

## September 7, 2021

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Tuesday, September 7, 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 August 30, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Terry Burnworth, owner's rep for the new county jail, reported the opening of bids for phase 1 of the Jail Project will be Monday, September 20. This is for the excavation work only and he reported we want to see a lot of local excavators bid the project.

Burnworth then asked for approval to proceed to phase 2 of the bidding process. This would include foundations, under-slab board, under-slab plumbing and electrical work and the concrete slab. He stated the schedule and documents will be available Wednesday, September 8 with the first pre-bid meeting set for Monday, September 13. The second pre-bid is set for Monday, September 20 at the site trailer at 1301 Manchester Avenue. Bids for phase 2 will be due at 9 a.m. on Monday, October 4 and opened during the commissioners meeting on that date. Hauptert made a motion to approve the time and date to open bids for phase 2 of the Jail Project. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Keith Gillenwater and Tenille Zartman of Grow Wabash County were thrilled to announce the 2021-2022 Leadership Development Wabash County program. It is a course of study to enhance leadership skills to apply at work and through community service within Wabash County. This 8-month course is partnering with Indiana University Kokomo. Meetings will occur once per month with additional times for community service and teamwork activities. Gillenwater asked that Wabash County become a Core Partner with an ask of \$2,500. With this donation, Wabash County may enroll one participant. Hauptert made a motion to be a Core Partner at cost of \$2,500 to come from EDIT. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed with a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent requested:

1. Signatures on a contract for masonry repairs on the county highway garage. The repairs will include tuck pointing, brick replacement and one heavy coat of penetrating water repellent. Eppley made a motion to approve the Atlas contract for \$27,546. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. A right-of-way permit for CSU INC for 2870 Division Road to run a cable for Duke's sub-station. Hauptert made a motion to approve the permit. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported the jail currently has 99 inmates, with 14 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 6

## September 7, 2021

transports to other facilities. The peak population was 89. The total inmate count was 130.

Baker requested approval to purchase a 2019 Dodge Durango and a 2021 Dodge RAM SSV 4X4 Crew Cab. Barry Grossman from Crossroads Bank presented Lease Schedule No. 19 with an annual interest rate of 2.35%. Hauptert made a motion to approve the purchase. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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

Mark Frantz, County Attorney representative, presented a private settlement agreement for the class action lawsuit at the jail. The sheriff has reviewed and agreed to the terms. This settlement requires a new jail to be built. Eppley made a motion to sign the settlement. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director, presented the following:

1. A proposal from SRKM Architecture for architectural services to restore the historic courthouse tower and a portion of courthouse annex known as Memorial Hall. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract for the amount of \$14,420. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. An agreement to renew a planned maintenance agreement with Havel. It provides for one annual maintenance inspection of the two courthouse boilers and semi-annual maintenance inspections of the Network 8000 Controls. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract for \$3,096 per year. (It is a two-year agreement from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023.) Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. A request from Lora Cole to hold a "Save America Freedom Rally" on the courthouse lawn on the evening of September 21. Eppley made a motion to approve the rally. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented the accounts payable claims and allowance docket for 09/07/2021 and the September LIT Distribution in the amount of \$1,176,641.58. Hauptert made a motion to approve both items. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

The commissioners received the following items:

- IDEM Notice: Approval for the Title V Operating Permit Renewal
- IDEM Notice: Approval of the MSOP New Source Construction Minor PSD
- Mediacom rate adjustment increase
- The INDOT Railroad Crossing separation project along East Street (E. Maple Street)

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, September 13, 2021.

**September 7, 2021**

Also present: *In-person*: First Deputy Shelly Bauccho and Mike Howard, Director Wabash Plan Commission. *Via Zoom*: Rob Burgess and Joseph Slacian.

**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