

## July 19, 2021

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, July 19, 2021. Commissioner Jeff D. Dawes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three commissioners present: Dawes, Barry J. Eppley, and Brian K. Hauptert. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

The first order of business was a public hearing for a proposed lease between Wabash County and the non-profit Jail Building Corp.

Via Zoom, Dennis Otten of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP and Jim Treat of Krohn & Associates reviewed what the lease involved. Don Jervis and James Derck asked about the potential size of the jail and the mechanics of the process for petitioning to obtain financing on a county project. With no other questions, the hearing was closed.

Dawes presented Resolution 2021-85-11 regarding approval of lease financing of the Sheriff's office and jail facility. Hauptert made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-85-11. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Dawes then presented Ordinance 2021-85-10 establishing the Local Home Rule Fund (4971) to hold proceeds from issuance of the local income tax revenue bond anticipation notes, series 2021. Eppley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-85-10. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to suspend the rules and proceed to second reading. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to approve on second reading. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, reported;

1. Received a notice of Annexation by the City of Wabash for property adjacent to the intersection of 200 W and US 24.
2. Presented a professional services agreement with Schneider Geospatial to provide GIS services for the highway department. This is the same company which provides GIS services for several other county offices. Eppley made a motion to approve the contract for \$5,250, with an annual fee of \$3,600. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported the jail currently has 86 inmates, with 29 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 21 in the Tipton County Jail and 4 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 19 book-ins and 7 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 90. The total inmate count was 137.

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

**July 19, 2021**

Mark Frantz, County Attorney representative, was present with nothing to report.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented;

1. Accounts payable claims and allowance docket for 07/19/2021
2. Payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 07/10/2021.

Eppley made a motion to approve all claims. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Old Business: Dawes reported the commissioners are still reviewing information and funding sources concerning the vacation of parts of county roads 50 East and 1050 South. James Derck asked if anyone has looked into the ARP funds in regarding to the bridge replacement or if anyone is looking for grants. Derck also reported that Senator Andy Zay said funds available for this kind of project. Lori Brane asked when a decision will be made and if it would be on the agenda. Dawes stated it would be on the agenda, which is usually posted on the county website, the Friday before, on the commissioners' tab.

Cynthia Donovan, President of the Roann Covered Bridge Committee, requested direction on how much funding they should raise to help pay for repairs to the bridge. Wyatt reported that United Consulting is looking into possible grants.

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, July 26, 2021.

Also present: *In person*: First Deputy Shelly Baucco, Linda Jarvis, Alex Downard and Meghan Doyle. *Via Zoom*: Rob Burgess

**WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/Jeff D. Dawes  
Chairman

/s/Barry J. Eppley  
Vice-Chairman

/s/Brian K. Haupert

Attest: /s/Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor