

January 6, 2025

The Wabash County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Wabash County Courthouse on Monday, January 6, 2025. Wabash County Auditor Shelly Bauccho called the meeting to order at 9:00am with all three Commissioners present: Jeff D. Dawes, Cheryl Ross, Tyler Niccum. The proceedings were recorded by Auditor Shelly Bauccho. Bauccho requested nominations for Commissioner Chairman. Niccum made a motion to nominate Jeff D. Dawes as Chairman for 2025. Ross seconded the motion. With no other nominations, Ross made a motion to close the nominations. Dawes seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. Bauccho then turned the meeting over to Dawes who requested nominations for Vice-Chairman. Ross made a motion to nominate Niccum as Vice-Chairman. Dawes seconded the motion and then moved to close all nominations. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

The minutes of the December 23, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Ross made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

The Commissioners were assigned to the following boards:

Central Dispatch Advisory Board – Jeff Dawes
Emergency Management Advisory Council – Cheryl Ross
Grow Wabash County Board – Tyler Niccum
Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) – Cheryl Ross
Northeast Regional Partnership – Tyler Niccum
Northeast Indiana Mayor and Commissioners Caucus – Tyler Niccum
Personnel Administration Committee (PAC) – Cheryl Ross
Plan Commission Board – Jeff Dawes
Redevelopment Commission – Tyler Niccum
Region III A – Cheryl Ross
Transit Advisory Board – Tyler Niccum
Tax Abatement Committee – Jeff Dawes
Public Records Commission – Jeff Dawes
Solid Waste Management Board – Jeff Dawes, Cheryl Ross, and Tyler Niccum
Drainage Board – Jeff Dawes, Cheryl Ross, and Tyler Niccum
Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals – Terry Knee, Bob Lundquist, and Jon Rosen

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

Cole Wyatt presented two right-of-way permit applications for Frontier. One is for the vicinity of US24 & State Road 13 and the other is for river road from the city limits to the dead end. Niccum made a motion to approve the right-of-way permit applications. Ross seconded the motion; it passed by 3-0 vote.

Sheriff Baker asked for permission to purchase two (2) new 2024 Rams special service vehicles with the police package at \$45,283.50 for each vehicle to replace two higher mileage vehicles. Either purchasing or leasing, unsure at this point. The Sheriff does have funding in his budget. Niccum made a motion to approve two vehicles. Ross seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Tyler Guenin presented the December, 2024, monthly report for the Wabash County Jail: average total prisoner county, 116; average female prisoner count, 22; average male prison count, 94; number of prisoners booked into Jail, 76; average number of bookings per month, 83; Level 6 felony sentenced females on 12/31/24, 3; Level 6 felony sentenced males on 12/31/24, 8; prisoner transports, 20; males transported to IDOC, 14; females transported to IDOC, 4; DNA collected from arrested felons, 32; misdemeanor fingerprints as ordered by the Court, 3; and inmates housed outside of County, 1.

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Guenin then presented the Annual Jail report for 2024: average total prisoner count, 144; average female prisoner count, 24; average male prisoner count, 120; number of prisoners booked into Jail, 1,001; average number of bookings per month, 83; total inmate transports, 338 (includes county to county and IDOC); males transported to IDOC, 90; females transported to IDOC, 40; DNA collected from arrested felons, 308; and misdemeanor fingerprints as ordered by the Court, 220.

Shelly Bauccho, Wabash County Auditor presented:

1. Accounts payable claims and allowances for docket ending 12/30/2024 and 01/06/2025. Niccum made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Ross seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.
2. Payroll claims and allowances, including withholdings, for pay period ending 12/21/2024. These were already signed by all Commissioners.
3. The January LIT Distribution to be disbursed to the taxing units, in the amount of \$1,131,323.76. Niccum made a motion to approve the January LIT Distribution. Ross seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

Next were bid openings for Resurfacing Projects. Niccum made a motion to close the bids. Ross seconded the motion; it passed with all ayes. Bids received were as follows:

DC Construction Services	\$1,130,535.21
E.B. Paving	\$ 916,354.28
Gaunt & Son	\$ 961,293.70
Phend & Brown	\$ 968,565.00

Niccum made a motion to take the bids under advisement. Ross seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote.

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


Dawes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 vote. The Commissioners will next meet on Tuesday, January 21, 2024, at 3:00pm.

Also present: *In person:* Clarissa Russell, Tinisha Weigelt, Rich Mofield, Chris Straub, Bill Burnsworth, Suzanne Peebles, Chris Hickman, Sam K, Anthony Sorg, Tenille Zartman, Marcella Palmer, Ashlie Schlemmer, Ryan Baker, Tyler Guenin, Brian Swihart, Kimberly Lundmark, Greg Harnish, Marcie Shepherd, Dave Nelson, John Pollard, James Derck, John Burnsworth, and Kandy Barker. *Via zoom:* Connie, Theda Metzger, Don Jervis, Blake Huston, Nicky B, Geoff Schortgen, and CLA.


Jeff D. Dawes


Tyler Niccum


Cheryl Ross

Attest: 
Shelly Bauccho, Wabash County Auditor