

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Wabash County Council met in session on Monday, August 24, 2015 in the Commissioner’s Meeting Room of the Wabash County Courthouse. Chairman Mike Ridenour called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. Six Council members were present: Ridenour, Randy Curless, Bill Ruppel, Jeff Dawes, Matt Dillon, and Kyle Bowman. Claude Markstahler was absent. Ruppel opened with a word of prayer and Ridenour led in the pledge of allegiance. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded by the County Auditor’s office.

The first order of business was to review the minutes of the July 27, 2015 meeting. Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes. Ruppel seconded the motion; it passed by a vote of 6-0.

Ridenour asked for public comments regarding the meeting agenda. No comments were heard.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests. Wabash County Coroner Carol Whitesel was not in attendance for her request.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE #2015-85-08

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, 2015 the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND - #1000

	<u>Amount</u> <u>Requested</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
Coroner Dept. – Cell Phone #1000-30250.007	\$ 360.00	\$360.00	6	0

Explanation: This amount is a reimbursement to the County from the County Coroner for personal cell phone use. This amount needs to be additionally appropriated in order to use the revenue received for the remaining year’s expenses.

Per County Auditor: The Coroner has been advised to pay any remaining personal phone charges directly to the phone company and to not issue a reimbursement to the county that must be additionally appropriated.

Ruppel stated that the personal cell phone calls should be separated from business phone usage and questioned the use of a county-funded cell phone being used for personal calls. It was the Council’s consensus that this issue will be addressed at the upcoming budget hearings.

Ruppel made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

The Health Department had sent no official representative to explain the request for additional appropriation but Health Board member Dr. Jeff Pyle was present and agreed to represent the Health Department.

COUNTY HEALTH FUND - #1159

	<u>Amount</u> <u>Requested</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Appropriated</u>	AYE	NAY
Vaccine Cost #1159-31130.000-0000	50,000.00	50,000.00	6	0

Explanation: This amount is needed to order flu vaccine, pneumonia shots, and vaccine inventory for remainder of 2015.

There was some discussion of remaining vaccine costs for this year and the revenue generated to offset the cost. Council intends to discuss vaccine appropriations further at the upcoming budget hearings.

Chairman Ridenour directed the County Auditor to tell the Health Department that, in the future, a department representative needs to be in attendance at the Council's meetings if the department has a request to be considered by Council.

Dawes made a motion to approve the request. Curless seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

Presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted this 24th day of August, 2015 by the above aye and nay vote. The Auditor was directed to present the above additional appropriation to the Department of Local Government Finance for approval as provided by law.

The next order of business was to address the Transfer of Funds requests. County Clerk, Elaine Martin was present to explain the Election Board request.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION 2015-85-04

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, 2015, the following 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:

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.

GENERAL FUND #1000 - Election Board

	Amount Requested	Acct. Balance	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
#11305 Absentee Voter Board	1,100.00	2,385.22		
#11602 Precinct Board Members	4,500.00	8,640.00		
#21300 Election Supplies	200.00	1,310.85		
#30310 Printing	500.00	1,000.00		
#30622 Voting Machine repair	400.00	745.05		
#30710 Polling Place rent	500.00	725.00		
#30711 Meeting Room rental	200.00	200.00		
#30961 Election Day Meals	700.00	1440.00		
TOTAL:	\$8,100.00		6	0

INCREASE:

#40440 Other Equipment	\$8,100.00		6	0
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Explanation: It cost \$6,700 to purchase four new E-poll book systems for the Vote Center sites. In 2016, we will be adding one additional Vote Center in North Manchester. Also, this will allow us to place two E-poll books in at least 3 or 4 of our Centers on Election Day. It costs \$1,400.00 to purchase a new laptop to replace an older PC and 10 year old laptop.

Ruppel made a motion to approve the transfer request. Dillon seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 24th day of August, 2015 by the above aye and nay vote.

Ridenour asked for comments regarding non-agenda items.

Health Board Chairman Dr. Jeff Pyle and Attorney Larry Thrush were present for a non-agenda item; the presentation and discussion of a proposed

resolution authorizing the transfer of monies from the County Health Fund to the Local Health Maintenance Fund.

Chairman Ridenour summarized the issues and the timeline to date concerning the opposition by the Health Department to the Council's approval of the transfer of funds from the Local Health Maintenance Fund to the County Health Fund. He stated that the issue has been going on for some time and that the Council has been patiently waiting for an alternative proposal from the Health Board. He stated that Council finally received a proposal from the Health Board to transfer monies back from the County Health Fund to the Local Health Maintenance Fund and that this proposal was reviewed by a county committee composed of three Council members, one Commissioner, the County Auditor and members of the Auditor's staff with advice from County Attorney, Steve Downs. The committee's recommendation was to reject the Health Board's proposal and that the following resolution should be considered for approval by the County Council. Chairman Ridenour then read the proposed resolution in full:

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2015-85-12

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF MONIES FROM THE COUNT HEALTH FUND TO THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND

Pursuant to Resolution Number 2015-85-06, there has been deposited into the County Health Fund the sum of \$104,821.43 identified as non-grant monies transferred from the Local Health Maintenance Fund for vaccines administered by County employees. All non-grant monies transferred belong to the County, and should have been originally deposited into the County Health Fund.

The State Department of Health claims any such transfer is prohibited without the prior approval of the Local Board of Health, and in response to the Council's action, the State Department of Health has elected to freeze the Local Health Maintenance Fund and deny the local Board of Health's grant application for 2016.

To induce the State Department of Health to unfreeze the Local Health Maintenance Fund and approve the Local Board of Health's future grant applications, an amount of money should be transferred from the County Health Fund back to the Local Health Maintenance Fund as a gesture of good faith.

Grant monies funded approximately twenty-five percent (25%) of the costs of the county nurses' salaries to administer vaccines, thus an appropriate and fair sum to be transferred back would be twenty-five (25%) of the \$104,821.43 originally transferred.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Auditor of Wabash County is authorized and directed to transfer immediately the sum of \$26,205.36 from the County Health Fund to the Local Health Maintenance Fund.

Adopted this 24th day of August, 2015.

WABASH COUNTY COUNCIL
Mike Ridenour, Chairman

Attest: Linda Conrad, Wabash County Auditor

Attorney Larry Thrush, representing the local Health Board maintained and stated that the Health Board's figure of \$39,961.49, not the \$104,821.43 that was transferred should have been the amount that the County Health Fund received and that there is no guarantee that the State Department of Health will reinstate the grant funding as a result of the approval of this resolution. Dr. Pyle stated that the Health Board's figures only go back to 2006 and that they had requested the figures dating back to 1998 from the Auditor's office. Ridenour stated that the Council's figures date back to 1998 supplied by the Auditor's office and that they were available to Dr. Pyle and the Health Board.

Dawes made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-85-012. Ruppel seconded the motion and it passed by a 6/0 vote. Ridenour directed the County Auditor to furnish a copy of the Resolution and the figures dating back to 1998 to the Health Board.

Additional non-agenda items:

Chairman Ridenour suggested the following:

1. A separate meeting with consultant Darren Bates to be advertised in order to discuss the LOIT Credit options for next year. The meeting was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. depending on Bates' availability. Ridenour stated that he would contact Bates.
2. The possible use of LOIT Public Safety monies to reduce appropriations in the General Fund yet this year. Suggested the "inmate transfer" appropriation as a possibility for reduction.
3. A change of Council representative to the Health Board from Matt Dillon to Mike Ridenour and a change of representative to the Solid Waste District board from Mike Ridenour to Matt Dillon. Ruppel made a motion to approve the changes as stated. Dawes seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6/0.

Council reviewed:

Auditor & Treasurer's financial report for July 2015

Solid Waste Management District Profit & Loss/Income Statement for July 2015.

With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

The following individuals also attended the August 24th Council meeting:

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

Deputy Auditor B.J. Grube, County Commissioners Barry Eppley and Scott Givens, Sheriff Bob Land, Attorney Steve Downs, Attorney Mark Frantz, Bonnie Corn, Louella Krom, Jack & Sandy Ferguson, Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Mackenzie Klemann, The Paper reporter, Emma Sue Rausch, and "105.9 The Bash" reporter, Tim Arnett.