

October 12, 2021

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Tuesday, October 12, 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. Haupert. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the October 4, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Mike Howard, Plan Commission Director, presented Ordinance 2021-85-15 regarding Commercial Solar. This ordinance has been reviewed and adopted by the Plan Commission Board. Haupert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-85-15. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Haupert made a motion to suspend the rules and proceed to second reading. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Eppley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-85-15 on the second reading. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, presented a right of way permit application from Frontier Communications to restore service at 2408 E 1450 N. Eppley made a motion to approve the permit. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported the jail currently has 86 inmates, with 24 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 20 in the Tipton County Jail and 4 in the Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 25 book-ins and 5 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 85. The total inmate count was 145. Baker also presented a settlement agreement with a former employee, Haupert made a motion to approve the settlement agreement. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Keith Walters, County EMA Director, reported the phone system in the EMA office is 18 years old and can no longer be repaired. Walters presented a quote to install and program a new ESI phone system with 12 phones. The system capacity is 8 analog lines, 16 digital extensions and 4 analog extensions. It will use the existing cabling. Total cost of the project is \$5,708.59. Eppley made a motion to approve the phone system upgrade to be paid from Courthouse Phone System. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Steve Downs, County Attorney, reported he will be reviewing the proposed builder's risk insurance policy for the Sheriff's Office and Jail Project. He plans to provide a recommendation next week.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director, presented:

1. The proposed 2022 holiday schedule for Wabash County Government offices. Per county policy, it follows the State of Indiana holiday schedule. Haupert made a motion to approve the schedule. Eppley seconded; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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2. The county prosecutor has requested a value for the vase that was destroyed in front of the judicial center (on Hill Street around September 25). After some discussion, it was agreed to value the vase at \$500. Eppley made a motion to approve the value at \$500. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented:

1. Payroll claims and allowances for pay period ending 10/02/2021. Hauptert made a motion to approve the claims. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. LIT Distribution for October 2021 in the amount of \$1,176,641.58 for approval. Hauptert made a motion to approve. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eppley presented for Waypoint (Wabash County's women's recovery home) a request for \$50,000 from the ARPA funds that would be matched by the City of Wabash at \$50,000. Downs asked if the request came under the ARPA plan. It was stated the plan is not currently formulated. Hauptert made a motion to take the request under advisement. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Dawes asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns. None were heard.

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, October 18, 2021.

Also present: *In-person*: First Deputy Shelly Baucco, Wabash County Clerk of Courts Lori Draper. *Via Zoom*: Rob Burgess.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff D. Dawes
Chairman

/s/Barry J. Eppley
Vice-Chairman

/s/Brian K. Hauptert

Attest: /s/Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor