

JANUARY 24, 2011

Wabash County Council met for a reorganization session on Monday, January 24, 2011 at the Wabash County Courthouse. Jim Kaltenmark opened with a word of prayer. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway who called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. with all members present: newly elected Councilman Jeff Dawes, Kaltenmark, Claude Markstahler, Gary Nose, Ted Little, Daryl Evans and Randy Curless.

Ridgeway opened the floor for nominations for Council Chairman. Little made a motion to nominate James Kaltenmark as Chairman; his motion was seconded by Evans. Markstahler made a motion to close the nominations; his motion was seconded by Nose. Kaltenmark was elected Wabash County Council Chairman by a 6-0 vote.

Ridgeway turned the meeting over to Chairman Kaltenmark. Kaltenmark opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Markstahler nominated Randy Curless; his motion was seconded by Nose. Markstahler made a motion to close the nominations; his motion was seconded by Dawes. Curless was elected Vice-Chairman by a 6-0 vote.

The next order of business was to review the minutes of the December 6, 2010 meeting. Curless made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; his motion was seconded by Little and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Bill Konyha, Executive Director of Wabash County EDG:

1. Presented the annual EDG "Project Scoreboard" report to Council. Konyha stated in 2010 there was a \$70,387,000 capital investment creating 472 new jobs with a payroll of \$12,742,475 which generated a local income tax of \$369,531.78 (assuming all employees are Wabash County residents). Konyha stated Wabash County residents lost 340 jobs when GDX closed. Living Essentials has created 425 with intentions of increasing that number in 2011.
2. Stated the average wage in Wabash County is down possibly due to the high unemployment rate of 14.6% in 2010. Wages went from \$14.40 to \$13.90 per hour.
3. Stated the Tax Abatement Evaluation Proposal will be submitted in February and effective in March.
4. Requested two (2) council appointments to tax abatement committee.
5. Stated the City of Wabash adopted a residential property tax abatement program to stimulate residential development and substantial rehabilitations but the Local Option Income Tax (LOIT) has made this ineffective. Konyha stated residential abatements are for no more than five (5) years and commercial/industrial is set at 3, 6, or 10 years. Over a ten (10) year period, an abated property will have approximately 52% of taxes due.

6. Nose asked if agricultural, for example a hog farmer, could apply for abatement. Konyha stated yes. The agricultural request would be held to the same standards as any other business. There are specific equipment requirements; equipment must be used for manufacturing, research and development or logistics. Ridgeway commented it would seem this Council would address and/or approve such abatements as it would likely be a county abatement request.
7. Little stated the comprehensive zoning plan is under review. Little asked who is representing EDG on the advisory committee. Konyha stated that Commissioner Brian Hauptert will be the liaison as a member of the EDG Board.
8. Stated the Annual EDG Meeting is March 4th - Invitations are to follow.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests as advertised:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2011 NO I**

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now, therefore: SEC. 1, Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
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CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND #0003

Other Services and Charges				
– Bridge #61 Design & Engineering	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	7	0

The amount that was originally requested fro this project was less than the contract for this phase. The amount being requested now is to fully fund the design phase of this project.

Little made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded by Markstahler and passed by a 7-0 vote. Markstahler extended his appreciation to Martin for his crew’s efforts in clearing the roads during the snow storms.

WABASH COUNTY POLICE PENSION FUND #0022

Personal Services				
– Sheriff’s Pension Fund November 2010	\$2,592.00	\$2,592.00	7	0

Civil process collections for the month of November 2010: Clerk’s Office civil process collections - \$1,079; Sheriff’s Department civil process collections - \$13; Sheriff Sale proceeds for November - \$1,500.

Personal Services				
– Sheriff’s Pension Fund – December 2010	\$3,778.00	\$3,778.00	7	0

Civil process collections for the month of December 2010: Clerk’s Office civil process collections - \$1,378; Sheriff’s Department civil process collections - \$0; Sheriff Sale proceeds for December - \$2,400.

Little made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote. Land stated there is one (1) female inmate pregnant and cannot be placed on Medicaid due to incarceration. This means medication, delivery and ambulance service are to be covered by Wabash County. Marjorie Justice of the Department of Child Services will prepare paperwork for the child. After delivery, there will be no cost for the child's medical expenses.

ADULT PROBATION SERVICES FUND #0060

Personal Services – PT Mentor Coordinator \$12,847.00 \$12,847.00 7 0

This Officer would respectfully request that this Council approve the transfer of \$12,847 from Adult Probation User Fee to continue to assist in the facilitation of an At-Risk Youth Mentoring Program. This officer, along with the Honorable Robert R. McCallen III, met with this Council on June 28, 2010 to discuss this program. During that meeting, this Council agreed to approve the funding of this program, through Wabash County Adult Probation User Fees, for the balance of the 2010 calendar year. The program has made significant strides; however, funding to allow the program to stand alone has yet to be found. Judge McCallen and Pastor Rick Tolley would respectfully request the opportunity to speak to this Council on January 24, 2011 to provide an update on the progress of the Mentoring Program.

Judge McCallen stated he will review the funding issues regarding the female inmate with child. McCallen stated Probation Officer Brian Bassett and Pastor Rick Tolley will co-head the Mentor Program. McCallen stated the program has not progressed forward as quickly as had planned. McCallen stated they have spoken with the Youth Services Bureau and stated the Mentor Program will be operated under YSB program guidelines which will give them liability coverage. McCallen stated he has 6 volunteer mentors currently. There are several schools that would like to start with the grade schools – possible future plans for that. McCallen requested the use of User Fees to source this program for 2011 and to re-evaluate funding in 2012. YSB has local support in the community. McCallen stated they are in the process of sending out letters for support. Evans made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Nose and passed by 7-0 vote.

ADULT PROBATION SERVICES FUND #0060 (Con't)

Personal Services – PT Probation Officer \$ 8,565.00 \$ 8,565.00 7 0

This Officer would respectfully request that this Council approve the additional request of \$8,565 from Adult Probation User Fees to allow this department to hire a law enforcement officer to conduct up to but not to exceed ten (10) hours per week of home check on persons placed on probation in Wabash County. The officer would be paid \$15.30 per hour (of the requested funds: \$7,956 would be used to pay his hourly rate of pay while the remaining \$609 would pay social security benefits.)

Markstahler made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Little and passed by a 7-0 vote.

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY GRANT FUND #0111

PREVENTION/EDUCATION

Other Services & Charges				
- The Access - Access Reality	\$ 1,825.00	\$ 1,825.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Manchester College - Peer Education	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Manchester College - Education Awareness	\$ 1,855.00	\$ 1,855.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Manchester Jr/Sr High School - After Prom	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Northfield High School - After Prom 2011	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Southwood High School - Peers Ed Peers	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	7	0

TREATMENT/INTERVENTION

Other Services & Charges				
- Bowen Center - Low Income Treatment	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Hands of Hope - Victim Advocacy Services	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges - Manchester College				
- Student Treatment/Intervention	\$ 775.00	\$ 775.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Wabash Co. Drug Court-Testing Compliance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0

JUSTICE

Other Services & Charges				
-North Manchester Police - IDEA Conference	\$ 832.00	\$ 832.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- North Manchester Police - Personal Video System	\$ 1,419.00	\$ 1,419.00	7	0
Other Services & Charges				
- Wabash Co. Sheriff Dept. - Overtime Enforcement	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0

This is the 2011 AACTION Grant request.

Trisha Hanes stated the AACTION Grant is the local drug free grant. It is funded by offender fees; a drug addiction fee is applied for all offenders totaling \$200; 75% stays in Wabash County and 25% is sent to the State. The 75% is used on applicants who implement drug free programs in Wabash County. Little asked if these are repeat programs and if there are follow-ups on the effectiveness of these grants? Hanes stated each program must supply documentation on how the money is spent. The State is moving toward grantees that supply follow-up data. Surveys are done following the after proms here in Wabash County. Curless made a motion to approve grant request; his motion was seconded by Dawes and passed by a 7-0 vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT - H1N1 GRANT FUND #0190

Capital Outlay - H1N1 Equipment	\$57,832.00	\$57,832.00	7	0
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This request is to purchase hardware and software for a document scanner, a new server with a back-up system. As part of this request, EMA would like permission to purchase an identity scanner.

Dr. J. Dean Gifford, Kathy Carter-Lower and Robert Bucher, Perry Corporation, discussed the grant request. Carter-Lower stated this is a continuation of the H1N1 Grant. Lower said the State has approved submitted grant requests. Health Department is requesting permission to purchase hardware and software for a document scanner and a new server with a back-up system. Bucher stated this will allow the capturing of health department documents electronically. This allows for greater speed in processing paperwork: a five step process becomes a one step process. This program can be used long term by the entire county. There is a maintenance agreement that allows for one site development of up to 40 hours including software training. The maintenance agreement will be covered by County Health Contractual Services for one time and will not be paid out of the grant. A continued maintenance agreement would be \$1,838 per year after the first year which is optional. Auditor Ridgeway stated there is interest for the Auditor's Office to share scanning capabilities for storing exemptions and verification forms, and could be from other offices as well if it could save time and space. Bucher stated the software for this would be at no cost to the county in the future. Carter-Lower stated they have collaborated with EMA on the third portion of the grant. Keith Walters, Assistant EMA Director, stated the Department of Homeland Security is requesting all Sate agencies have an identical ID scanner system that would be linked via computer at the State. Walters is requesting this ID scanner system also be purchased as part of this grant. This is a reimbursement grant. Bucher stated if this is approved, he requires a signature to move forward on the ordering process of the server. Ridgeway commented all contracts must be approved and signed by the Commissioners. Little made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Brian Hauptert signed the agreement allowing Perry Corporation to move forward with purchasing the server.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 24th of January 2011, by the above aye and nay vote. The Auditor was directed to present the above additional appropriations to the Department of Local government finance for approval as by laws provided.

The next order of business was to address departmental transfer requests as submitted:

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2011-1**

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2011 the following additional sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
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DECREASE:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND – CENTRAL DISPATCH

0054-0000-03-422-044 Other Services & Charges				
- Uniforms	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	7	0

SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

INCREASE:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND – CENTRAL DISPATCH

0001-0038-02-422-044 Supplies				
- Uniforms Purchases	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	7	0

When the original 2011 budget was set up for Central Dispatch in June of 2010, “Uniforms” were listed as a “service” under the “03” category; however, Bob Brown has informed us that this account lie was intended to be for the purchase of uniforms rather than a rental service. We are respectfully requesting that you allow this budget line to be transferred to “03 –Other Service and Charges” for more accurate budget transactions and future tracking and reporting purchases, as we did in 2010.

Markstahler made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Nose and passed by a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 24th day of January, 2011, by the above aye and nay vote.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2011-2

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2011 the following additional sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
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DECREASE:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND – JAIL

0001-0033-01-413-086 Meals for Prisoners	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	7	0
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SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

INCREASE:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND – JAIL

0001-0033-02-422-086 Food for Prisoners Meals	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	7	0
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This was a 01 account when it was part of the Sheriff’s salary structure. Now, it should be a 02 Supplies Account.

Evans made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Dawes and passed by a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 24th day of January, 2011, by the above aye and nay vote.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2011-3**

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1 Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that for the expense of said county government and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2011 the following additional sums of money are hereby transferred and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
WABASH COUNTY PROBATION – DRUG COURT FUND				
0158-0000-03-431-035	\$7,400.00	\$7,400.00	7	0

SEC. 2 WHEREAS, it has been shown that certain existing appropriations now have unobligated balances which will not be needed for the purposes for which appropriated, it is further resolved that the following existing appropriations be reduced in the following amounts:

INCREASE:				
WABASH COUNTY PROBATION – DRUG COURT FUND				
0158-0000-01-413-060	\$6,834.00	\$6,834.00	7	0
0158-0000-01-413-071	\$ 566.00	\$ 566.00	7	0

This Officer is requesting that this Council grant this Officer’s request to transfer \$7,400.00 from 0158-0000-03-431-035 separated as follows \$6,834.00 to 0158-0000-01-413-060 and \$566.00 to 0158-0000-01-413-071 for social security. This is to cover for a part-time field officer in Drug Court.

Dawes made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 24th day of January, 2011, by the above aye and nay vote.

Steve Johnson, Executive Director of Wabash County Solid Waste – Report to Council:

- Presented the January 1, 2011 Annual Report
- The 2011 Drop-Off Collections Contract has been renewed with Wabash Valley for a two year contract at a decreased rate. In 2010 it was approximately \$116.44 per ton; in 2012 it will be \$103.26 plus a 2 % performance bonus with a 2% growth volume for a projected cost of \$143,347.59.
- The drop-off sites will remain the same
- Johnson stated the fastest growing field is electronics: there is an electronic disposal prohibition – IC 13-20.5-10-1 a covered entity (residence, school, small businesses) cannot knowingly dispose of electronic devices into the landfill; 80,000 plus pounds per year.

- Johnson stated they are working on a fee schedule for electronics and other items collected.
- The Advisory Committee serves as a liaison between the public and the Solid Waste District with no less than 5 members and no more than 12 by State statute. There are currently 5 members and they are looking at adding individuals to this list who would be appointed by the Board to assist with issues that need to be addressed; general concerns within the district, review the role of the Solid Waste District, survey work, comparisons with other solid waste districts and education and promotions.
- Presented the 2010 Year End Financial Report;
- The balance of the loan for the Solid Waste Facility is a total of \$371,574 on a 30 year loan with the hope to pay it off as soon as possible
- Reviewed Solid Waste District Resolution 2010-4: establishing the solid waste user fees. Fees are set at \$24 per homestead, commercial and industrial. This fee will be reduced to a \$12 fee for those that have curb side recycling pick-up – currently just North Manchester. There is an opportunity to review the fee structure once the loan is paid off. Johnson stated any excess on the collection amount will be placed on the loan amount as stated in the resolution. The resolution states a fee will be paid to the county General Fund for the Auditor’s and Treasurer’s Office for processing the collection process which is set at 1%. Commissioner Brian Hauptert who is on the Solid Waste Board stated this amount can be increased as amount necessitates. Nose mentioned that the Council passed a resolution a few years ago for a 3% processing fee for grants.
- Nose asked what happened to the tipping fees collection. Johnson stated this will collect approximately \$200,000. Also there is a \$12,000 collection from Central Dispatch for the rent payment. Nose stated this looks like the loan debt will be paid off quickly. Curless and Johnson stated that is the intention with hopes of reducing the user fees as soon as possible for residents.
- Johnson stated if the City of Wabash goes to a curb side pickup, the user fees will be reduced automatically.
- Auditor Ridgeway stated Darren Bates, Data Pit Stop, created a listing of parcels that will be charged according to the criteria established by the SWD Board: 15,735 parcels will have a fee attached to them. Bates can set the process up to collect all fees once in the Spring and have it all completed at one time.
- Ridgeway and Treasurer Sharon Shaw stated it is important to move forward with deciding how this will specifically be charges and collected as not to delay billing of property taxes. Shaw stated Whitley County charges \$41 per year.

- Ridgeway stated there are 504 tax bills (eligible for over-65 Circuit Breakers) that have \$0 taxes that will have a solid waste fee only.
- Johnson stated they are working on a flier for Wabash County residents and to local banks for those that have escrow accounts.

COUNCIL REVIEWED:

- 2010 December Financial Reports and Annual County Wage Report for 2010 as well as the 2010 Annual Financial Report.
- Department Encumbrances from 2010 Budget – Curless made a motion to approve encumbrance requests as presented for 2010; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 7-0 vote.
- Appointed Council Representatives for county boards
 - Region III-A – Evans
 - Tax Abatement Committee – Curless; Evans
 - CVB – Evans
 - 911 – Evans; Markstahler
 - Community Correction – Kaltenmark
 - Job Study Committee – Evans; Curless
 - GIS – Jeff Dawes
- Paw-Paw Roann Library Board appointment renewal of Max Gaston. Evans made a motion to re-appoint Max Gaston to the Paw-Paw Roann Library Board; his motion was seconded by Dawes and passed by a 7-0 vote.
- Report of Tax Abatements Applicable for 2010 pay 2011
- Wabash Fire Department Report for Third and Fourth Quarters of 2010
- 2011 Council Meeting Schedule/ Member Listings/ Website Information and County Holiday schedule for 2011. Markstahler made a motion to approve meeting dates; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote. Ridgeway stated the Commissioners' room will be under construction in March and Council will need to meet in a separate room. Council will take under advisement.
- Sheriff's Commissary Reports – 2010
- Plan Commission Annual Permit Report – 2010
- Ridgeway requested sending electronic filing of all Council packets – Council unanimously approved.
- Ridgeway reported that the Homestead Rebate Fund will be closed this month. A total of \$3,832 will be returned as unclaimed property at the State Attorney General's office. The interest has been pro-rated into the General Fund.

Markstahler welcomed newly elected Councilman Jeff Dawes.

Curless made a motion to adjourn the meeting; his motion was seconded by Little and passed with a 7-0 vote. The next County Council meeting will be February 28th at 5:00 P.M.

The following individuals attended the January 24th Council meeting:

**If any names are spelled incorrectly, we apologize.*

Jim Dixon

Teresa Witkoske

Commissioners: Brian Hauptert and Barry Eppley

*Approved as written – February 28, 2011