

## March 9, 2020

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 9, 2020. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Hauptert, Barry J. Eppley, and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Chief Deputy Auditor Shelly Bauccho. The minutes of the March 2, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Mike Howard, County Planning Director, requested approval to proceed with a credit card agreement which will allow the office to accept the payment of fees via a credit card. County Attorney Steve Downs has reviewed the agreement. Eppley motioned to proceed with allowing payments to be received via credit cards. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, requested approval of a utility permit for Frontier Communication to bury a cable to restore service at 13555 N 700 W. Eppley made a motion to approve the utility permit. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 76 inmates with 37 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 32 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 19 book-ins and 15 transports to other facilities. The peak population for last week was 88. The total prisoner count is 154.

Baker then requested the commissioners sign Lease Schedule #16 under the Master Lease for the purchase of a 2020 Dodge Durango SS utility vehicle at \$31,473.00 and three 2020 Dodge Chargers at \$26,626.00 each. The lease total of \$111,381.00 is payable at \$19,315.79 semi-annually starting 07/15/2020. The interest rate is 2.5% and the final payment will be 01/15/2023. Barry Grossman with Crossroads Bank presented the lease for signatures. Hauptert asked if the money is in the budget. Sheriff Baker stated that it is. Eppley made a motion to approve the lease. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Sheriff Baker requested permission to sign for the new cars at John Jones Automotive Group in Corydon, IN. Dawes made a motion to approve the sheriff to sign for the cars. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Keith Walters, 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, was present with nothing to report.

Shelly Bauccho, Chief Deputy Auditor, presented the Cornerstone Grant Management Inc. agreement for Administrative Services for the Community

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Development block grant program (Lighthouse Mission). Eppley made a motion to approve the agreement pending review by County Attorney Steve Downs. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

James Dirk, Linda and Don Jervis, and David Milliner requested information regarding the status of the bridge on 1050 S (Bridge 144). They expressed concern about the amount of time it is taking to get the bridge replaced. Hauptert and Wyatt explained that bids came in almost double the engineer's estimated cost. Wyatt and Hauptert remarked that this is on state owned land. They have been in touch with the Army Corps of Engineers who built the bridge and therefore must approve any work prior to starting. All work must meet state standards.

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, March 16, 2020.

Also present: Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper, Wabash Plain Dealer editor Rob Burgess, Donna Harman, and David Wolfrum.