

March 8, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 3/1 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the February Financial Report and the Benicomp Insurance monthly report. Brian signed the revised appraisal for right-of-way (R/W) acquisition, and removal and replacement of a fence, for the DNR project on CR 950 S and CR 300 W. Kellam Kids Farm Trust will be offered \$29,490 reduced from the original appraisal of \$37,160.00. Commissioners had feared a conflict of interest with the first appraisal. Brian noted that Quality Electric had revised the estimate for state fire marshall requested emergency lighting on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the courthouse. Les moved to accept the new quote of \$330.00, up from \$224.00, second by Darle, and passed. Les moved to sign amended Ordinance 2003-V, presented by their attorney, Tom Mattern, second by Darle, and passed. It changes the penalty wording from a Class "B" misdemeanor to a Class "B" infraction, for exceeding 40 mph on Bailey Road between CR 500 S and Old highway 15 S. Chief of Probation, Dallas Duggan, has a failing phone system bought from the Co. Hospital 1989. He presented a quote from SPRINT that would include voice mail and caller I.D. Commissioners asked him to get a quote from VERIZON, too. He's also looking into computer upgrades. Payment for both would come from Probation User Fees. Since Commissioners are still waiting for the windows to be replaced in Memorial Hall, they can't give Dallas a time frame for moving his department to Memorial Hall. Dallas still plans to fund some renovation with his User Fee funds. He told Commissioners he probably won't have enough in his fuel budget to get thru 2004, and will need to ask for an additional appropriation later in the year. Les moved approval to sign a "Severe Weather Awareness Week" proclamation presented by Bob Brown, Emergency Management director. Second by Darle and passed, it designates Mar. 14th thru 20th as the period to emphasize safety procedures. Co. Clerk Lori Draper, says two small fire proof media safes are cheaper than one large one. She proposed using IV-D Incentive funds to buy one, and 66% will be reimbursed to the county. She will use Clerk's Incentive money for the second one. Les moved approval for her to purchase, second by Darle, and passed. The Chester Township Fire department will be used as a polling site that's handicapped accessible. She still has issues in Urbana and Somerset to resolve. Lori should have an updated contract for handicapped accessible voting machines within 30 days, according to Brad King with the state election board. It will have new time frame requirements. Benicomp Insurance representatives, Allen Miracle, Joe Clark and Crystal Michael presented proposals for renewing employee health coverage. Quotes from American United Life are firm, as they are the incumbent, other quotes are contingent upon further information. With about \$250,000. in claims over an 11 month period, the county is still \$98,000. below its attachment point. Joe recommends an option with AUL that would increase the county's specific responsibility per covered individual by \$5,000.00, but cut annual fixed costs by \$29,000.00. A suggestion for the future includes implementing a "wellness program" that rewards employees for healthy lifestyles. It starts with a much higher deductible, with rewards for management of cholesterol, blood pressure, weight control and non use of tobacco products. Huntington Co. has implemented the program, and Joe suggested baseline tests about a year before implementation, so employees had ample opportunity to improve their lifestyles.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry says R.L McCoy Construction will allow school buses thru their work area twice a day, but Old Rd. 15 S near the Treaty Creek retaining wall will be closed to regular traffic during construction. He reports Metropolitan School district has requested stone for a bus turn around at the Rick Miller residence on Tipton St. extended, north of Lagro. It's a distance of at least 1/4 mile, and Larry doesn't feel it's a county responsibility. Les moved to deny the request, second by Darle, and passed. Dale Farms have requested a road cut on CR 900 N, 7/10 mile west of CR 200 W. They will do the work to run a manure line across the road, and Larry thinks the plans look okay. Les moved approval to proceed, with Dale Farms doing the work and providing the materials, second by Darle, and passed. The county will charge the usual road maintenance fee of \$100.00. Larry has received a request for guardrail on CR 300 N, east of CR 350 W, where there's a long distance of open ditch. Commissioners and Larry agreed to deny the request, as there are several similar areas around the county. Larry will look at a broken down culvert at the intersection of CR 1000 S and CR 600 E. Sheriff Striker says water and dirt are a hazard on the road. Larry had pictures from 52 W CR 900 South where he thinks any repairs would be off the R/W. There aren't any certified or regulated drains in the area. It needs cleaned out if it isn't to become a wetland. There is a culvert across the road that is working at about 1/2 capacity. He will study some more. Terry Hudson ask if there were laws or regulations prohibiting water run-off from one property to another. The drainage problem is on CR 600 W near CR 1000 N, and it is destroying his pasture. Hudson shared a video taken after rain last week. Larry will check his records on what all was done before his department double chipped and sealed the road, he knows they placed a new culvert. Commissioners will ask the Surveyor to check back records on the area, but there aren't any certified or regulated drains.

Leroy Striker, Sheriff: Leroy says the second round of grant applications for 800 MHz equipment is due 4/2/04. There will be 35 million available, and he hopes to get the balance of the 497,000. he requested in the first round. His goal is to have all county emergency services equipped for 800 MHz by summer's end. Schenkel/Shultz architects toured the jail last Friday, and will get a plan proposal for a Community Corrections program back to the county in a week. Striker has major concerns about jail over population, 110 in jail today, never below 104 last week. The judges agreed to his request to refuse offenders serving week-end sentences, last week-end. They will have to make up the time when the jail census is down. The work release program could accommodate 15 to 20 offenders, who wouldn't have to be incarcerated. He suggested moving Emergency Management (EMA) to the courthouse 2nd floor or the Lagro Fire Dept. and Community building. Leroy said Lagro would welcome EMA and make space to accommodate it. Either move could be completed for less than \$1,000. and the reverse 911 system could stay at the jail. He can't proceed with Community Corrections until EMA is relocated, there's not room for both in the jail basement, and the program can't be staffed without additional employees if it's located away from the jail.

Highway truck bids: At 10:00 A.M. Les moved to close the bidding for both a single axle and tandem axle truck, second by Darle, and passed. Truck bids included: (1) Erik's Chevrolet, Kokomo; (a) \$84,500. for a 2004 C-8500 Chevy demo, equipment included; (b) 2004 single axle at \$49,850.; (c) 2004 tandem axle at \$57,550.; (2) Wise International, Fort Wayne (a) 2005, 7400 series single at \$56,532.09 and (b) 2005, 7400 tandem at \$63,496.48; (3) Selking International, Decatur, IN; (a) 2005, 7300 series single axle at \$54,182.61, (b) a 2005, 7400 series tandem at \$74,901.92; (4) Hill Truck Sales, South Bend; (a) 2005, L 7500 Sterling single axle at \$54,855.00 and (b) a 2005 Sterling tandem at \$62,375.00; (5) Weir International, Logansport; (a) 2005, 7400 series single axle for \$55,477.00 and (b) 2005, 7400 series tandem for \$63,274.00; (6) Denney Motor Sales, Wabash; 2004 GMC single at \$50,106.00 and (b) a 2004 GMC tandem at \$55,670.00; (7) Circle City GMC, Indianapolis; (a) 2005, C-8500 single axle for \$52,488.00 and (b) 2005, C-8500 tandem for \$57,688.00. Equipment bids for the trucks are: (1) Deeds Equipment, Lawrence, In; \$27,445. for single axle equipment and (b) \$27,364 for tandem equipment plus an hydraulic system option for either unit at \$2,738.00; (2) W.A. Jones, Columbia City; (a) single axle equipment at \$25,973.00 and (b) tandem equipment at \$29,985.00; (3) Fort Wayne Fleet Equipment Co., Roanoke; (a) \$28,221.00 for a 10 ft. dump body and (b) \$26,032.00 for a 13 ft. dump body, (c) \$5,112. for a V plow, (d) \$ 1,174. upcharge for a plow option and (e) \$3,305. for hydraulics upgrade. (4) Northern Equipment, Plymouth; (a) \$25,522. for 10 ft. body and (b) \$33,207. for a 13 ft. body. Les moved to take all bids under advisement, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners thanked all for their participation. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST:

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor