

September 2, 1997

Commissioners met in regular session in the courthouse at 9:00 A.M. with all present. Minutes of the 8/25 meeting were approved as written, motioned by Les, second by Darle and passed. Commissioners reviewed the August Financial Statement, Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours and the Clerk's and Treasurer's monthly reports. The Auditor advised the county has received a refund for \$2,458.40, from the Indiana Dept. of Transportation for the bridge over Grant Creek on Main Street in LaFontaine. Commissioners reviewed and accepted the quote from Wabash Abstract and Loan Company to do property searches on tax sale properties due to be deeded to the county. Their bid is \$90.00 each for 5 searches. Les motioned to accept the quote, second by Darle and passed. Les reported he reviewed the courthouse evening lock-up, which starts in the basement, and ends at the north doors. He was comfortable with the routine, as long as the last door is not locked before 4:00. Commissioners discussed a letter from the Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF) which requests the verification by County Council members that the jail custodian position, held by Dick Smith for the last 10 years is a full time job. The letter is in response to an application to grant Dick 5 years past credit in the program. Commissioner's, who made that offer when they hired him for the full time position of Jail/Memorial Hall custodian, feel the Council should not sign.

Larry Rice, Highway Dept.: Reports the Urbana chip and seal work is completed, and some residents claimed their vehicles were nicked by stones in the process. The department notified Urbana residents they were coming to do the job, and Larry will notify the insurance company. To date 99.6 miles of chip and seal have been completed this year. In regards to the request to change the yeild sign to a stop sign at the CR 1150 N and CR 275 W intersection, Larry will watch the traffic flow for a while before deciding. Larry hasn't heard from Herb Underwood yet, in regards to the repair of the 600 E bridge. Before the county accepts U.S. 24 E from the state, we need to have a repair estimate for the bridge. Commissioners feel it might be best to have the state fix the bridge before the county accepts Highway 24. County Surveyor, John Stephens, says the abandoned bridge on CR 600 E is not a regulated ditch, so there is not 75 feet of right-of-way there.


Charlie Alvey and Alan Jones of Bernardin & Lochmueller: Mr. Jones presented his report on the Odgen Road project. His alternative suggestions range from a \$16,000. road widening project to ease the curve, to an \$89,000. re-construction proposal. The road widening would alleviate the curve danger, and could probably be done by local highway crews. It would require less land acquisition, but the bigger project would produce a safer solution. The Commissioners will review the report.

Allen Miracle, BENICOMP Insurance: Commissioners signed an agreement for life insurance coverage for county employees. Coverage is \$5,000. to the age of 65, and \$4,000. there-after. Many policies continue to decrease after the age of 65, down to \$2,500. Allen has certificates for each enrolled employee, indicating their insurance coverage.


Riverwood Estates: John Stephens showed plans of the construction of the road into Riverwood Estates, and asked Commissioners to allow a varience on the requirements for county acceptance of the road. ^{Les} Darle motioned to allow a 3 inch base asphalt topped with a 1 inch layer of asphalt surface before the county will accept the road. ^{Les} second the motion and it carried. _{DARLE}


Pat Lynn and Nancy Christie regarding Section 5311 Transportation Grant Request: The grant is being re-filed with amended figures. When questioned what would happen to the project if federal funds cease, they responded the program would be dropped. Chairman Hauptert signed the grant request.

The courthouse dome project was completed over the week-end, when the Atlas crew re-painted the basement floor due to paint tracking. Commissioners expect to have a final report from architect, Mary Ellen Rudisel, soon. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Brian Hauptert, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Lester Templin

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor