

March 30, 2020

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, March 30, 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 Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the March 16, 2020 meeting were reviewed. (No meeting was held on March 23.) Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, presented:

1. Ordinance 2020-85-02 Regulating traffic on county highways, CR 300 W from State Road 15 extending north one-half mile, speed limit shall be 45 miles per hour. Eppley made a motion to approve the ordinance. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to suspend the rules and proceed to second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-85-02 on second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Ordinance 2020-85-03 Regulating traffic on county highways, Ireland Drive from CR 275 W extending east approximately three-tenths of a mile, the speed limit shall be 20 miles per hour. Eppley made a motion to approve the ordinance. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to suspend the rules and proceed to second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-85-03 on second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. Utility permit from NIPSCO on 650 E. Eppley made a motion to approve the permit. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
4. Heartland REMC requested a blanket permit to install fiber optic cable within various county rights-of-way. Eppley made a motion to approve the permit. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
5. A letter from MSD requesting stone be placed in school bus turn-arounds located at 2613 S 100 W, Wabash, 3000 E 1100 S, LaFontaine and 2775 E 1100 S, LaFontaine. Eppley made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff's office reported the Wabash County Jail currently has 79 inmates with 32 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 33 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 8 book-ins and 7 transports to other facilities. The peak population for last week was 79. The total prisoner count is 151.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, stated he had a deed prepared to transfer the former Wabash County Farm property to the Wabash County Redevelopment Committee as approved by Resolution 2020-85-03 and Resolution 2020-85-04.

March 30, 2020

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director presented and will email to all full-time employees:

1. A revised 2020 Wabash County holiday schedule which changes Primary Election Day to June 2, 2020. Dawes made a motion to approve the revised holiday schedule. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. A Coronavirus employee rights poster recently issued by the Department of Labor.
3. A revised phone directory containing extension information for the courthouse and judicial center.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented payroll claims and allowances for the pay period ending 3/21/2020. Eppley made a motion to approve all claims as submitted. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eppley stated that due to the COVID-19 virus, the Wabash County commissioners approved the following procedures effective March 19, 2020.

1. The Wabash County Courthouse and Wabash County Health Department are closed to the public except by appointment. Business may still be conducted via telephone, email, or the county website.
2. Effective March 25, 2020 the Wabash County offices were requested to reduce their on-site staff to 50% and remain closed to the public through April 7, 2020.

Eppley made a motion to approve the above measures which were previously put in place to help reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eppley made the motion to approve the purchase of a Trimble R2 unit for \$8,749.00 for the Wabash County surveyor's office. The purchase is budgeted in the Cumulative Capital Development Fund. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

LuAnn Laymen, Wabash County Treasurer, requested permission to allow a lender to pay property tax using ACH. The commissioners agreed.

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, April 6, 2020.