

JANUARY 28, 2008

Wabash County Council met in regular session on Monday, January 28, 2008. Prayer was offered by Jim Kaltenmark. Chairman Bob Fuller called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with all members present: Dean Eppley, Bob Fuller, Gary Nose, Jim Kaltenmark, Mike Ridenour, Ted Little, and Claude Markstahler. Wabash County Auditor Jane Ridgeway recorded the minutes of the meeting.

The minutes of the December 3, 2007 Regular Session were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Kaltenmark and approved by a 7-0 vote. The minutes of the January 7, 2008 Special Session meeting were then reviewed. Eppley moved to approve these also with one typo correction (DLGF). Ridgeway stated that she had already corrected the tense usage in the second to the last paragraph where Ridenour discussed possibly "holding" some evening meetings in 2008 to better accommodate the public. Ridenour commented that he would like to be sure to change the set time of the 2009 budget hearing meetings to evening hours. Fuller agreed this could be done and suggested advertising the Budget hearings for 4:00 P.M. each of the three scheduled days in August of 2008. In further review of the January 7th minutes, Little asked to be certain that concerning the Economic Development Commission Resolution, the comments from County Attorney Steve Downs were included in the minutes regarding "no financial responsibility of the county". The Auditor read from the minutes as follows: *Answering questions from the Council, Corsaro stated and Downs concurred, there will be no liability to Wabash County for these Tax Exempt bonds: "No direct or contingent liability."* Ridenour then moved to second the minutes as amended and the minutes of January 7, 2008 were approved by a 7-0 vote of the Council.

Lalon Allen, President of the Extension Advisory Board, discussed with Council the currently vacant staff position and the upcoming retirement of County Extension Director Nancy Radabaugh which will leave a second position available starting March 1, 2008. There was funding for a full time Agricultural Assistant position added to the contract with Purdue for 2008. This was previously a part time position held by Matt Moorman. Allen explained that applications are currently in the screening process by Purdue. Once Purdue has reviewed the candidates, then the process of interviewing begins. Eppley asked if a time frame was available. Allen stated there was no real time table set. Allen presented a resignation letter from Moorman with his explanation. Council discussed how they would have liked Moorman to stay in the position. They felt he had done an exemplary job, but did understand his choice to pursue other things. Allen requested permission to move forward with the process and possibly hire if a candidate was found and approved by

Purdue. Council agreed by consensus to move forward with the process and noted that the contract funding should be amended if the positions are not filled for the entire year. Council requested that Radabaugh keep the council apprised as to where they are in the process. Allen agreed he felt communication with Council was a key priority during this process and they would be informed of progress on both hiring positions.

The next item on the agenda was David Young Chairman of Wabash County AACTION who along with Danette Norman, Director of Counseling Services of Manchester College, reviewed the recommendations for the 2008 Drug-Free-Communities Grant Recommendations with Council. Council discussed the Bowen Center monies and the North Manchester College program that allows for pamphlets in the restrooms for college students to read. Fuller thanked Young for all the hard work done with these grants. Nose made a motion to approve and appropriate the following AACTION grant requests as presented. His motion was seconded by Little and passed with a 7-0 vote.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE 2008 NO. I
DRUG FREE COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND**

	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated	AYE	NAY
0111-0000-03-439-107 Other Services & Charges– Southwood High School-Peers Ed. Peers	\$ 5 00.00	\$ 5 00.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-107 Other Services & Charges– Southwood High School-After Prom	\$ 1, 000.00	\$1, 000.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-113 Other Services & Charges– Wabash High School-Post Prom	\$ 1,000.00	\$1, 000.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-101 Other Services & Charges– Girl Scouts of Tribal Trails-In the Zone	\$ 770.00	\$ 770.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-100 Other Services & Charges– Youth Service Bureau- Afternoons Rock	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-100 Other Services & Charges– Youth Service Bureau- Drug Free Activities	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-103 Other Services & Charges– Manchester College- Prevention/Education	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-102 Other Services & Charges– The Access – Access Reality	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	7	0
0111-0000- 03-439-000Other Services & Charges– Tobacco Free Wabash – T.A.T.U.	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	7	0
0111-0000- 03-439-000Other Services & Charges– Tobacco Free Wabash – TEG/TAP	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-014 Other Services & Charges– Bowen Center – Low Income Assistance	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-114 Other Services & Charges– Wabash Co. Drug Court-Testing Compliance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-112 Other Services & Charges– Hands of Hope – Victims Advocacy	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 2,900.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-103 Other Services & Charges– Manchester College- Abuse Treatment	\$ 1,865.00	\$ 1,865.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-103Other Services & Charges– Manchester College- PBT’s	\$ 558.00	\$ 558.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-110 Other Services & Charges–				

Wabash Co. Sheriff Dept–Enforcement/Alco Sensors	\$ 3,437.00	\$ 3,437.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-108 Other Services & Charges– North Manchester Police-Enhanced Enforcement	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-108 Other Services & Charges– North Manchester Police-Drug Enforcement Training	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-108 Other Services & Charges– North Manchester Police-In-Car Video	\$ 3,625.00	\$ 3,625.00	7	0
0111-0000-03-439-106 Other Services & Charges – Wabash County AACTION '08 Operating Budget	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 1,020.00	7	0

This grant process started in September of 2007 when the grant availability was advertised and applications made available. The grant requests were submitted in October with presentations made to the entire AACTION organization at the November meeting. Following a series of voluntary reductions, moving some items to a more appropriate category and other necessary trimming to meet the financial requirements of the state as well as available Drug Free Communities funds, we arrived with this recommendation. For 2008, we have added Tobacco Free Wabash and the Access to our group of community partners as new grant recipients in addition to some of the more familiar programs.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full and adopted on the 28th day of January, 2008 by the above aye and nay vote.

The next order of business was to address the other Additional Appropriation requests as advertised for consideration by the Council:

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE 2008 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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COUNTY GENERAL FUND

County Commissioners

0001-0029-01-413-074 Personal Services – Sheriff’s Pension Fund	\$ 12,790.00	\$12,790.00	7	0
November 2007, 190 claims Superior Court, 190 claims Circuit Court @ \$13.00, Clerk’s report, Secretary’s report. December 2007, 209 claims Superior Court, 185 claims Circuit Court @ \$13.00, Clerk’s report, Secretary’s report.				

Markstahler made a motion to approve the request. It was seconded by Kaltenmark and passed with a 7-0 vote.

JUVENILE PROBATION USER FEES FUND

0061-0000-01-412-015 Personal Services – Day Reporting Program	\$ 392.25	\$392.25	7	0
This officer is respectfully requesting that this Council approve the transfer of \$10,303.71 (\$392.25 +\$9,911.46) from Juvenile Probation User Fees to the Day Reporting Program budget to increase the salary of the DRP Instructor so that the person will be paid the same salary as a Deputy Clerk. When the Day Reporting Program is not in session, that staff person will perform duties at the WC Probation Office.				
0061-0000-01-413-073 Other Services and Charges – Insurance	\$ 9,911.46	\$9,911.46	7	0

This officer is respectfully requesting that this Council approve the transfer of \$10,303.71 (\$392.25 +\$9,911.46) from Juvenile Probation User Fees to the Day Reporting Program budget to increase the salary of the DRP Instructor so that the person will be paid the same salary as a Deputy Clerk. When the Day Reporting Program is not in session, that staff person will perform duties at the WC Probation Office.

Dallas Duggan Chief Probation Officer remarked "Crime is a growth Industry in Wabash County." Council asked if any further funding would need to come from the County. Duggan stated no more funds would be needed. Current User Fee funds would be sufficient. Little made a motion to approve request for \$392.25 & \$9,911.46 for salary increase. It was seconded by Eppley and passed by a 7-0 vote.

WABASH COUNTY DRUG COURT FUND

0158-0000-03-431-035 Other Services & Charges

– Contractual Field Officer \$ 7,200.00 \$7,200.00 7 0

This officer (Dallas Duggan) respectfully requesting that this Council approve the transfer of \$7,200.00 from Adult Probation User Fees to the Drug Court budget to find a part-time field officer for 2008. This request is based on 10 hours per week at \$15.00 per hour. This request will pay for 48 work weeks. As this Council will remember, extra money was requested in December 2007 to fund January 2008.

Mike Ridenour made a motion to approve request. It was seconded by Eppley and approved with a 7-0 vote.

The Council then reviewed the following requests for Transfer of funds:

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2008-01**

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, 2008 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:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS				
0001-0029-01-412-013 Personal Services -Commissioners Attorney	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	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:
COUNTY GENERAL FUND – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

0001-0029-03-413-011 Other Services & Charges-County Attorney \$ 20,000.00 \$ 20,000.00 7 0
The original appropriation was to Personal Services (01). Mr. Downs is contractual and needs to be paid from Other Services and Charges (03).

Council discussed Attorney Downs current duties. He is Attorney for both the County Council and Commissioners as of present. Council requested this be reflected in the line item used in Commissioners fund. Protocol would require any legal services requested would first go through Commissioners. Council made a consensus that line would be changed and any time charged or duties performed by Downs would go through Commissioners first. Little made the motion to approve Transfer 2008-01. His motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 28th day of January, 2008, by the above aye and nay vote.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2008-02**

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, 2008 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 Transferred	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND – SHERIFF				
0001-0005-01-413-073 Personal Services				
– Group (Hospital) Insurance	\$ 113,000.00	\$ 113,000.00	7	0
0001-0033-01-413-073 Personal Services				
–Group (Hospital) Insurance	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	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:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS				
0001-0029-01-413-073 Personal Services				
- Hospital Insurance	\$ 223,000.00	\$ 223,000.00	7	0

This transfer is requested by the Commissioners and the Sheriff as discussed during Budget Hearings to combine all of the Employee Group Insurance expenses from the County General Fund under the Commissioners Budgeted line item for better tracking and accountability.

Following discussion, Ridenour made a motion to approve Transfer 2008-02. Eppley seconded the motion and it passed with a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 28th day of January, 2008, by the above aye and nay vote.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2008-03**

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, 2008 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 Transferred	AYE	NAY
DECREASE:				
COUNTY GENERAL FUND				
<u>Memorial Hall</u>				
0001-0005-01-412-024 Personal Services – PT Custodian	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,500.00	7	0
<u>Jail</u>				
0001-0033-01-412-020 Personal Services – PT Custodian	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 19,500.00	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 – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

0001-0029-01-412-022 Personal Services – Commissioners’ Custodian	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 29,000.00	7	0
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This transfer is requested by the Commissioners and the Sheriff in order to combine the two departmental Budgeted Part-time line items currently for Custodian Dick Smith who has worked full-time for Wabash County for many years but under the two P-T expense items.

Council discussed changing D. Smith, Custodian, from two part time positions to one full time position. Ridgeway stated there would need to be a change in the Salary Ordinance and she would prepare that for the next meeting. Nose made a motion to approve Transfer 2008-03 as presented. It was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 28th day of January, 2008, by the above aye and nay vote.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION
NO. 2008-04**

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, 2008 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:					
COUNTY HEALTH FUND					
0010-0000-03-436-062	Other Services & Charges -Equipment Repair	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	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:

LOCAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE FUND

0113-0000-03-436-060	Other Services & Charges-Building Repairs	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00	7	0
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This request is for additional charges for the expenses of renovating the Health Department restrooms. Kroft Construction LLC did not include deleting a baby changing station and adding 2'2" stained panel door and trim to one restroom and adding a hot water heater and water lines to both restrooms.

After a brief discussion, Ridenour made a motion to approve Transfer 2008-04. It was seconded by Kaltenmark and passed with a 7-0 vote.

This was presented to the Wabash County Council, read in full, and adopted on the 28th day of January, 2008, by the above aye and nay vote.

Council next reviewed the Amended 2008 Salaries and Wages Ordinance Form 144 as requested by the Council to be consistent with all other Assessors' Budgets, separating the additional pay for certification:

**AMENDED
2008 SALARIES AND WAGES ORDINANCE
WABASH COUNTY**

WHEREAS: Public Law No. 231 requires County Councils to fix salaries of County Officials and Employees for the year 2008:

SEC.1. Be it ordained by the Wabash County Council of Wabash County, Indiana, that the salaries and wages of County Officials and Employees and its institutions for the year ending December 31, 2008 as follows:

Position	Department	Bi- Weekly	Annual
NOBLE TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR			
0001-0014-01-412-011	Noble Township Assessor - B. Conner	\$1,150.92	\$29,924.00
0001-0014-01-412-012	Deputy Assessor - C. Schuler	\$823.88	\$21,421.00
0001-0014-01-412-014	Level II Certification - Conner	\$38.46	\$1,000.00
0001-0014-01-412-014	Level II Certification - Schuler	\$38.46	\$1,000.00

Approved on the 28th day of January, 2008.

Wabash County Council

**T.F. "Bob" Fuller
Mike Ridenour
Gary S. Nose
Ted A. Little
Dean Eppley
Claude Markstahler
James Kaltenmark**

**ATTEST: Jane E. Ridgeway
Wabash County
Auditor**

Brenda Conner Noble Township Assessor discussed with Council her concerns on the salary for her deputy. After much discussion on the issue, Fuller stated the salary issues need to be reviewed, employee evaluations completed and a set system for merit/longevity pay put into place by County Coordinator Jim Dils before budget hearings for 2009. He asked that the Commissioners and Department heads work with Dils during this process. Little made a motion to approve the Amended Salary Ordinance for 2008 as presented. It was seconded by Ridenour and passed by a 7-0 vote.

Ridgeway presented Encumbrances filed by Department heads for the Council to review and approve. Council requested a separate column on the Budget Status Reports so that encumbered appropriations from 2007 are not confused with the transfers and additional appropriations of the 2008 budget funds. Ridgeway stated she would attempt to design a new report to make this distinction in the future. Markstahler made a motion to approve the Encumbrances presented. His motion was seconded by Eppley and passed with a 6-1 vote. Little opposed because he had not been able to review the Encumbrances.

Council asked Wabash County Auditor Ridgeway how the property tax rebate process was moving along. Ridgeway stated she had calculated the rebates on December 11, 2007 and sent the file to Boyce Systems which was contracted to process the rebate checks. She copied the file for the Treasurer's office who was currently checking through the over 10,358 rebates for outstanding delinquent taxes so that the rebates could first be applied to any taxes owed. Last week it was discovered there had been a problem with the Manatron MVP Tax program written for this first-time process and it has caused a set back for all counties on the MVP Tax system. Over 100 parcels were missed in Wabash County by the error. Currently Manatron is attempting to correct the problem in the software. No time table was available for when the rebates will go out but Ridgeway noted as soon as the software corrections were available she would re-calculate the files and send them again to Boyce, then the Treasurer

will mark all delinquencies and the files can be sent to Boyce again for processing and mailing checks to qualifying taxpayers. She also stated the individual rebate amounts are currently available online at the Wabash County website.

Council reviewed the *DLGF Memorandum: 2008 Expenses and Obligations* from the January 7, 2008 meeting and discussed the current status of the State certification of the 2008 Budget. Ridgeway informed them that Wabash County Assessor Kelly Schenkel had received approval on the 07pay08 Trending ratios on January 11 which had allowed her to print and mail F11s (Notices of Changes in Assessment) to all taxpayers affected. They mailed approximately 17,000 F11s on Friday, January 25th. The taxpayers now have 45 days to question and appeal the assessments. In the meantime, the Auditor's office will be working to verify exemption values and reconcile values by taxing districts. When Schenkel is finished making approved changes the values can be rolled to the Auditor's MVP Tax System and then the final values can be verified and certified to the State – which is the next step in the budget process.

Council reviewed the following items:

1. Local Option Income Taxes: State Budget Agency.
2. December 31, 2007 Financial Report.

Ridenour made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Little and the meeting closed with a 7-0 vote.

The next meeting will be held Monday, February 25, 2008 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room at the Wabash County Courthouse at 8:00 A.M.