

February 16, 1999

Chairman, Brian Haupert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse with all members attending. Minutes of the 2/8 meeting were approved as written, moved by Les, second by Brian, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the BENICOMP health insurance monthly report and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Les moved to approve the site recommended by the Building Study Committee for judicial facilities expansion, second by Darle, and passed. The new facility would be erected south of the Memorial Hall building. Les also moved to accept the completed Master Plan prepared by Schmidt & Associates and Scarce, Rudisel Associates, second by Darle, and passed. Last week Les attended the Museum meeting hosted by the Historical Society, and answered questions from some of the 15 people attending. There's some opposition to using the Sears building. In response to a letter from ARC director, Nancy Hoffman, Les will represent the Commission-ers on the board of the new transportation advisory council. Ms Hoffman and Debbi Schneider from the Council on Ageing are the co-chairman. Bud Winters of Winters Construction, and Commissioners were unable to survey the jury room as planned, as it was in use. Commissioners want to approve the renovation plans before work begins. Mary Ellen Rudisel of Scarce, Rudisel will meet with Winters to check the jury room.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry has submitted the snow loss application to FEMA, and we should get \$14,809.66, which is 75% of his total for his worst 48 hour period of \$19,746.21. Following discussion, Les moved to add Mississinewa Rd. bridge # 13 and Laketon bridge # 28 on CR 200 W to the federal grant application due March 1st, second by Darle, and passed. These 2 plus the Carroll St. bridge and 3 bridges in the Old St. Rd. 15 project fill the allowed 4 projects. Larry will contact vendors to get updated estimates to replace bridge # 51 in Liberty township (CR 600 E & CR 975 S). He visited the John Adams property on 11352 N 200 W to check the water problem. The road and right-of-way aren't the culprit, the property is in a low area. A side ditch and a driveway pipe probably wouldn't drain the water in the lowland area. This may be a Drainage Board Long Lake resident or Dept. of Natural Resources issue. His crews cleared the one plugged drain they found on River Road. Larry will talk to Mike Heitz, City of Wabash inspector, and visit the area himself, looking for additional buried drains as indicated by resident Marsha Strickler. Upon Larry's recommendation, Les moved to place a STOP sign on Riverwood Drive at the intersection with Baumbauer Road, second by Darle, and passed. Mr. Mattern will prepare an amendment to the road sign ordinance. Larry noted the TORT notice from Charles Marion in the amount of \$113.93. Marion contends his vehicle's side window was broken, while parked in his driveway, by snow thrown by a snow plow. Mr. Mattern will send the notice to our insurance carrier. Darle and Larry heard from a county resident who wants reimbursed for his mail box that was damaged by snow thrown by plows. The county policy on snow strikes hasn't changed. The county will replace a mail box damaged by a vehicle strike, but not a snow strike. Larry said this morning they were replacing a tile on CR 100 E between CR 500 N and St. Rd. 16, and the road went down. He doesn't yet know why, but crews are there working. He will notify the railroad that the Mill Street crossing is getting rough. Commissioners told Larry it was okay for farmers to run liquid manure thru hoses located in a county culvert, as long as the hose isn't left in the culvert and blocks drainage.

Tom Mattern, Commissioner Attorney reports Coregis Insurance intends to cover our entire defense in the Glenn Barrus lawsuit. Commissioners will set up a meeting with Don Metz to explore the need for additional representation for non covered issues.

Joe Cochran, insurance agent, and Lori Graham, Anthem representative offered health insurance coverage options for county employees. They had fully insured, binding quotes for both \$50. and \$100. deductible programs, and could have figures on other options within 24 hours. Cochran noted Anthem would agree to changing our policy year to a Jan. thru Dec. schedule, upon request. Cochran also had a non binding quote (pending additional loss history information) from Physicians Health Plan. He asked to be made the agent of record for Anthem coverage. Commissioners took the matter under advisement.

Memorial Hall and Courthouse roof projects: Mary Ellen Rudisel has reviewed the Memorial Hall work, and thinks they did a good job on the shingles and gutters. The patch to the ceiling where they almost came through from the roof, is just okay, and Les is disappointed they didn't remove the old vents, but just installed new vents beside them. Mary Ellen will look into that. Workers found an unexpected problem under the rubber roof being removed from the courthouse, and she recommends installing 3/4 inch plywood sheets to give a solid base under the rubber roof. Because the area is now flexible, the company won't guarantee the new roof. Darle moved to sign a change order in the amount of \$10,227. to add 3/4' plywood as a base, second by Les, and passed. Les noted the paint on the dome is peeling in strips, and some shingles are bleached and brittle, probably from the acid used to remove the old paint from the dome. Mary Ellen will talk with Atlas Industries, who did the renovation work in 1997. She is also looking into tower lighting options other than replacing the "barn lights" that put stress on the tower. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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Brian Haupert, Chairman

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Darle Dawes

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Lester D. Templin

ATTEST:

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Carol Stefanatos, Auditor