each have their own ordinances, although the City's mirrors the County's. Hauptert made a motion to take the request under advisement to allow Downs to revise the ordinance with input from the City, commissioners and Bogert. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented:

1. A contract with United Consulting for engineering services on the replacement of Bridge 104 (500 W over Mill Creek) which was approved on September 16, 2019. The contract is not to exceed \$197,305. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. A contract with United Consulting for engineering services in regard to the West Plains tunnel. United is reviewing the plans and will be completing an inspection of Bridge 208 both before and after blasting for the tunnel under Old US 24. Construction inspections will be completed by United Consulting. The contract is not to exceed \$59,100. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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3. A contract inquiry from Ohio Farmers Insurance for the release of the bond for Primco Inc. for the Bridge 118 (75 E over Burr Creek). The release was signed.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff reported the Wabash County Jail currently has 108 inmates with 50 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail, 2 in the Noble County Jail, 8 in the Elkhart County Jail and 1 in the Adams County Jail. Last week there were 34 book-ins and 10 transports to other facilities with a peak population of 111. The total prisoner count was 177.

Keith Walters, EMA Director requested permission to apply for two grants:

1. Homeland Security EMA Performance Grant – Salary reimbursement grant.
2. Homeland Security EMA Performance Competitive Grant – To replace a 1998 Chevy pick-up truck that recently had an engine fire.

He will present the grant applications to the EMA advisory board next week. They are due October 10th. Hauptert made a motion to approve for Walters to apply for the grants. Dawes 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 the payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 9/21/2019. The commissioners approved all claims.

With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, October 7, 2019.

Also present: First Deputy Auditor Shelly Baucco, Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper, United Consulting representative Steve Jones, Wabash City Councilman Eric Schoening.