

January 28, 2019

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 28, 2019. Chairman Barry J. Eppley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three commissioners present: Eppley, Jeff D. Dawes and Brian K. Haupert. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the January 22, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Haupert made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eric Rish, Wabash County Recorder presented for renewal an annual contract with Fidar Technologies for maintenance of the recorders' server (\$1,200). The funds are budgeted out of the Recorder's Perpetuation. Downs will review the renewal and report back.

Angela Christopher, Purdue Extension Director applied for a grant with Manchester University for a summer intern. She just received word that she was awarded the grant. Christopher asked the commissioners to sign the employer requirement and guidelines form. The internship would need to be processed through county payroll and proof of workers comp insurance will need to be provided. Manchester University will pay \$4,000 for the internship. Haupert made a motion to approve the request pending further review by the county attorney. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

John Martin, County Highway Superintendent presented three utility permits:

1. QC Communications for Comcast of Indiana to bore under 300 W to provide service to 3393 S 300 W.
2. Frontier Communications to bore along the east side of 200 W starting 841' north of 750 N, proceeding south to 750 N, then east to 750 N for 40' to install high speed internet cable and install a high speed internet H-frame structure on the north side of 750 N. This is to provide high speed internet to the surrounding area.
3. CenturyLink to replace deteriorated cable along the south side of 500 N starting 158' east of 800 W, then west to and under 800 W into Miami County.

Haupert made a motion to approve all three permits. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Ryan Baker, County Sheriff reported that the Wabash County Jail currently has 108 inmates with 51 inmates housed in the Miami County Jail and 10 in Elkhart County Jail. Last week there were 18 book-ins and 12 transports to other facilities. The peak population last week was 111.

Keith Walters, County EMA Director was present with nothing to report.

Steve Downs, County Attorney reported on the following:

1. As part of the 1100 N project, the county is buying a sliver of land from OJI (off the front yard). OJI is requesting the county to indemnify them for

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environmental contamination. There were some discussions on exactly what OJI is requesting. Butler Fairman & Seufert is handling the portions of land that are being acquired and currently have the agreements between landowners and the county. Downs will get more information and report back.

2. Bridge 151 contract has been sent to the contractor but not yet been returned.
3. A draft contract with West Plains Mining has been circulated for WPM to open cut Old SR 24 for a railroad tunnel and to cross over a creek. The commissioners, surveyor and highway are still reviewing the draft before it is signed and sent to WPM.
4. Johnson Controls and the Intrasect Technologies contracts are still being reviewed. Downs has questions for both entities before presenting the contracts.
5. Hauptert, Mayor Scott Long, Downs and an OCRA representative met last week regarding the Cloverleaf sewage concerns. Presently they are awaiting an estimate on the cost of the income study for Northcliff to see if we (county & city) would qualify for an OCRA grant or how much of a grant would be possible. A lot of questions still need to be answered regarding what the county and city can reasonably do to assist property owners in the Northcliff area.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director was present with nothing to report.

Marcie Shepherd, County Auditor was present with nothing to report.

LuAnn Layman, Wabash County Treasurer presented a contract with Worrell Corp. which prints the county's annual tax statements. Hauptert made a motion to approve the contract pending review by Downs. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

With no other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday, February 4, 2019.

Also present: The Paper report Josh Sigler, Wabash County Coroner Suzie Lewis, Chief Deputy Sheriff Tyler Guenin, Grow Wabash County CEO Keith Gillenwater and Wabash Plain Dealer reporter Kaitlin Gebby.