

April 10, 2023

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, April 10, 2023. 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 April 3, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Richard Monce, Lagro Town Council President, brought his town's concerns regarding menacing dogs. Several examples were given including a dog bite. He stated the response of the Wabash County Animal Shelter was not helpful and he feels they are underfunded and understaffed. Mr. Monce asked for clarification on Ordinance 2019-85-12 particularly sections 13.2 and 13.3.2 relating to the entity responsible for an animal's quarantine after a bite, pointing to two apparently opposing sections of the ordinance. He also suggested dog tags, additional animal fees, etc. to raise needed funds for the shelter so adequate help can be assured. The commissioners appreciated the input and will add it to their review of the situation with the shelter.

Beverly Ferry, CEO Living Well in Wabash County, presented the 5311-Operating and 5339 Capital Grants for signatures. Ferry presented; Local Financial Certification and Assurances, Statement of Acceptance of the Special Section (5333 b) Warranty and Certification of Use of Project Equipment and Facilities for signatures. Eppley made a motion to approve the certifications. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Ferry also presented Resolution 2023-85-02 Authorizing the filing of a CY 2024 application for a grant under Section 5311-5339 of the Federal Transit Act. Eppley made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-85-02. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Ferry stated transit plans to ask for grant money to purchase two new transit buses to replace two that have reached the end of their useful life. Dawes asked what would happen to the discarded buses. Ferry stated they are offered for sale to other transits within the State. If no interest, they are offered for sale at a price no lower than the scrap amount available. The grant requires matching local funds, which have typically come from United fund, Wabash County, Wabash City, and Town of North Manchester. This local amount is \$46,994 to complete the bus purchase.

The Ordinance to Amend Zoning Ordinance 2022-85-14 was postponed for consideration pending an April 20, 2023 meeting of the Wabash County Plan Commission to be held at the Honeywell Center.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent, requested approval for:

1. Right of way for Creek Run LLC on Troyer Road south of Lukens Lake Road. They will be boring under the road to run conduit. Eppley made a motion to approve the permit. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Road cut permit to Knecht Development. Permit approval is postponed pending more information about road closure options.
3. Right of way service agreement with United Consulting for Bridge 652 in North Manchester. Dawes made a motion to approve the contract. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff, reported the jail currently has 71 inmates, with 13 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 2 in the Fulton County Jail and 50 in the Tipton County Jail. Last week there were 16 book-ins and 9 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 74. The total inmate count was 129.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator, presented a revised contract from Johnson Controls which moved the start date to April 1, 2023. This is a three-year

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agreement to provide preventative maintenance and inspection service for the fire safety system at the judicial center and courthouse. The amendment was previously approved by the County Attorney. Eppley made a motion to approve the revised contract to show an April 1, 2023 start date as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 04/10/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Payroll claims and allowances for docket ending 04/01/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the payroll claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. LIT monthly distribution of \$1,245,421.67 to go to all county taxing units. Eppley made a motion to approve. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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

John W Divine, Jr. of Lagro shared concerns regarding a parcel that was vacated by the county in approximately 2006-07 on Blue Star Highway at County Line Road. He asked for clarification on the ownership of the vacated parcel, as his neighbor is apparently offering the lot for sale. Hauptert will ask the Auditor's Office to clarify ownership by examining the ordinance that vacated the property.


Review Items:

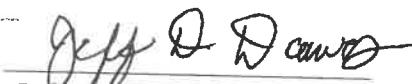
IDEM Notice: Sanitary Sewer construction permit for Legacy Heights, Wabash
IDEM Notice: Plus5 Incorporated – Air Quality application


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, April 17, 2023.


Also present: *In person*: Steve Johnson, Matthew King, Alex Downard, Jacob France, Greg Harnish, Tyler Guenin, Brian Swihart and Melanie Penn; *Via Zoom*: William Carroll, Don Jervis, Jade Hall, Kandy Barker, Amanda's iPhone and iPhone.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Brian K. Hauptert
Chairman


Jeff D. Dawes
Vice-Chairman


Barty J. Eppley

Attest: 
Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor