

August 10, 2020

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, August 10, 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 August 3, 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.

Shepherd requested permission for Sarah Lochner to apply for a reimbursable grant through ICJI for COVID expenditures. These expenditures can only be for court, sheriff, probation and prosecution expenses. The commissioners approved the request.

Wabash County Sheriff Ryan Baker presented the weekly jail report. The Wabash County Jail currently has 86 inmates with 52 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 12 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 25 book-ins and 11 transports to other facilities. The peak population last week was 89. The total prisoner count is 147.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent presented:

1. A utility permit from Adrian Lepper to bore under N. Ogden Road. An internet cable will be run to the Manchester Community Schools. Eppley made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. An agreement with Ceres Solutions for fuel tanks and supplies for the county highway department. (August 3, 2020) Steve Downs has reviewed the contract. Eppley made a motion to approve the agreement. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Wyatt asked Toby Steffen with Butler, Seufert and Fairman to speak regarding Bridge 144. Steffen reported the bridge would be rather costly to repair and it is subject to flooding when waters are held by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. With the bridge being subject to flooding, the ongoing expense to maintain this one bridge may not be a sound financial decision. BSF has revised the design and no less expensive alternative is available. The bids previously received to perform the required repairs are now obsolete and the bidding process would need to be redone if the commissioners decide to repair the bridge.

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

Steve Downs, County Attorney was present with nothing to report.

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

August 10, 2020

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, August 17, 2020.

Also present: Don Jarvis, Steve Jones, Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper and Tammy Wyss.