

January 2, 2002

Wabash County Auditor, Carol Stefanatos, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., with all members present, and asked for nominations for 2002 officers. Lester Templin nominated Brian Hauptert as Chairman, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Les then nominated Darle as Vice Chair, second by Brian, and passed. Brian then took charge of the meeting. Les moved to approve the 12/17 minutes as written, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket, and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the December Financial Report and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Commissioners reviewed the federal fiscal year first quarter Emergency Management Statement of Work report, presented by interim director, Bob Brown. Since it covered October thru December, 2001, Les signed the report prepared by former director, Paul Bergman. Commissioner Attorney, Tom Mattern, reports Bill Earle with Halderman Farm Management, has been appointed by Judge Vanderpool to replace one of the appraisers for the Old Rd. 15 S project. Earle will be sworn in this morning. Tom says our insurance carrier will pay him to defend the federal court case in which a former jail inmate alleges sexual discrimination. Upon the recommendation of County Clerk, Jo Ann Hettmansperger, Darle moved approval to sign a maintenance agreement with Computer Systems, Inc. (CSI) for 2002, second by Les, and passed. It covers hardware and software, for the system used by the Clerk, Courts and Probation, at a cost of \$9,770.85. Lana Bousman with Rural Community Assistance Program, introduced Sarah Reymann who will complete the grant for the Servia water upgrade project. Since the county would process the grant funds, they are the grant applicant. Brian signed standard forms regarding handicap requirements and non discrimination. Plan Commissioner, Chad Dilling, told Commissioners Mark Milam has agreed to stay on the Board of Zoning Appeals for a four year term thru 12/05 and Joe Vogel has agreed to stay on the Plan Commission Board thru 12/05. Darle moved to re-appoint both Milam and Vogel respectively, second by Les, and passed. Benjamin C. Smith, Mill Creek Estates, is interested in buying excess ground along the roadside, left as right-of-way when the addition was platted. Smith says he maintains it, now. Brian reports Surveyor, John Stephens, says it should be left as is for utilities, and Chad Dilling says it's in a flood plain because of the adjacent creek. Commissioners' consensus is that there are potential problems both now and in the future, so they won't sell it. They have no problem with Mr. Smith maintaining the area, if he wishes.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry told Commissioners, the Bridge Sufficiency Report they received from the Local Technical Assistance Program has the correct numbers, and Wabash County ranks 23rd in the state. Commissioners signed the final inspection report for the Carroll Street bridge. Steve Mc Cammack, representing the state has already signed. Les moved to accept the Elmer's Electric quote of \$10,100. to do the highway barn electrical work, second by Darle, and passed. The quotes were presented at the 12/10/01 Commissioner meeting. Larry had a letter from Bill Earle, asking the county to cover some of his expenses for a drainage project that included a road cut on CR 1050 N. Because of quick sand in the area, Eads Excavating, doing the work, placed a new line parallel to the one placed by the county about four years ago. Since the new drain won't protect the road from water run-off, Commissioners will stay with their initial agreement to finish the road with winter mix now, and asphalt in warmer weather. Larry will again check the area on CR 100 S, where water stands after a rain or ice forms in cold weather. Larry thinks opening the natural waterway, that has filled in over time, will resolve the problem, and is more cost effective than raising the road. Brian told the group the tenant of the Owsley property along CR 1300 N is urging the owner to attend a drainage board meeting to discuss his drainage problem. Commissioners asked Larry if CR 600 E or CR 350 S were rough, as the newspaper has indicated. Larry went to the area, and says it is okay, especially heading north, as was the fire truck when it overturned. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

Attest: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor