

January 2, 2024

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Wabash County Auditor Marcie Shepherd called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three commissioners present: Brian K. Hauptert, Barry J. Eppley and Jeff D. Dawes. The proceedings were recorded by Auditor Marcie Shepherd. Shepherd requested nominations for commissioner chairman. Hauptert made a motion to nominate Jeff D. Dawes as chairman for 2024. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote. Shepherd then turned the meeting over to Dawes who requested nominations for vice-chairman. Hauptert made a motion to nominate Barry J. Eppley as vice-chairman for 2024. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 2-0 vote.

The minutes of the December 18, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Hauptert made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

A release and settlement agreement with Walters Duffey LLC and Wabash County was presented for approval. The agreement is a formality stating that while the highway department was working in a county road right of way, old debris was removed. The family would like the personal property items returned. Cheryl Ross asked the value of the agreement and whether insurance is paying for the items. Dawes stated the agreement has no monetary value and the insurance company denied the claim because the highway department was working in a county right of way.

The commissioners were assigned to the following boards:

Central Dispatch Board – Jeff Dawes
Emergency Management Advisory Council – Brian Hauptert
Grow Wabash County Board – Brian Hauptert
Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) – Brian Hauptert
Northeast Regional Partnership – Barry Eppley
Northeast Indiana Mayor & Commissioner Caucus – Barry Eppley
Personnel Administration Committee (PAC) – Barry Eppley
Plan Commission Board – Jeff Dawes
Redevelopment Commission – Barry Eppley
Region III A – Brian Hauptert
Transit Advisory Board – Barry Eppley
Tax Abatement Committee – Jeff Dawes
Public Records Commission – Jeff Dawes
Drainage Board – Jeff Dawes, Barry Eppley and Brian Hauptert
Solid Waste Management Board – Jeff Dawes, Barry Eppley and Brian Hauptert
Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals (PTABOA) – Terry Knee, Bob Lundquist and Jon Rosen
Legal Counsel for Commissioners – Mark Frantz

Eppley made a motion to approve all the above appointments. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Jim Dils, County Coordinator/HR Director, stated no Title VI concerns were heard in 2023. One ADA concern was received but due to the location, the person making the inquiry was advised to contact officials in the appropriate town.

Marcie Shepherd, County Auditor, presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 1/2/2024.
Eppley made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented.
Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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2. Payroll claims and allowances/withholdings for pay period ending 12/23/2023. Hauptert made a motion to approve the claims. Eppley seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
3. Jail Bond Packet #37 for \$247,256.00 to be dispersed. Eppley made a motion to approve the request. Hauptert seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Dawes asked if there were any ADA or Title VI concerns; none were heard.

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, January 8, 2024.

Also present: *In person*: Kandi Camomile, Cole Wyatt, Josh Petruniw, Keith Walters, Bill Burnsworth, Nikki Burnsworth, Chris Hickman, Marcella Palmer and Dave Nelson. *Via Zoom*: KBarker, Jade Hall, Brian Swihart, Theda Metzger, B Hegel and Don Jervis.

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

 _____ Jeff D. Dawes Chairman	 _____ Barry J. Eppley Vice-Chairman	 _____ Brian K. Hauptert
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Attest: 

Marcie Shepherd, Wabash County Auditor