

July 17, 2023

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, July 17, 2023. Chairman Brian K. Haupert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all Commissioners present: Haupert, Barry J. Eppley and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd. The minutes of the July 10, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Eppley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Alex Downard, Director Imagine One 85 presented an overview on the progress on the action plans for Imagine One 85. Downard along with Keith Gillenwater, Grow Wabash County, made a budget request of \$25,000 for 2024. Patty Grant, Wabash Community Foundation along with Keith and Alex expressed thanks on the consideration of the continuation of funding the plan.

The Roann Covered Bridge Committee has received a quote to replace the roof on the bridge from Randel Construction. The committee has requested monetary assistance from the County to help with the project. The committee has requested \$58,240 and the RCBC will pay the balance of \$14,560. Eppley made a motion to approve the request, being paid from EDIT, County Infrastructure. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Hauptert reported that the Commissioners are recommending the department heads request a 3% increase in the 2024 budgets for the employees.

Hauptert said that Ms. Walters of LaFontaine who had reported the sidewalk issue in Lafontaine did not provide contact information for the county to respond to her request.

Steve Downs, Wabash County Attorney, presented a contract with Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim as consultants, on the issues with the Jail roof. The issues may lead into mitigation and/or litigation and he would like to have attorneys that work with building issues. The contract is an hourly rate \$195-\$340 per hour, depending on how many people are involved 1-3. Dawes made a motion to approve the contract. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Downs noted:

1. The ambulance contracts with the Town of North Manchester and the City of Wabash are both expiring on 12/31/2023.
2. He is still looking into the Drug Steering Committee being an organized Committee. Shepherd stated the Committee uses the Youth Service Bureau of Huntington County as their fiscal agent. The funds have been disbursed to the YSB of Huntington County. The Council had approved the request in March 2023.

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor, presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 07/17/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Payroll Claims and allowances including withholdings for pay period ending 07/08/2023. Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Hauptert asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns. None were heard.

Chris Hickman asked how the payout of the Opioid funds happened. Downs said the Council had awarded the funds.

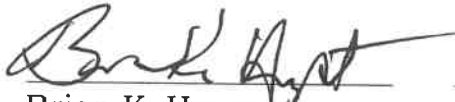
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Cheryl Ridgeway asked that Commissioners make sure they are funding Imagine One 85 to represent the whole county, not just a select group. Dawes said he will request a copy of the budget.

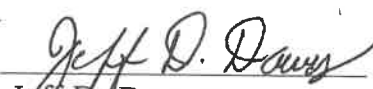
With no other public comment or other business to come before the Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned. The commissioners will next meet on Monday July 24, 2023.

Also present: *In person*: Shelly Bauccho, Cole Wyatt, Dave Nelson, Cynthia Donavan, Louella Krom, Nicky Burnsworth, Marcella Palmer, Bill Burnsworth, Cheryl Ridgeway, Cheryl Ross and Gary Ridenour; *Via Zoom*: Amanda, Brian Swihart, Melanie, Connie, owner, Joseph Slacian and Don Jervis.

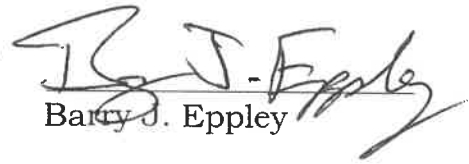
WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Brian K. Haupert
Chairman



Jeff D. Dawes
Vice-Chairman



Barry J. Eppley

Attest: 
Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor