

May 11, 2020

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, May 11, 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 meeting was held in person and via Zoom. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the May 4, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Beverly Ferry, CEO Living well in Wabash County COA presented via Zoom the 5311 2020/2021 budget and grant application for approval and signatures. Ferry stated the current budget has been cancelled and replaced by a new budget for the 2020/2021 budget cycle. These budgets were blended under the CARES Act and require new signatures.

Ferry also presented Authorizing Resolution 2020-85-06 for the pass-thru agreement designating her as the person who is authorized to make assurances and operate transit. Eppley made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-85-06. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ferry and Eppley will meet later in the week to discuss grant expenditures.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, presented:

1. Right-of-way permit from Duke Energy to make a temporary entrance into a field. They will install some planks on 1100 N just off of 175 E for the entrance. Eppley made a motion to approve the permit. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Road-cut permit from Miller and Son Excavating located at 6730 W 300 N. Eppley made a motion to approve the 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 86 inmates with 19 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 23 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 13 book-ins and 4 transports to other facilities. The peak population for last week was 88. The total prisoner count is 132.

Baker also:

1. Presented the 2020 contract with Quality Correctional Care (inmate medical provider) for approval. Downs has reviewed the contract. Eppley made a motion to approve the contract. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Requested permission to apply for an Operation Pull Over (OPO) grant. It provides compensation for officers to work extra hours to look for seatbelt violations, which may help reduce fatal injuries in crashes. This fiscal grant

May 11, 2020

that runs from October 2020 through September 2021. Dawes made a motion to approve the grant application. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

3. Requested permission to trade-in five sheriff's cars to Cop's Gear in exchange for other equipment. Currently all cars have been received for this year. Eppley made a motion to approve trading-in the cars for equipment. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Steve Downs, County Attorney stated via Zoom that he is working on:

1. A letter to Laura Hammond for the jail project
2. A traffic study for Arc Light Park pertaining to the traffic pattern for State Road 13. Banning Engineering is the primary engineer on this project.
3. A Heartland Career Center grant through OCRA which is requesting the 2018 audit report for Wabash County and the responses to the audit.
4. A road-cut permit has been revised and Downs has been asked to review it.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented payroll claims and allowances for docket ending 5/2/2020. Eppley made a motion to approve all claims. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners are scheduled to next meet on Monday, May 18, 2020.

Also present: Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper. The following individuals participated via Zoom: Wabash County Treasurer LuAnn Layman, Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, and Cheri Slee, Wabash County Surveyor.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS