

March 31, 1997

Commissioners met in regular session with all in attendance. Les motioned to approve the 3/24 minutes as written, second by Darle, the motion passed.

Larry Rice, Highway Dept.: Received check from Truman Distributions, Inc. for Carroll Street bridge damage. Bridges 19 and 102 are both in need of work, Hank Bilts has most of the log jam clearing done near the Roann bridge, shingles and most window caulking are done on salt shed at the highway department and 650 E creek project is waiting on an estimate from Hank. Hank is doing some private contract work on the John Unger property near Richvalley, and requested Commissioner approval and phone line location for him to clear out around a ditch while he already has his equipment there. Commissioners agreed, and Larry got the line location.

Tom Mattern, County Attorney: Advised Commissioners of a possible lawsuit filing where the county might be responsible if there was a monetary recovery, and an investigation of a vicious dog problem alleged by two residents. He will monitor both issues.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: Tim had a rough draft of the proposed conversion of the jail basement to a work release center. It would appear space requirements would allow for up to as many as 32 residents. Much of the construction could be done within the department, cutting expenses, and he anticipates an income of \$75,000.00 plus, annually. Inmates would take care of housekeeping, and any infractions would send them back upstairs and out of work release. He and Les discussed security measures needed. The new Lumina is in, it will be used as a regular squad car, but Tim is looking into sponseors to advertise on it, so it can also be used in parades. Responding to a question, Tim says Deputy Rick Monce is living on the Girl Scout grounds, rent free, for security reasons, at the request of the Girl Scout Council. Tim also said the jail would become smoke free when the cigarettes in the commissary are gone.

Alfred Plummer, Prosecutor: Explained grant request seeking funds to hook into the Prosecutor's Management System. This would cross reference prosecutor files throughout the state. He's also applied for funds from the Build Indiana Fund, and if his applications are not approved, he won't proceed with the project. Total cost would be about \$8,300.00.

David Mowery of Indianapolis, requested permission from the Commissioners to contact Wabash County Hospital authorities concerning the formation of a regional care center that would include Wabash County Hospital. Commissioners advised Mr. Mowery to use his discretion, as they leave the running of the hospital to the experts.

Courthouse dome repair: Regarding Atlas recommendation for additional preparation work before repainting the dome, Les motioned to choose option Three, which includes replacement of some metal panels, chemical removal of old paint, priming of all sheet metal surfaces with zinc chromate enriched primer and finish with a two part coating. Cost for this additional work is \$34,451.00. Seconded by Darle, the motion was approved. Commissioners must request additional funds from the County Council to cover the additional costs.

Commissioners went on a road trip to check out some of the recent concerns. They were to visit CR 1400 N between 100 W and 200 W, Richvalley, Bechtol ditch on 1175 N, CR 150 W, CR 1000N open ditch, 700 E just south of Rd. 218, CR 650 E, CR 1000 N east of St.Rd. 13, River Road off Pike Street and CR 200 W near the Career Center.

Commissioners reviewed the Clerk's monthly report, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Brian Hauptert, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Lester Templin

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor