

July 19, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 7/12 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's June Report, the Weights & Measures Monthly Report and the Jail/Judicial Center custodian hours. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, thanked Commissioners for attending the court hearing where Judge Pro Tem, Robert Mc-Callen, ruled in favor of moving funds from the Letha Jackson estate designated for the County Farm Home, to the Cumulative Capital Development Fund, since the Co. Farm no longer exists. Funds will be used to renovate the third floor of the Memorial Hall building, and a plaque commemorating the Jackson bequest will be placed in the hallway. Tom will get the judgement docket to the Auditor. Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) director, Mary Ellen Clark, got Commissioner and Auditor signatures, as the county financial officers to process her grant funds. She was granted \$5,000. less than she got this year, and has adjusted her budget accordingly, eliminating attending a national seminar along with other budget cuts. Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) director, Trula Frank, presented her 2005 budget for review. Funding comes from the 5% Innkeeper tax. The pro-posed budget is \$75,000.00, down from \$86,000.00 this year and \$91,000.00 in 2003. She made cuts across the board, noting the biggest expense is administrative, with advertising second. Moving to the new museum building has been positive, but expenses have increased. She gave each Commissioner a visitors packet and thanked them for their continuing support. EMA director, Bob Brown, reports repairs to the brakes on the 1988 sand trailer will run \$780.00. He will ask Co. Council for an additional appropriation of \$600.00 next Monday, but costs are higher than he anticipated. He could buy a new trailer for about \$1,000.00, and suggests that might be the wiser course. Commissioners withheld a decision until Brown learned the trade-in value of the 1988 trailer. County Clerk, Lori Draper, asked Commissioners to authorize her to apply for voting system reimbursement on behalf of Wabash County. Les moved to approve Resolution IV-2004, designating Lori, second by Darle, and passed. Lori said Micro Vote added a clause to their contract with the county that voids the contract, if funds aren't forthcoming. Lori is out of space in her file cabinets, and Les moved approval for her to buy a file cabinet, second by Darle, and passed.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: There are 59.6 miles of chip and seal completed, but funds are dwindling. He has an additional appropriation request for the 7/26 Council meeting. Two structures are in place on the Old Rd. 15 S project, one is at Matlock Cemetery and the other is south of CR 400 S. Over half of the asphalt base is down. The only potential hold up is relocation of VERIZON lines. Larry says an inadvertently cut line, left several without phone service for up to three days last week. Even the phone company had trouble locating their line. Larry thinks the project is moving along well. He says a scheduled meeting with utility companies, set for 7/27 at 10:00 A.M. at the highway department, is a positive step toward bid letting on Phase II of the Old 15 project. Butler, Fairman & Seufert Engineers (BF&S) have sent plans to INDOT for bridges and structures on Phase II, including bridges # 10, 11 and 910, and structures # 25 and 43. Toby Steffan, with BF&S, says Phase II progress is in the hands of additional acquisition appraisers right now. Larry continues to press for a fall bid let on Phase II, allowing utilities to relocate over the winter, with construction beginning next spring. Steffan reports suggested re-engineering of a hill in Phase III of Old 15 S, would adversely affect an adjacent owner by substantially altering the grade in their driveway. After learning about Steffan's meeting with the property owner, Les moved to stay with the original engineering plans for the project, second by Darle, and passed. Darle feels requests for changes would escalate as the project continues. Toby presented a letter indicating the county has selected BF&S for the Bridge # 13 project. He said Matt Bobay and Chad Weitzel will oversee the project. Les moved to sign the letter designating BF&S for the project, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners also approved Bobay & Weitzel as site foremen. Larry says two requests from VERIZON look okay so Commissioners signed the requests, and one copy will go to the Surveyor. One job is to bore under the road at 4285 W Mill Creek Pike, the second is to bury cable in the right-of-way along CR 800 N from 5628 E to 5730 E 800 N, a distance of 690 feet, to replace existing cable. Larry says tandem truck # 7, a 1997 GMC with 121,000 miles, is in the shop for service, and he has authorized pulling the head to check the cylinder. He sent a letter to North Central Cooperative and Mr. Beckel, asking them to share the cost of road repairs around the Beckel property. Mike Garrett, who lives two miles east of Speicherville on CR 200 N, shared his concern about a drainage problem. Water from the south side of the road drains on his property on the north side, and causes serious driveway erosion. He suggested if the tile under CR 200 N, which now drains to a catch basin on his property, was diverted to the east, it could be directed to a natural drop-off about 100 feet from the road. Larry will look at it, and likely shoot the elevation, before he makes any recommendations

Leroy Striker, Sheriff: There are 91 in jail this morning. Repairs are being made to the heating and cooling system this morning. There was a leak that needed immediate attention. Payment will come from the Co. Corrections funds. Sheriff Striker is concerned about the condition of the curb across from the jail on Main Street, and will notify city officials. He's worried someone will fall. He also asked about placing ivy along the crumbling wall south of the Judicial Center. The area is unattractive, and there's run-off and erosion from rain water. Commissioners noted they got quotes a few years ago to remove the wall, but felt it was too expensive. They have no problem with the Sheriff's suggestion. The leased vehicles have arrived and are being equipped. Sheriff Striker mentioned the fatal accident over the week-end, and urged farmers to keep crops trimmed at intersections for better visibility and safety.

Memorial Hall Renovation: Jeff Kumfer with Searce & Rudisel Architects, reviewed quotes for the work, with Commissioners. DT Construction of Silver Lake is the low bidder, and met all the bid requirements. Searce & Rudisel have worked with them before, and Jeff has learned DT is comfortable they can complete the job for the bid amount. Commissioners, along with Chief of Probation, Dallas Duggan, reviewed the alternative proposals, and agreed to include option # 2 and deduct item # 6. Item # 2 installs an electric water cooler for \$748.00, and item # 6 is a deduction of \$3,477 for acoustic changes. Dallas wants the work areas sound proofed. Communication and security adjustments will require a separate contractor and additional expenses. Jeff says there won't be any more changes than necessary to the new HVAC system. DT Construction's quote indicates work will start within one week of signing a contract, and be substantially completed within 60 days. Les moved to accept the DT Construction quote, after adding alternate # 2 and deducting alternate # 6, which places the quote at \$109,392.00, second by Darle, and passed. With no further business, the meeting recessed,

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor