

MAY 29, 2012

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Claude Markstahler offered a word of prayer. James Kaltenmark led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Kaltenmark called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. with all members present: Kaltenmark, Randy Curless, Gary Nose, Jeff Dawes, Ted Little, Markstahler and Daryl Evans. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway.

The first order of business was to review the minutes of the April 23, 2012 meeting. Markstahler made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Dawes and passed by a 7-0 vote.

Jenice Rankin, Executive Director of the Wabash County Solid Waste Management District presented the April 2012 monthly report:

1. Rankin stated the new balance sheet shows precise amounts in each account:
 - a. Income on Hand:
 - Landfill Tipping Fees: \$28,247.22
 - Checking: \$107,226.09
 - Savings: \$226,865.09
 - PayPal: \$246.83
 - Interest: \$101.72
 - Rental Income from Central Dispatch: \$1,000.00
 - b. April Expenses:
 - Personnel: \$9,010.25 – Includes wages, PERF, taxes and insurance payments
 - All Other: \$19,988.97
 - Loan Payment: \$2,748.28

Markstahler asked why the savings and checking account balances were so high: approximately \$302,000. He feels if there is so much extra, it would be wise to pay down the loan and reduce the amount of interest due. Rankin stated it has been the desire of the SWMD Board and Controller to maintain one (1) year's budget on hand. Commissioner Scott Givens stated extra payment on this loan is addressed at the end of the year. Last year an extra \$35,000 was placed on the loan at the end of the year. The purpose in waiting is due to fluctuation in the tipping fees. They were very low last year and there was concern of an actual loss this year. Instead they have increased beyond what was expected for 2012. Givens stated keeping this extra amount on hand is also for emergencies. Rankin stated the heating and cooling system at the SWMD office needs to be replaced and they do not know the cost of this project. Nose stated the April monthly report does not include the Solid Waste Fee collected with the May 10th property taxes, so the Income on Hand will increase significantly once the monies are

disbursed. Nose stated there was no savings last year and this year there is over \$220,000 was collected and placed in savings due to the Solid Waste Fee. Rankin stated last year was the first year with this new fee and waiting until the end of the year seemed prudent; not knowing what to expect. This year the SWMD has a better handle on what to expect and looking at early payment on the loan is a good idea. Commissioner Brian Hauptert stated the loan is at 5.4% and does not have a prepayment penalty. Little stated he can respect the need to have extra funds on hand, but neither the county nor most businesses hold an entire year of funds in reserve. Council requested the SWMD address possible repayment of a portion of the loan. Givens and Markstahler both stated that once this loan amount is paid off, looking at lowering the Solid Waste Fee also needs to be addressed. Rankin stated early repayment will be discussed at the next board meeting.

2. Nose stated he read an article that stated Indiana residents are one of the lowest to recycle glass. Nose asked what needs to be done to persuade Wabash County residents to increase their recycling of glass. Rankin stated many individuals are simply not following proper rules. They place drinking glasses and window panes in the glass recycling bins. If any of these are broken in the process of being taken to market, the entire load is considered contaminated and is rejected by the manufacturer. It is expense to haul glass and then have it rejected. Glass continues to be a difficult item to recycle.
3. Rankin stated bids are being taken for recycling services. Anyone interested is allowed to bid on providing this service.
4. Auditor Jane Ridgeway stated a memo was received last week from the Department of Local Government Finance. It stated that as of July 1, 2012 according to new subsection IC 6-1.1-18-5 (j) that a political subdivision which must have its annual appropriations and annual tax levy adopted by either city, town, county fiscal body or a legislative fiscal body must have all additional appropriations approved by the fiscal body before being submitted to the DLGF for approval. Currently this applies only to the SWMD in Wabash County and any qualifying libraries.
5. Little thanked Rankin for an excellent presentation of the SWMD monthly report.

Kaltenmark opened the floor for public comments regarding agenda items. No comments were offered.

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

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2012 NO V**

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:

	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
<u>WABASH COUNTY POLICE PENSION FUND #0022</u>				
0022-0000-01-413-074 Personal Services – Sheriff’s Pension Fund – April 2012	\$ 2,052	\$ 2,052	7	0

Civil Process Collections for the month of April 2012: Clerk’s Office Civil Process Collections - \$1,066; Sheriff Department’s Civil Process Collections - \$86; Sheriff Sale Proceeds for February - \$900.

Markstahler made a motion to approve request; his motion was seconded by Nose and passed by a 7-0 vote. Wabash County Sheriff Bob Land stated the inmate population in the jail this morning was 100; eight (8) inmates are housed at the Miami County Jail. The cost to house inmates at the Miami facility is \$35 per inmate per day. Currently that is \$280 per day for a total of \$1,960 per week. Land stated there is currently \$7,400 in the inmate transfer fund so he is expecting to have to ask for additional funds before year end.

The above was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 29th of May 2012, by the above aye and nay vote.

The next order of business was to address an Amendment to the 2012 Salary Ordinance: L.E.A.F Grant (Operation Pull-Over) at \$30 per hour as discussed and appropriated by the Council last month. Nose made a motion to approve amending the salary ordinance; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 7-0 vote.

Kaltenmark opened the floor for public comments on non-agenda items. No comments were offered.

Commissioner Barry Eppley stated the Personnel Administration Committee met last week and have three (3) recommendations for the 2013 budget:

1. For the 2012 budget, a ½ step increase was granted to most of the salaried positions deemed to be below the rate recommended in the Job Classification Study completed in 2009 by Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele & Associates. For the 2013 budget requests, department heads may request the remaining ½ step to finalize the finding of

the job study; noting there is a cap of \$2,500. Eppley stated the total cost to implement this last ½ step for salary increases would be \$12,841.

2. Department heads may request a 2% salary increase across-the-board for the 2013 budget.
3. The Committee recommends that the differential for First Deputy positions established by statute should be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and that department heads may request this increase for the 2013 budget. Ridgeway stated there are currently five First Deputy positions: State statute created four, one in the Auditor's Office, one in the Treasurer's Office, two in the Clerk's Office and one created by Council in the Probation Office.
 - a. Evans stated sometimes department heads have difficulty finding an employee who is willing to take this position for only \$1,000 when they are assuming the responsibilities of the department head in their absence.
 - b. Little asked if a recommendation was made regarding this increase from the original wage study done in 2009 and if the pay scale is accurate for this position. Eppley stated he would clarify this for the Council.
 - c. Nose stated there will be a required 1.5% increase in PERF in 2013. This puts the county behind already. Nose stated he would like to know the estimated increase for insurance for 2013 if possible.

Council will take the three recommendations under advisement.

COUNCIL REVIEWED:

- April 30, 2012 Auditor and Treasurer Financial Reports. Ridgeway stated the Health Department has a \$100,000 Temporary Loan for operating cash flow from the Rainy Day Fund. The Treasurer certified collections on May 25th and the Auditor's Office is currently working on settlement before the June 30th deadline. No additional monies have been taken in for the Health Department; this is the reason the Temporary Loan has not been repaid.
- Ridgeway stated she received a second memo from the DLGF on May 25th stating that the undistributed LOIT PTRC monies are to be placed in the Levy Excess Fund. The State will calculate these funds into the 2013 budget. Nose stated most of these funds were raised for property tax replacement and placing these monies in the Levy Excess Fund is right where they belong. Nose asked why the State is refunding the PTRC funds if we owe them \$1.4 million. Ridgeway stated they are required by statute to distribute rather than hold these funds. Ridgeway also stated the \$1.4 million deficient balance changes every month so the actual balance could be less.

- Annual Report of the Public Defender Board of Wabash County for the year ending 2011.
- Commissioners: 2012-2014 Wabash County Economic Development Income Tax Capital Improvement Plan
- State Board of Accounts Annual Conference is to be held June 30th in Plainfield, Indiana. Ridgeway stated she will register Council Members.

Markstahler made a motion to adjourn the meeting; his motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

The following individuals attended the May 29th Council meeting:

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

Commissioners: Barry Eppley, Scott Givens and Brian Hauptert

Mike Ridenour

Jim Dixon

Following the meeting Council members viewed a webinar presented by Dr. Larry DeBoer, Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University, regarding Local Government, the State Budget and Local Income Taxes. Dr. DeBoer discussed the effect of the undistributed LOIT funds from 2011-12 on current and future state and local budget balances.

*Approved as written – June 25, 2012