

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 1, 2026 | 9:00 AM | Wabash County Courthouse

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tyler Niccum called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with all three Commissioners present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tyler Niccum, Jeff D. Dawes, and Cheryl Ross

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT IN PERSON: Shelly Bauccho, County Auditor, Jennifer Hicks, Sheriff Ryan Baker, Greg Harnish, Dave Nelson, Louella Krom, Cynthia Donovan, Kimberly Lundmark, Kim Shining, Bill Burnsworth, Nicky Burnsworth, Cheryl Ridgeway, Brian Campbell, Dave Terflinger, Tyler Guenin, and Kandy Barker

VIA ZOOM: phone, Amanda Shambarger, and Angie Kline

The proceedings were recorded by Auditor Shelly Bauccho.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

The minutes of the May 18, 2026, meeting was reviewed. Ross made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

Wabash County Animal Shelter Service Agreement

Auditor Bauccho presented the annual service agreement for the Wabash County Animal Shelter. This request is so they can receive the funding of \$25,000 that is in the current budget. Dawes made a motion to approve the agreement. Ross seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

Banning Engineering – Agreement for Engineering Services Plan Commission

Jennifer Hicks, Wabash County Plan Commission, presented the agreement. Hicks indicated that they have been working with Banning Engineering for reviewing and amending the zoning ordinance. The agreement is in the amount of \$20,000. The Plan Commission Board approved the agreement. Dave Terflinger asked if the Plan Commission has been going thru the agreement. Hicks stated they have been going thru the agreement and checking case laws along with diagrams. Terflinger asked if this included reviewing the internal procedures and that he feels that driving around the County that the system is failing. Terflinger asked if the Commissioners planned on hiring a part-time enforcement person to check out the complaints and make sure that the people are in compliance. Dawes stated that he doesn't feel like they're ready to hire a part-time person; however, they will discuss it during the budget time with the Council. Dawes made a motion to approve the agreement. Ross seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

COUNTY HIGHWAY

Niccum reported that the America Road is being worked on in trying to correct some identified failures. He noted that Gaunt & Sons and BFS Engineering are aware of the situation and are actively working to correct the issues.

No action taken.

COUNTY SHERIFF

Ryan Baker, Sheriff, presented photographs documenting significant weed growth in the landscaped areas surrounding the county jail. He noted that part of the landscaping when the Jail was constructed was done with weed barrier and river rock, with some areas being done with mulch. The mulch has largely washed away, resulting in weed growth that routine maintenance cannot adequately address.

Three quotes were obtained for remediation: Nates Lawn Care (\$4,470.56); American Eagle (\$5,100.00); and Hoffman's Nursey (\$5,415.90). Auditor Bauccho confirmed that funding is available in the

Commissioners' budget lawn care line item. Dawes made a motion to accept the quote from Nates Lawn Care including 32-ton of river rock. Ross seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

COUNTY COORDINATOR/HR DIRECTOR

Niccum presented the following for the coordinator:

1. **Three rental agreements for 808 Manchester Avenue** – The dates of the rentals are May 31, June 6, and June 12 and 13. Ross made a motion to approve the rental agreements. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
2. **Contract from QPH** – Greg Harnish, Maintenance Supervisor, presented the QPH Preventative Maintenance Service Contract \$45,792.00. Covers preventative maintenance on mechanical and kitchen equipment, scheduled per contract terms, with response to issues as they arise. Harnish noted the cost has been reduced from the prior year due to more work being performed in-house. In addition, there was a quote for a chiller in the amount of \$4,917.00. It is for a repair kit to keep in-house in case of an emergency. Baucco noted that this has been budgeted in the Sheriff's budget (30993-Preventative Maintenance). Ross made a motion to approve the contract and the back-up chiller. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
3. **Cottage Watchman** – Remote Camera Support Agreement An agreement with Cottage Watchman for remote camera support service was presented in the amount of \$183.60 per month. The agreement covers three county buildings: the Courthouse, the Judicial Annex, and 79 W. Main Street Dawes made a motion to approve the agreement. Ross seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
4. **Fee Schedule Amendment** – Niccum presented the Employee Health Insurance — Fee Schedule Amendment an amendment to the fee schedule for the county's self-funded employee health insurance plan. Ross made a motion to approve the fee schedule amendment. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
5. **Jones Contracting and Jeff Cox** – Presented an estimate from Jones Contracting — Installation of three cooling tower chemical system lines: \$3,317.46 and for Jeff Cox — Chemical supply and testing service: \$9,600.00 annually Chemical treatment is necessary to prevent scaling and biological growth in the cooling tower. Dawes made a motion to approve the Jones Contracting installation estimate and the Jeff Cox chemical supply and testing estimate. Ross seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Niccum informed everyone that they are getting a second opinion on the Roann Covered Bridge from Kurdziel Barker. Roann Bridge Association has acquired the engineering firm to take a second look at the bridge as a second opinion. The firm specializes in wooden bridge such as covered bridges. The Roann Covered Bridge Association is covering the fee from the engineering firm. Terflinger asked if there was a problem with the bridge. Ross stated that it is an old bridge and was suggested by the County's engineering firm to close the bridge to all traffic including foot traffic.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Shelly Baucco, Wabash County Auditor, presented the following:

1. **Accounts Payable** — Claims and allowances for dockets ending 05/25/2026 and 06/01/2026 were presented for approval. Ross made a motion to approve the claims and allowance docket. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
2. **Payroll Claims** — Claims and allowances, including withholdings, for the pay period ending 05/23/2026 were presented for approval. Ross made a motion to approve the payroll claims and allowances. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
3. **June LIT Distribution** – \$1,411,943.16 for the June, 2026, LIT Distribution to be distributed to all taxing units Dawes made a motion to approve the LIT Distribution. Ross seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.
4. **February Wheel Tax Distribution** – The February, 2026, Wheel Tax Distribution in the amount of \$29,796.08. Ross made a motion to approve the Wheel Tax Distribution. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

5. **March Wheel Tax Distribution** – The March, 2026, Wheel Tax Distribution in the amount of \$29,090.63. Ross made a motion to approve the Wheel Tax Distribution. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

6. **Supplemental LIT Distribution** – The Supplemental LIT Distribution in the amount of \$378,112.00 to be distributed to all taxing units. Ross made a motion to approve the Supplemental LIT Distribution. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0.

ADA / TITLE VI

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


CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS REVIEWED

The Commissioners reviewed the following:

- IDEM POET Biorefining North Manchester LLC notice of final decision
 - USI Consultants – Roann Covered Bridge
 - Lagro RDC Notice of Public Hearing
 - IDEM MetalX LLC DBA MetalX Wabash Notice of Final Decision
 - 68 Letters Opposed to CCS
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ADJOURNMENT

Ross made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 AM. Dawes seconded the motion; motion carries 3-0. The Commissioners will next meet on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 9:00 AM.



Jeff D. Dawes




Tyler Niccum, Chairman



Cheryl Ross

ATTEST:



Shelly Baucio, Wabash County Auditor