

August 18, 1997

Commissioners met in regular session in the courthouse at 9:00 A.M. with all attending. Minutes of the 8/11 meeting were approved as written, motioned by Les, second by Darle and carried. Commissioners discussed the concern of a county resident that the Courthouse is locked before 4:00 p.m., and some employees were not helpful at closing time. Commissioners feel that employees should graciously accomodate late customers, and in general, they do. They will recommend that doors not be locked prior to 4:00. Commissioners reviewed Memorial Hall/Jail custodian hours, and were advised the books stored in the 4th floor storage room were filthy due to the door being left open for use of an electrical outlet by the crew working on the dome repairs.

Larry Rice, Highway dept.: Larry reports Wayne Bechtold's water problem is either a private concern or a drainage board matter, as the county area is clear. Larry says INDOT sent an invoice for additional funds due on the Beldon bridge project in the amount of \$4,460.32. An additional appropriation will be necessary, as the account has been closed since the project was completed several years ago. Herb Underwood and Bob Luce of Butler Fairman & Seufert, conferred, and determined the money is due the state. The bridge (box culvert) on 600 E at 975 S needs work. I-beams are rusting, and there is some wash-out. Larry will do some temporary patching with sakrete, but he thinks an engineer should check it. Larry is expecting a letter from INDOT any day with a report and recommendations on the drainace inspection on old St. Rd. 24. Crews cleared

15 trees downed in the storm Saturday night, and were out until 4:30 in the morning. Back later in the day, Larry had received another INDOT bill for Bridge 32, over Eel River on CR 400 W. in the amount of \$2,227.96. If research shows this is due, there will have to be an additional appropriation, as this account has been closed. <sup>\$2228.00</sup>

Myron Smithers, a Lukens Lake resident, spoke to Commissioners of his concern for the safety of area children, due to a bridge without railings. Following some research and discussion, it was decided the bridge is on private property, and the responsibility of the resort owner.

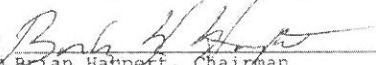
Tim Roberts, Sheriff: There are 77 in jail this morning. Eight from the department are now trained to use intoxalizer machines. Tim reported Dr. Hahn has reviewed the Medical Services Agreement, and requested two minor changes. He wants the terminology to read medical assistant rather than nurse practitioner, and he wants to hire and be responsible for the assistant. The assistant will screen inmates at the jail in some instances before they are referred to the doctor. Commissioners agreed to the changes following discussion with County Attorney, Tom Mattern, and Darle motioned to sign the agreement, second by Les and carried. Quality Electric is repairing the garage door opener at the jail, and thru the internet they have located a carbuerator for the old civil defense jeep

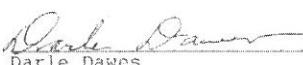
Rick Eppley, working on the plugged drain on the courthouse east side, found cola cans, a rubber glove and heavy string blocking the drain. Commissioners will speak with Atlas Industries supervisors concerning the matter. Drain appears repaired, as a heavy concentration of water dumped in by the Noble Township fire department, drained without incident.

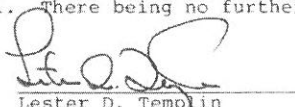
Dr. Azim Nassimi, Combined Benefits Services: Reported findings from a mini survey he conducted among county employees. Twenty-five of thirty-four responded they were interested in hearing about benefits offered by his company. Les motioned to offer the program to those interested, as long as a minimum of 20 employees enroll, second by Darle and passed. Auditor request that the program not be instituted prior to January of 1998, was approved. Salaried enrollment personnel will interview county employees individually, and give personal financial benefit status upon request.

Florence Dahlstrom and Virginia Reahard, Animal Shelter: Virginia is overburdened and requests one part-time employee (Rhonda Frazier) be increased to full time status, and made assistant warden, and the second part-time employee be given 55 hours bi-weekly. Virginia would need an additional appropriation to cover the remainder of 1997. Les noted board member, Gary Wood, had indicated Virginia needed more help. Other alternatives include offering fewer services or charging individual towns for services. Commissioners approved presentation of this request to the County Council.

Commissioners reviewed a complaint about Probation Department personnel with Chief Probation officer, Tina Edwards, and directed the Auditor to inform the individual they should refer their concerns to Judge Sposeep or Judge Vanderpool. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

  
Brian Hauptert, Chairman

  
Darle Dawes

  
Lester D. Tempin

ATTEST:   
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor