

March 17, 1997

Commissioners met in regular session with all present. Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order, and Darle motioned to approve the 3/10/97 minutes as written, second by Les, the motion carried.

Larry Rice, County Highway: Bridge 401, Lagro, project will be delayed at least two weeks due to contractor personal tragedy. Commissioners signed a road cut request from PSI at 7275 W River Road, Roann. Larry received a check from ConRail for \$2,900, which completely re-inburses the county for turn around work on Meridian Road. On both 1000 N and 700 E just south of ~~200 E~~ there are open ditch problems. Larry needs to know if these are controlled ditches, as they need work. Eel River clean-up project group requested fees for trucks to haul trash to the landfill. Larry gave figures for fuel and overtime labor. Don Strickler, River Road, Wabash, contacted Larry about standing water near his home. Problem affects three dwellings, then runs across the road. Solution needs explored. High water near the Career Center looks to be within City of Wabash jurisdiction, but highway dept. may need to clean side ditch where it's draining slowly. Larry is looking at Force-Feed Loaders, and the options between leasing and purchasing. Commissioners lean toward purchasing. Larry agreed on a settlement with insurance on truck/train accident in February, \$8000. (less \$500. deductible) and the damaged truck. Darle concerned with the condition of some highway dept. equipment, and feels there needs to be more supervision on the job sites.

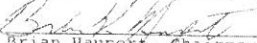
County Attorney, Tom Mattern: Regarding Carroll Street bridge project, Ed Potts has graciously agreed to donate a piece of his property to the county for the project, but requested language in the deed, guaranteeing him ingress/egress access to his property. Mr. Mattern and Bob Luce of Butler, Seufert and Fairman will confer on it.

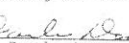
Tim Roberts, Sheriff: Les motioned and Darle seconded approval to pay two E-911 claims totaling \$210.00 for an additional line to access courthouse E-911 records. The motion carried. A jail inspector was here last week, and he and Tim discussed possibility of converting jail basement into a center for the work-release program. It would require some construction, and one additional employee, but would alleviate some of the over-crowding problems. Kosciusko Co. has this program, and Tim will talk to them. Commissioners feel it's worth looking in to, and Tim will look in to cost estimates.

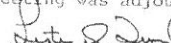
Chad Dilling, Plan Commission: Regarding street and road vacations, Chad recommends property owners requesting vacations hire attorneys to represent them. Commissioners agreed. Regarding culverts under new driveways, Chad will prepare a form that would require highway department signature following inspection and recommendation of the size culvert needed. Commissioners agreed.

Accrued vacation time for county employees: Due to new employee policy that took effect July 1, 1997, some employees have unused vacation time. Commissioners will notify the employees by mail, that they must have this resolved by the end of 1998, or lose them.

Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's Monthly Report, and part-time jail and Memorial Hall custodian hours, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Brian Hauptert, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Lester Templin

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor