

April 15, 2002

Wabash County Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 4/8 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Jail/Judicial Center custodian hours and the Benicomp medical insurance report for March. Darle moved approval for Probation officers to attend two upcoming conferences, second by Les, and passed. A May 9th and 10th conference is free except for two nights of hotel expenses at \$194.00, and a May 24th seminar is \$300. for 3 people. Probation chief, Tina Edwards, reminded Commissioners her officers meet continuing education requirements by attending seminars. Commissioners suggested Treasurer, LuAnn Layman, get additional estimates before buying a copy machine for her office. She had one estimate for a basic, refurbished machine from Office Concepts, at \$550.00. Les suggested she check with Quill or Staples, since there's only \$500. in her Capital Outlay account. Les moved to approve submission of three claims from the Co. Extension office, second by Darle, and passed. The monthly mileage claim is \$264.64, the annual WATTS line payment is \$235.00, and the annual computer lease payment is \$2800.00. Les moved approval to submit a claim for Animal Control legal services in the amount of \$75.00, second by Darle, and passed. After review of a revised maintenance contract (one year rather than five) for the Judicial Center elevator, presented by Abell Elevator Service, Darle moved to approve a one year contract to be paid quarterly at \$505.30 per quarter, second by Brian, and passed. Brian received written notification from Lieutenant Governor, Joseph Kernan, that the county has been awarded a \$27,000.00 Community Focus Fund Planning Grant for an engineering study of Servia water needs. A \$3000. local match will come from CEDIT funds. After assurances from E-911 coordinator, Sandi Beeks, that a cooperative agreement between the county and WTH Engineering allowing WTH to share information, is for public service personnel in surrounding counties where WTH does business, Commissioners signed the agreement. Brian signed a notice to the state, advising them Butler, Fairman & Seufert (BF&S) Engineering has been selected to do the Dept. of Natural Resources' access road project on Mississinewa Road over the Mississinewa River. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, shared a list of four appraisers who do right-of-way work, all recommended by BF & S. Commissioners will check on their hourly rates and availability. Commissioners discussed the three candidates presented by the hospital board for appointment to the board. They are Dr. James Duncan, Dr James McCann and Dr. George Schneider. All candidates are aware of how the board functions, meet qualifications. Attorney, Don Metz, says Dr. Duncan doesn't officially have a conflict of interest, although he's employed by the hospital. The hospital board didn't make a recommendation. Les has spoken with all three candidates, says Dr. McCann will serve if elected, but isn't anxious to be appointed. Les doesn't see any problem with Dr. Duncan's history on the board. He also says Duncan visits other hospitals, and sees how they are run. Darle agrees Duncan has served two terms with no apparent problems. Brian thinks it might be time for a new perspective on the board, and is concerned about the board being able to function on a regular basis. Les moved to appoint Dr. Duncan for a four year term thru March 2006, second by Darle, and passed, with Brian voting nay.

County Highway, Phil Amones, assistant supervisor: Phil says a SPRINT request to bury cable looks okay as far as county property is concerned, but they may need state and railroad approval, too. Commissioners signed approval for the work on CR 800 S, beginning at St. Rd. 15 and continuing to Old Rd. 15, then north on Old 15 to CR 700 S. Phil says the department has some surplus boiler pipe, and he will research disposal options. Commissioners set May 20th at 1:30 p.m. for hearings to close unimproved roads in Liberty Township. Phil says WTH engineering sent a proposal for Geographic Information System (GIS) set up costs for the highway and Sheriff departments at \$54,000.00. Commissioners would want to talk with other firms before making a decision.

Sheriff, Tim Roberts: There are 94 in jail this morning. One of the two water heaters has sprung a leak. It's about seven years old, and will need replaced. Tim will try to use Commissary funds to replace it. He's trying to conserve on claims, and has asked Koorsen to postpone a fire extinguisher inspection for a month or so, if legally possible. Darle asked Tim to monitor the north/south trains that run through Urbana. He says often they're stopped for lengthy periods, blocking multiple crossings, usually CR 400 N and CR 300 N. Tim says he's talked to them, and they indicate they're stopped for east/west trains, but he'll watch them, and suggests area residents log the frequency of trains and length of time they're stopped. Since the law allows for extended stops for mechanical problems, they generally use that excuse, but it is a concern for emergency responses.

Judicial Center: Tanya Zoellner, with Pyramid, presented pay application # 23. She recommended some changes, holding for now the retainage release for Wolff's Insulation and Lininger Company. Les moved to approve the revised total of \$40,675.95., second by Darle, and passed. Les moved to approve a change order (C/O) for Tag Coatings in the amount of \$545., second by Darle, and passed. The money will come from Wolff's contract. Pyramid is negotiating with Quality Electric on some C/O's they've presented. Pyramid recommends the dormers, which have a cedar top coat, be left unpainted. Over time they will weather to a gray color, and not painting them won't harm the material. Since dormer's weren't in the original plan, there's no money budgeted for painting them, and Tag Coatings will charge about \$5,000. to set up scaffolding and paint them. Brian says they definitely need caulked if that hasn't been done. Campbell's Excavating will be here this week for clean-up work, and Gaunt & Son will follow with asphalt work. Brian says a drain needs added to the planter on the plaza. Tanya says at present there's an uncommitted balance of \$165,000. for the project.

Noble Township Road closings: Phil Amones presented the proposed closings to Brian and Darle, as Les left feeling ill. Several adjacent owners attended the meeting, all in opposition to having roads near them officially closed. With only two of the proposed closings uncontested, Darle moved to close Water Works road from CR 200 E, west for 6/10 of a mile, second by Brian, and passed. With one person present in support of the closing and a letter from another wanting the road closed, Darle moved to close CR 350 S from 1/2 mile east of Old St. Rd. 15 to CR 200 E, second by Brian, and passed. The rest of the proposed closings will be left as unimproved county roads, moved by Darle, second by Brian, and passed. They include: (1) CR 100 N in Section 25, Township 29 N, Range 6 E; (2) CR 450 W in Sec.20, T 27 N, R 6 E, and in Reserve 13, T 23 N, R 6 E; (3) CR 410 S in Sec 30, T 27 N, R 7 E, and in Reserve 21, T 27 N, R 7 E; (4) CR 100 W in Sec 13, T 27 N, R 6 E and in Reserve 19, T 27 N, R 6 E. With no further business, they adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darle V. Dawes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lester D. Templin

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor