

**July 10, 2023**

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, July 10, 2023. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three commissioners present: Hauptert, Jeff D. Dawes and Barry J. Eppley. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the July 03, 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.

Cynthia Johnson, Director, Learn More Center, presented an update on the Center and their achievements. Thirty students have graduated and 30 more are scheduled to begin their educational journey this week. LMC internal goal is 125 students for the 2023/2024 school year. LMC has requested \$10,000 to help support the operation of their programs in 2024.

Christine Flohr, Executive Director, Visitor & Conventions Bureau, presented a 2024 funding request for \$75,000. Flohr read sections from 22 letters she had received in support of the VCB.

Pat Lynn, with Wabash Animal Control, presented a profit and loss statement. Lynn requested that the 2024 funding from the County be increased to what it was in the past. Lynn stated an audit is currently underway. Moving forward, animal control would like to have a contract with Wabash County to provide their services. She believes this will assist in improving the relationship with law enforcement. Manager Chris Spangle spoke about the amount of work involved in running the animal shelter and that additional funding is greatly needed. The commissioners asked if any plans are in the works for an expansion of the shelter. Lynn stated they have always wanted to expand and will be looking into that in the future.

Tyler Guenin, Wabash County Chief Deputy Sheriff, reported the jail currently has 81 inmates, with 18 additional being housed in the Miami County Jail, 10 in the Fulton County Jail and 42 in the Tipton County Jail. Last week there were 23 book-ins and 9 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 84. The total prisoner count was 148. Guenin then requested approval to purchase three vehicles; 2 – 2023 Dodge Durango's for \$41,905 each and 1 – 2023 Dodge Ram for \$44,887. The Durango's are in stock. The Ram is a month out. The purchase will be on a lease. Eppley made a motion to proceed with the lease purchase. 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 07/10/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. LIT monthly distribution for \$1,245,521.67. Dawes made motion to approve the distribution. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

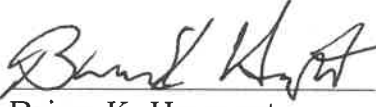
Hauptert asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns. None were heard.

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, July 17, 2023.

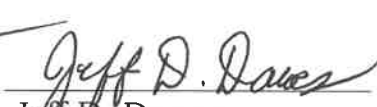
Also present: Cynthia Schuler Donovan, Louella Krom, Doug Bogart, Jeff Ravenscroft, Steve Smith, Richard Monce, Bill Burnsworth, Nicky Burnsworth, Alex Downard, Dan Metzger, Lathida Metzger, Adam Stakeman, Cheryl Ridgeway, Cheryl Ross, Marcella Palmer and Chris Hickman. *Via Zoom:* Brian Swihart, Guest, Melanie Penn, Don Jervis, K Barker, Amanda, iPhone 5, Jan Black, Debbi Hipskind, Samsung SM and 982403.

July 10, 2023

**WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



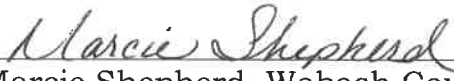
Brian K. Haupt  
Chairman



Jeff D. Dawes  
Vice-Chairman



Barry J. Eppley

Attest:   
Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor