

April 7, 1997

Commissioners met in regular session with all members present. Chairman, Brian Hauptert called the meeting to order, and minutes from the 3/31 meeting were approved as corrected, motioned by Les, second by Darle, and passed. Corrections are: regarding the work release program in the jail basement, only part of the space will be used for the program, and the road trip included CR 1000N open ditch and CR 200 W near the Career Center.

Reviewed unsigned letter outlining complaints against some Highway and Sheriff department employees.

Larry Rice, Highway Dept.: Bridge # 19 on 1000 N needs underpinned. A private tile that drains into the Myers ditch is plugged. Larry is going to check to see if it's plugged under the road, but the problem may be on private property. Bill Earle, has a road cut request for 500 N at 400 W. Larry will do some research. Larry has a request for side ditching along 700 W north of St. Rd. 114 to eliminate water problems. He says it looks like a wetlands area, and advised permission from the Dept. of Natural Resources would have to be obtained before he could do anything. Regarding purchase of new highway truck to replace one lost in February accident, Les motioned to purchase automatic transmission truck estimated by Denneys at \$45,100.00, adding power window on the passenger side for better visibility in bad weather, and, provided estimate price is still effective. Seconded by Darle, the motion passed. The low-boy truck, scheduled to be retired, ~~before the February accident~~, continues to be plagued by mechanical problems, now it's the brakes. Brian wants the paperwork history on the truck. Larry reminded Commissioners much of the equipment is quite old and he's trying to keep it going. Many of the problems were there before he was hired at the department, and constant supervision would not prevent breakdowns. Max Owen, highway dept. night watchman, was pinned between his truck and the building Sunday evening, when his truck slipped out of gear after he started it to warm it up at the end of his shift. Larry insisted Max visit his doctor this morning for a check.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: A plumber is working on an estimate for the potential work release center in the jail basement. Tim's still working on the E-911 transmission problem with the Converse fire department, and his insurance company has hired attorney, Karen Pollack, to look into the potential Mosier lawsuit. Also discussed among Tim, County Attorney, Tom Mattern, and the Commissioners was the TORT notice from Virginia Nelson.

Bill Bradley, WEDCOR: Bill presented the mandatory bi-annual Capital Improvement Plan. Some projects involve the county and WEDCOR. There are no new county commitments in the next two years. Les motioned to approve the plan, second by Darle and passed. Chairman Hauptert signed for the county. Darle requested Bill look into amount of funds being returned to the county from the state. He feels it doesn't go up proportionately with the increase in wages and the amounts sent to the state originally. Regarding the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor, Bill left copies of the 1997 Mission Statement. It lists 1996 accomplishments and 1997 goals. Bill says the Logansport to Fort Wayne section is ready for funds, while the Lafayette to Logansport part still is in the preparation stages.

Brian signed the 1997 agreement between the North Central Indiana Private Industry Council and the North Central Indiana Local Elected Officials. It is pursuant to the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982, and its purpose is to establish and operate a comprehensive employment and training service delivery system according to JTPA and Federal regulations promulgated to implement JTPA. Counties involved are: Cass, Fulton, Howard, Miami, Tipton and Wabash.

Probation Department: Ron Harris, custodian, reports the main water line into the building has had two separate leaks repaired. He recommends replacing it, and Commissioners advised he get a couple of estimates, and then have it replaced. It's got a three inch line, now, and can probably be replaced with a smaller size line.

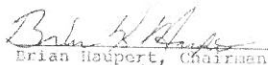
Board of Zoning Appeals: Darle motioned to appoint Mark Milam to the board to fill the vacancy of recently deceased member Walter Kiser, second by Les, the motion carried. Mark will complete the term which expires in December of 1998.

Delinquent Personal Property Collections. Commissioners signed a contract with Atlas Collections, Inc. of Muncie to do the work. The contract may be cancelled by either party upon 30 day notice.

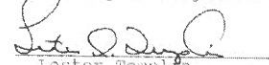
Auditor Office flooring: Les motioned that the project be completed to prevent any injuries, second by Darle, the motion carried. In a related matter Commissioners approved installation of a sink in the Auditor's office donated by Marguerite Guenin.

Courthouse south steps and curbs: Dick Smith cleared loose stone from the steps. He says the steps and curbs are in need of repair.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the Accounts Payable Voucher Register, the Payroll Claim and allowance Pocket, the Payroll Check Register and hours for Jail/Memorial Hall custodian, Rick Smith. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Brian Hauptert, Chairman


Darle Daves


Lester Tempish

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, auditor