

October 5, 2020

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, October 5, 2020. Chairman Brian K. Hauptert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all commissioners present: Hauptert, Barry J. Eppley, and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the September 28, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Cole Wyatt, County Highway Superintendent was present with nothing to report.

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff presented the jail report. Wabash County Jail currently has 85 inmates with 42 additional housed in the Miami County Jail, 7 in the Tipton County Jail, 11 in the Elkhart County Jail, and 1 in the Jay County Jail. Last week there were 21 book-ins and 13 transports to other facilities. The peak population was 87. The total prisoner count is 147.

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

Mark Frantz, County Attorney representative was present with nothing to report.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director:

1. Presented the proposed 2021 holiday schedule for Wabash County government offices. The county follows the state holiday schedule. Dawes made a motion to adopt the 2021 holiday schedule. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Stated an email was sent to all department heads on September 4th informing them that due to the anticipated budget shortfalls, the Wabash County Board of Commissioners and Wabash County Council have jointly determined there is a need to immediately restrict the hiring of individuals for both new and existing positions (replacements). It stated effective September 4, 2020 and until further notice no individual should be hired until a written request is presented to and approved by both the commissioners and the council. (This restriction was not reported in previous minutes.) Eppley made a motion to approve the hiring restrictions. Dawes seconded the motion, it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. Reminded the commissioners that an executive session has been scheduled for 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. On behalf of Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper the voting locations for the 2020 General Election: Heartland REMC, North Manchester Public Library, First United Methodist Church, Town Life Center, Lagro Town Hall and the Pleasant Township Fire Department. Dawes made a motion to approve the voting locations. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. On behalf of Living Well requested permission for commissioner Eppley to sign an application for the title of a 2021 Ford Elkhart coach bus.

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3. Eppley stated Wabash County Transit has asked the county and city to jointly provide for the local match for the purchase of two vehicles. The county's portion would be \$9,330. Eppley made a motion to approve the request. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
4. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 10/05/2020. Eppley made a motion to approve all claims. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Eppley stated the Association of Indiana Counties recently named Wabash County Surveyor Cheri Slee as Surveyor of the Year for 2020. The commissioners all offered their congratulations to Slee for receiving this award.

With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners are scheduled to next meet on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

Also present: Deputy Auditor Melanie Penn, William Shepler, and Bryan Lacey.