

April 19, 1999

Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the Commissioners meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members attending. Minutes of the 4/12 meeting were approved as written, moved by Les, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the Clerk and Treasurer's monthly reports and learned Mark Metzger has agreed to be the auctioneer for the June 25th Surplus Sale of county property. Les moved to appoint Darle to the Common Construction Wage Committee for the road to be constructed from WEDCOR to the Farr Pike, second by Brian, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the 1992 contract between the county and Converse Ambulance Service, due to their meeting with Wabash Fire Chief, Arvin Copeland last week. They took a policy change decision under advisement. They reviewed and signed the quarterly report of mandated activities compliance prepared by Emergency Management director, Paul Bergman, and learned 47 officials from Wabash & Miami counties have registered for the April 27th conference at Honeywell Center presented by the Wabash Co. Emergency Management Agency, with SEMA officials on hand for questions. A group of eight from the Sheriff's dept. shared their distress about the medical insurance increases over the last two years. They would like a committee formed from the various county departments to work with Commissioners on insurance coverage. Suggestions include county paying all but a nominal fee (paid by employee) in lieu of raises for the next two years. The group said Wabash City employees pay \$.79 per pay and North Manchester employees pay \$1.00 a year. This way the deductible could be increased to help defray county costs Commissioners agreed to meet with a committee of county employees. Gene Cooper told Commissioners there's a dead sycamore tree on Cooper Rd. north of Mill Creek Pike that should be removed before it falls on the road. The highway dept. will check it. Commissioners read a letter from Co. Highway Supervisor, Larry Rice, requesting a leave of absence without pay until May 1, 1999. Les moved to approve the leave request without pay, second by Darle, and passed. They also granted one day of bereavement pay for the loss of his aunt, in line with the employee policy manual.

Bond Flex, on the corner of Wayne & Main Streets, Laketon: Attorney Don Metz and engineer, Jim Morrison, were representing Bond Flex. They plan to erect a liquid nitrogen tank on the property, and a John Stephens survey shows the already prepared cement pad encroaches 5 inches onto the road right-of-way. Metz asked Commissioners to allow an encroachment exception while the company exists and functions, that would cease with the demise of the need of the tank. Morrison says other site locations for the tank are limited, and the primary danger with liquid nitrogen is in the handling of it, which will be minimal, due to pipe lines that will transport it from the tank to the building for use. It would be located within a fenced area, that is rumored to have been granted a special exception by Commissioners, as the fence encroaches the right-of-way. No proof of that exception was presented, however. Plan Commissioner, Chad Dilling, says the State Fire Marshall has been contacted, and must approve the tank placement. Neighbor, Bob Rager, objects to the chosen site, and says it presents an eyesore from his kitchen window. Rager suggested vacating the alley adjacent to his property and Bond Flex, and placing the nitrogen tank there. Morrison will look into that possibility, although, it places the tank farther from the building. Commissioners need additional information on the matter, and asked Bond Flex to cease construction for now.

Shelly Neal, Family Service Society, asked Commissioners to proclaim April 25 thru May 1st, National Crime Victims Rights Week. Les moved approval, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners also approved renewal of the IN Violence Against Women (IVAN) grant, whose funding is funnelled thru the county.

Carol Cly of Liberty Township, asked for the weight limit on CR 800 S and for two bridges on CR 800 S between St. Rd. 15 and Old St. Rd. 15. It appears they are culverts rather than bridges according to the bridge map, and Commissioners will look at the area.

Mary Ellen Rudisel, Scarce, Rudisel Architects met today with the MidState Construction contractor to review the Courthouse & Memorial Hall roof projects. She walked the roof with him, and her prior complaints have been fixed. They cleaned the attic and the outside skylight. They re-did the chimney, painted the trim, fixed the hatch door and seeded the lawn. She's pleased with the job now, and signed the final payment claims. She noted the skylight in the attic should be cleaned for optimum lighting, and she will talk with Atlas Building Services today, so they will know things are ready for them to re-paint the peeled area on the dome that was stripped and painted in 1997. She hasn't checked the ceiling in Memorial Hall, but they fixed and painted the vents on the roof. With no further business, the meeting adjourned, and Commissioners met in executive session with Attorney, Don Metz, to discuss a litigation matter.

Brian Hauptert, Chairman

Darle Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor