

APRIL 26, 2010

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Monday, April 26, 2010 at the Wabash County Courthouse. Prayer was offered by Jim Kaltenmark. He also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Mike Ridenour called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. with all members present: Ridenour, Kaltenmark, Gary Nose, Ted Little, Daryl Evans, Randy Curless and Claude Markstahler. 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 March 22, 2010 meeting. Evans made a motion to approve the minutes as written; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote.

The next order of business was to discuss the Wabash County Sheriff's Pension Plan with Elaine Beatty, VP of McCready and Keene, Inc. as well as Jane Smith and Jamie Wright of First Merchants Trust Company. This is a follow-up from the March meeting regarding the tabled appropriation request for Personal Services – Sheriff's Pension – Funding for 2010 totaling \$60,000. Beatty discussed:

1. Services provided by McCready and Keene, Inc., Actuaries and Employee Benefit Consultants of Indianapolis and the Trustees of the plan, First Merchants Trust Company of Muncie.
2. That the County Council, Merit Board, and Sheriff must all be in agreement to pass any changes to the plan.
3. Requesting specific percentages or changes outside the basic standard report, must be requested by the county
4. The equivalent of 24.5% of each new hired employee's salary needs to be placed into the retirement fund per year to cover their retirement benefit – Council requested a benefit provision comparison of other similar sized counties and adjacent counties.
5. Discussed that last years actuarial fees were higher than usual due to the fact that the IRS required a new plan document and then required a fee to review all new plans submitted. Beatty stated the average cost will stay around \$3,000 per year.
6. Ridenour requested a two (2) year projection. Beatty stated she would compile this as well as the benefit provision comparison and forward all information to Auditor Ridgeway.

Smith and Wright discussed First Merchants Trust's responsibility and how the market has affected investments. Council extended their appreciation to Beatty, Smith and Wright for preparing and presenting information.

The next order of business was to review the Personal Services – Sheriff's Pension Fund additional appropriation totaling \$60,000 tabled at the March 22nd meeting. Kaltenmark made a motion to take the request off the table; his motion was seconded by Little.

Commissioner Brian Haupert stated they decided to appropriate only part of the original amount of \$150,000 requested because the full amount may not need to be paid from the General Fund. Ridgeway stated there are sufficient funds available in the General Fund to pay the \$60,000. Ridgeway said to date we have paid \$17,600 based on cash flow of collections for Civil Process Service Fees. Haupert asked if we could pay this out of the Rainy Day Fund. Ridgeway stated she would contact the State Board of Accounts for verification and present information at the next meeting. The motion to take the Personal Services –Sheriff’s Pension Fund additional appropriation totaling \$60,000 off the table, was rescinded pending more information by 7-0.

Next, Bill Konyha, Executive Director and CEO Wabash County EDG, presented the County Tax Abatement Resolution that was approved at the March meeting. Council approved and signed the Resolution.

State Representative Bill Ruppel:

1. Discussed the LOIT revenues and new legislation. Ruppel stated that the original intent of the State Legislature regarding the distribution of funds collected from LOIT was to have immediate payment to the counties; but the Department of Revenue has interpreted the law to be processed the same as original CAGIT and CEDIT funds which are reconciled in the year following collection and he noted an obscure law that no checks can be written until after January 1, of the following year. This causes a delay in the receipt of funds. Ruppel stated this was an oversight by the Legislators. Ruppel also stated for this to change a new law will need to be written by the State Legislature.
2. Discuss the stabilization fund concerns. Ridenour stated the stabilization fund has climbed to 2.8 million and we cannot use this for anything other than a short fall in the collection of income* taxes. Is there a way to adjust deadlines with regards to the stabilization fund and can there be a set percentage we reach on the stabilization fund that would allow anything above that set percentage to transfer into the general fund so the extra funds can be used to benefit needs in the county? Ruppel stated this would take an act of the legislature to change the draw allocation. Ruppel stated he would present these questions and get the process started.
3. Discussed the idea of public safety tax. Ruppel stated this could be added into the LOIT tax. Ruppel stated the levy freeze is revenue neutral but the safety tax is a tax increase and it could only be used for public safety: EMA, a new jail.

4. Auditor Jane Ridgeway extended an invitation for Ruppel to attend a meeting at the Honeywell Center, May 19th with State Auditor Tim Berry to speak on the 2011 projections.
5. Commended the Council for being mindful and looking forward to minimize the revenue losses possible in the upcoming years. Implementing the LOIT was a timely and wise move for Wabash County.

The next order of business was to address the Additional Appropriation requests as advertised for Additional Appropriations Ordinance 2010 NO. V:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2010 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:

Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
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COUNTY GENERAL FUND 0001

Wabash County Commissioners 0029

0001-0029-01-413-071 Personal Services				
– Social Security/Medicare	\$ 6,503.00	\$ 6,503.00	7	0
0001-0029-01-413-072 Personal Services – PERF	\$ 8,713.00	\$ 8,713.00	7	0
0001-0029-01-413-073 Personal Services				
– Hospital Insurance	\$30,461.00	\$30,461.00	7	0

Little made a motion to approve social security, Medicare, PERF, hospital insurance and Central Dispatch – Personal Services – five (5) dispatchers - \$85,007 (*noted under Central Dispatch); his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote.

0001-0039-01-NEW Other Services & Charges

-Community E211Grant - 2010	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0
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This request is for the Community Foundation Grant for E-211, not included in the 2010 Budget. Wabash City will be contributing \$3,000 also and the Towns will be contributing \$2,000.

Commissioner Scott Givens stated the E-211 provides numbers to the community for different types of assistance; utility, mental health, legal aid. It is run through Allen County and Wabash County pays a total of \$8,000, the City of Wabash contributed \$3,000 and North Manchester contributed \$2,000. Evans stated he is on the United Way Board and the 211 service is widely used. Evans made a motion to approve the E-211 grant totaling \$3,000; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote.

Emergency Management 0031

0001-0031-04-444-048 Capital Outlay				
- Communications Equipment	\$ 615.78	\$ 615.78	7	0

The above amount was received as the result of the sale of out dated surplus radio equipment previously used by EMA. The \$615.78 will be added to the current balance to use as a match when the latest grant is awarded through the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. This grant was a joint effort of all County Fire Departments, Law enforcement, and EMA in order to provide additional 800 MHZ radios for Wabash County first responders. The matching amount is 5% of the EMA portion of the grant. The total amount cannot be determined as we have not been notified if we will receive the amount originally requested in the grant.

Nose made a motion to approve request to add \$615.78 to existing FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 7-0 vote.

Central Dispatch 0038

0001-0038-01-412-017 Personal Services				
- Dispatchers (5)	\$85,007.00	\$85,007.00	7	0

*This was approved jointly with the County Commissioners Personal Services – SS, Medicare, PERF and Hospital Insurance with a motion by Little, a seconded by Curless and passing with a 7-0 vote.

0001-0038-NEW Other Services & Charges				
- Utilities	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	7	0
0001-0038-NEW Other Services & Charges				
- Lease/Rent – WCSWD	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	7	0

This request is for the lease agreement with the Wabash County Solid Waste District; not included in the 2010 Budget. This is for office space to locate the new Central Dispatch Department and allowance for overage in utilities as needed.

Little asked if we have separate insurance on the equipment in the facility. Brown stated yes, it is covered by Beauchamp and McSpadden. Little made a motion to approve the lease and utilities request; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote. Brown stated the City of Wabash will be contributing on a yearly basis for their portion of the Central Dispatch.

CUMULATIVE BRIDGE FUND 0003

0003-0000-04-447-078 Capital Outlay				
- Liberty Bridge #62 Construction	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	7	0

Liberty #62 is a concrete arch that is 18’ to 20’ deep. It is on the south county line, 1200 S at 1196 E, on the dead end leading to the government flood area. In order to affect repair without closing the road for an extended time, we would like to slip line this structure.

0003-0000-04-447-079 Capital Outlay				
-Paw-Paw Bridge #6 Construction	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	7	0

Paw-Paw Bridge #6 is an 8' diameter CMP. This pipe is rusted out on the bottom and needs to be replaced. The surveyor is in the process of restructuring the drain and asked that the pipe be enlarged by 12" and reinstalled 12" lower than the existing pipe. This pipe is approximately .4 mile west of CR 300 W on 700 N.

Kaltenmark made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by 7-0 vote. Amones requested Council revisit the idea of creating LOHUT (Local Option Highway Use Tax). Amones stated at the current rate the County Highway Department is spending \$750,000 more than is being brought in per year. The Local Road and Street fund has approximately 3 million dollar cushion which will be depleted very quickly if a tire tax is not implemented. The highway fund is not on the property tax roles. Ridenour stated we cannot let the future of our county roads go to the way side. Amones stated the revenue collected will depend on the amount of autos registered. If LOHUT is passed in 2010, it will be collected in 2011 and will not be budgeted to be spent until 2012. Ridenour requested Amones discuss with LTAP. Little stated we need to show the necessity of LOHUT before voting on this. We need to show that without enough funding roads are not going to be fixed and there may be other cuts in services that will affect the community. Commissioners Scott Givens stated it would be good to have a presentation and LTAP at the same meeting. Amones stated he would attempt to have LTAP at the May Council Meeting. Council stated there is never a right time for a new tax but with the cuts being made by the State and genuine concern for the amount of care the roads will loose, this does need to be considered.

WABASH COUNTY POLICE PENSION FUND 0022

0022-0000-04-413-074 Sheriff's Pension				
- Clerk Civil Process Collections - March, 2010	\$ 2,093.00	\$ 2,093.00	7	0
0022-0000-01-413-074 Sheriff's Pension				
- Sheriff Civil Process Collections - March, 2010	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	7	0

This request is for Civil Process Collections for the month of March 2010: Clerk's Office civil process collections \$2,093.00; Sheriff Dept. civil process collections \$60.

Claude made a motion to approve the Sheriff's Pension totaling \$2,153; his motion was seconded by Little and passed by a 7-0 vote.

WABASH COUNTY CEDIT FUND 0121

0121-0000-03-NEW Other Services & Charges				
- Region III-A 2010 Dues	\$12,445.00	\$12,445.00	7	0

This request is an annual contribution that is normally billed in January for the local government dues to the Region III-A Economic Development District & Regional Planning Commission.

Nose made a motion to approve payment of Region III-A 2010 dues totaling \$12,445; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 26th day of April, 2010 by the above aye and nay vote.

The next Council addressed Transfer Requests as presented:

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2010-06**

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, 2010 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:				
<u>E911 LANDLINE FUND #0054:</u>				
0054-0000-01-412-017 E-911 Director	\$ 6,667.00	\$ 6,667.00	7	0
<u>COUNTY GENERAL FUND – Jail #0001-0033:</u>				
0001-0033-01-412-018 E-911 Coordinator	\$17,684.69	\$17,684.69	7	0
0001-0033-01-412-016 Dispatcher/ IDAC	\$17,684.69	\$17,684.69	7	0
0001-0033-01-412-017 Dispatcher 2	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0033-01-412-017 Dispatcher 3	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0033-01-412-017 Dispatcher 4	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0033-01-412-017 Dispatcher 5	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0033-01-412-022 Dispatcher – (2) PT/ Hourly	\$10,769.22	\$10,769.22	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:

<u>COUNTYGENERAL FUND – Central Dispatch #0001-0038:</u>				
0001-0038-01-412-011 CD Director	\$ 6,667.00	\$ 6,667.00	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-018 CD Coordinator	\$17,684.69	\$17,684.69	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-016 Dispatcher/ IDAC	\$17,684.69	\$17,684.69	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-017 Dispatcher 2	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-017 Dispatcher 3	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-017 Dispatcher 4	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-017 Dispatcher 5	\$17,001.38	\$17,001.38	7	0
0001-0038-01-412-022 Dispatcher – (2) PT/ Hourly	\$10,769.22	\$10,769.22	7	0

This will cover all salaries for the County Central Dispatch Center. Kaltenmark made a motion to approve transfer from E-911 land line to Central Dispatch totaling \$6,667 and to transfer appropriations from the Jail to Central Dispatch totaling \$114,144.12; his motion was seconded by Evans and passed by a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 26th of April, 2010, by the above aye and nay vote.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2010-07**

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, 2010 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:				
<u>E911 LANDLINE FUND #0054:</u>				
0054-0000-01-431-000 Professional Services	\$ 50,000.00	\$50,000.00	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:

<u>COUNTYGENERAL FUND</u>				
<u>Central Dispatch #0001-0038:</u>				
0001-0000-00-101-100 CASH	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	7	0

Little made a motion to approve transfer request totaling \$50,000 from E-911 Landline Fund to Central Dispatch; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed by a 7-0 vote. This is from funds [previously were paid to the City of Wabash to help fund the dispatchers based there.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 26th day of April, 2010, by the above aye and nay vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Council discussed:

Communications Research Paper

- Christa Stroup, Circuit Court Recorder and County Coordinator/Human Resource Director Jim Dils presented recommendations to enhance communication within the county offices. Information presented was collected from a survey distributed by Stroup to Wabash County Employees as part of a college class project. The results showed that most employees are happy with memo's being attached to payroll. Stroup stated it would be good to have a website to have current and updated info that can only be accessed by employees. Ridgeway stated

the idea of expanding our current website could be looked into as a viable idea. The one issue would be to make sure to keep it updated. Dils stated there is no common server to send e-mails to all employees. Stroup stated those surveyed stated that they receive info late or from the newspaper rather than the department heads. Ridenour stated holding a meeting with Department Heads and Commissioners on a regular basis to make sure issues are upfront is an option. Stroup stated a great deal of people express they want to feel like more than a number. The frustration is not just due to salaries but non monetary compensations. Council thanked Stroup for all her work and her great ideas. They will take it under advisement.

Wabash County and Miami County Proposed Jail Agreement

- Commissioner Brian Hauptert stated we had presented a draft of an agreement with Miami County to transfer an undetermined amount of inmates from the Wabash County Jail for a determined amount of time at \$35 per day. Hauptert presented to Council a revised draft agreement from Miami County.
- Striker stated it costs over \$33 per day per inmate at an average of 97.25 inmates per day and \$45 per day per inmate at 72 average inmates per day. Striker stated The DOC (Department of Corrections) is at 99% capacity and has requested thorough review before sending any inmates to them. Striker stated medical expenses would be incurred by Wabash County but the safety liability of the inmate would lie with Miami County.
- Ridgeway stated at \$35 per day per inmate for twenty (20) inmates it could cost \$255,000 per year. She asked how this would be funded. Nose stated it would be a good idea to have a separate account to pay for this program. Striker stated he felt it would be best to have it appropriated through the Sheriff's Jail Budget where it can be tracked. Commissioners stated this is still under review.
- Striker stated, "Be aware, if you move twenty (20) people to Miami County to lower our numbers, two (2) days later twenty (20) more inmates may be incarcerated in Wabash County".
- Striker stated the inmates sent would stay in Miami County for the remainder of their sentences.
- Ridenour asked if there was a plan for the Committee to review a new facility. Hauptert stated we are not looking at a building until the end of 2011 when the judicial bond is paid off.

Council reviewed:

Auditor & Treasurers Financial Reports – March 2010

Health Department Report of H1N1 shots as of March 31, 2010

**DLFG Report: Certified Budget History 2006-2010
Quarterly Fire Department Report – 2010**

Evans made a motion to adjourn the April 26, 2010 meeting; his motion was seconded by Curless and passed with a 7-0 vote.

The following individual attended the April 26th Council meeting:

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

Sheila Rhoades

Students from Sheriff Striker's Vocational School Class

*Mike Ridenour requested this statement be changed from "property" to "income" taxes. Minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Evans, seconded by Nose and a 7-0 vote on May 24, 2010.