

WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20, 2026 | 9:00 AM | Wabash County Courthouse

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Cheryl Ross called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with two Commissioners present and one Commissioner via Zoom (Tyler Niccum).

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff D. Dawes, Cheryl Ross, and Tyler Niccum (via Zoom)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT IN PERSON: Auditor Shelly Bauccho, Bill Burnsworth, Nicky Burnsworth, Kimberly Lundmark, Kim Shininger, Chris Hickman, Conner Hindman, Josh Petruniw, and Kandy Barker.

VIA ZOOM: Connie, phone, Don Jervis, Theda Metzger, Tyler Niccum, Amanda Shambarger, and Laura Grandstaff

The proceedings were recorded by Auditor Shelly Bauccho.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

The minutes of the April 6, 2026, meeting was reviewed. Dawes made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

BEVERLY FERRY, CEO, LIVING WELL IN WABASH COUNTY – 5311-2026 First Quarter Operating Claim

Beverly Ferry, presented the 1st Quarter claim for 2026. She noted that they are on-track where they would like to be at this point in the year. She will be coming to a future meeting with the grant request for 2027 and a request for Capital grants for a new bus and a new low-floor mini-van. She indicated that they currently have three (3) low-floor mini-vans; however, they do not accommodate wider wheelchairs and there is a new design coming out and they will be looking to purchase a new one. She then presented the Accounts Payable claim for the 1st Quarter of 2026 in the amount of \$92,458.00.

Dawes made a motion to approve claim for the 1st Quarter in the amount of \$92,458.00. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

AGREEMENT FOR ABSENTEE BOARD MEMBER, MARIANNE BLAIR

Shelly Bauccho presented the agreement for Absentee Board Member, Marianne Blair, to employee Blair for the 2026 Election cycle.

Dawes made a motion to approve the agreement. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote

AGREEMENT FOR CLEANING SERVICES; SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bauccho presented the agreement for Cleaning Services at the Wabash County Sheriff's Office for Hope Niccum. Niccum has been doing the job and an agreement just needed to be signed. Mark Frantz had previously approved the agreement.

Dawes made a motion to approve the agreement. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

NATIONAL OPIOIDS SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Josh Petruniw noted that a few years ago the County joined other national opioid litigates. A new settlement has been reached with six (6) additional defendants which are wholesale drug companies. The settlement is for \$97.6 million dollars; however, the County would only receive a percentage which is estimated at \$12,434.85. If the County would choose to participate, it would grant Mark Frantz the authorized signer, on the county's behalf.

Dawes made a motion to approve the settlement agreement and to appoint Frantz the authorized signer. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote

COUNTY HIGHWAY

Ryan Smith, County Highway Superintendent gave the following updates:

- Bridge #652 – Scheduled to open at the end of July
 - Bridge #143 (1050 South) – They had meetings last week and they have revised the width of the bridge from 40 feet to 31 feet which will save the County \$200,000. The project should be starting in September. It was noted that larger equipment will still be able to use the bridge.
 - 1100 N – The resurfacing project is finishing up by next week.
 - Bridge #96 – On-site meeting next week to finalize the design work and should let in October
 - CCMG Bids will be presented at the next Commissioner’s meeting.
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COUNTY SHERIFF

Tyler Guenin, Chief Deputy, presented the 2027 CHIRP Grant Application for approval. Bauccho noted that it is a reimbursable grant and it is a grant that they have utilized for the last several years. In addition, the grant is a federal grant and will also need Council approval.

Dawes made a motion to approve the application. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

COUNTY EMA

Keith Walters, Director, gave an update on the Hazardous Mitigation plan they are currently working on. On Monday, last week, he received an update that noted they are about 53% complete. He reported that on Thursday of last week, they held a stakeholder meeting at Wabash Fire Department and compiled a list of priorities for the Counties hazardous priorities. He further noted that the plan should be done by June to submit to FEMA prior to August.

COUNTY COORDINATOR/HR DIRECTOR

Marcie Shepherd, County Coordinator/HR Director, presented a request from Roann Community Heritage, to utilize the Covered Bridge on either June 6, 2026, or June 13, 2026, to hold a fundraiser on the bridge. Ryan Smith, Superintendent of the Wabash County Highway Department, indicated that they are getting ready to do a re-inspection of the Covered Bridge as there are some concerns about occupancy on the bridge. He will update when he receives the report. The request was tabled till the next Commissioner’s meeting.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Shelly Bauccho, Wabash County Auditor, presented the following:

1. **Accounts Payable** — Claims and allowances for docket ending 04/13/2026 and 04/20/2026. Dawes made a motion to approve the claims and allowances as presented. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

2. **Payroll Claims** — Claims and allowances, including withholdings, for pay period ending 04/11/2026. Dawes made a motion to approve the payroll claims and allowances. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

3. **Semi Annual Fines and Forfeitures** — Bauccho presented the Semi-Annual Fines and Forfeitures in the amount of \$3,071.43 payable to the State of Indiana. Dawes made a motion to approve the Fines and Forfeitures. Niccum seconded the motion; it passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

ADA / TITLE VI

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

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS REVIEWED

The Commissioners reviewed the following:

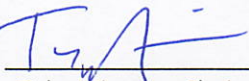
- 2025 Wabash County Jail Information Report
 - IDEM City of Wabash
 - IDEM American Strategic Metals Indiana LLC
 - 2 Letters Opposed to CCS
 - North Manchester RDC Notice of Public Hearing
 - Weights and Measures March Monthly Report
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ADJOURNMENT

Dawes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22. Niccum seconded the motion. The Commissioners will next meet on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 9:00 AM.



Jeff D. Dawes



Tyler Niccum, Chairman



Cheryl Ross

ATTEST:



Shelly Bauccho, Wabash County Auditor