

November 21, 2022

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, November 21, 2022. Commissioner Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with Eppley, Brian K. Hauptert and Jeff D. Dawes present. The proceedings were recorded by the Wabash County auditor's office. The minutes of the November 14, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Danielle Gargiulo, Wabash County Bowen Center Director, gave updates on what they have been doing and their plans to help with food and healthcare in the future.

Public Hearing - Vacating of Alleys in the Original Plat to the Town of Laketon

Mike Howard, Plan Commission Director, along with David Cox, Laketon Wesleyan Church, said if they could vacate the alleys, they could create additional area for parking, as well as combine all the lots deeded to the church. Howard said all required notices were sent out and no objections were received. Hauptert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-85-11. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to suspend the rules and move to a second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-85-11 on second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to close the public hearing. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Public Hearing - Vacating portions of County Roads Old Slocum Trail, 700 W and 800 S.

Cole Wyatt, Wabash County Highway Superintendent, reviewed the areas to be vacated. The roadways are susceptible to flooding and are no longer necessary to operate the county highway system. Wyatt said that all notices were sent out and no objections were received. Hauptert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-85-12. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to suspend the rules and move to a second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-85-12 on second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to close the public hearing. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ordinance 2022-85-13 Vacating portions of County Road 50 E and 1050 S including Bridge 144. Eppley reported that they were unsuccessful in their efforts to find funding to repair or replace Bridge 144. Due to economic conditions and prices, they must make the hard decision to close this bridge. Linda Jervis asked about the detour that will happen while Bridge 143 was under construction. James Derck asked if the records would be available to show that the county could not get funds for the project. A letter from Commonwealth would be available. Don Jervis asked what will happen to the road and bridge. The land will go to the surrounding land owners. Hauptert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-85-13 to vacate portions of County Road 50 E and 1050 S including Bridge 144. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to suspend the rules and move to a second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Hauptert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-85-13 on second reading. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Wabash County Sheriff Ryan Baker stated the jail currently has 87 inmates with 40 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 14 in the Fulton County Jail and 46 in the Tipton County Jail. Last week there were 21 book-ins and 10 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 91. The total inmate count was 187.

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Steve Downs, Wabash County Attorney, presented an appendix to the approved engagement letter (April 1, 2022) for a proposed solar farm. Haupert made a motion to approve the appendix. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote, with Eppley abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Shelly Baucco, Wabash County Deputy Auditor, presented:

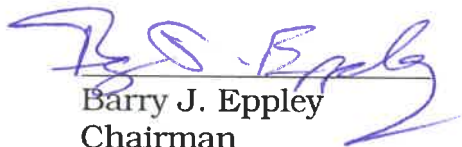
1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 11/21/2022. Dawes made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Payroll claims/allowances and withholdings for pay period ending 11/12/2022. Haupert made a motion to approve all claims as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. Riverboat distribution for \$126.42 to be disbursed to the county and other taxing units. Dawes made a motion to approve the distribution. Haupert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
4. Jail Bond request for Payment #15 for \$40,757.00 to be dispersed. Haupert made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

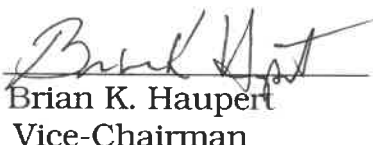
Eppley asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns. None were heard.

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, November 28, 2022.

Also present *in person*: Shelly Baucco, Aaron Showalter, Amanda Smith, Jim Dils, Alex Downard and Brian Swihart; *via Zoom*: Melanie Penn and Audrey Lynn.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Barry J. Eppley
Chairman


Brian K. Haupert
Vice-Chairman


Jeff D. Dawes

Attest: 
Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor