

March 3, 1997

Commissioners met in regular session with all present. Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order, and minutes from the 2/24 meeting were approved as written. Motioned by Darle, second by Les and approved.

Ambulance Service Fees: Connie Hall, on behalf of her auto insurance company, questioned the possibility of excessive charges for service runs. The commissioners will look into the matter.

Larry Rice, Co. Hwy Dept.: Commissioners signed two requests for buried cable. Sweetser Phone Co., requested one on 1200 S, beginning at St. Rd. 15, proceeding west on 1200 S for one mile. GTE request begins at CR 200 E and proceeds west for 2407 ft. on CR 1400N. A new culvert has been ordered for 250N east of 650E, and trenching helped with 1400 N water problem, but it's not the solution. Several culverts are plugged throughout the county, and Highway Dept. will work on them as they have time. Larry announced 4-H Fair Board granted approval to pile brush chips along Grover Street, at the fairgrounds. This would be available for public use.

Health Dept.: Regarding hospital requests for Certified Copies of Death Certificates. Since institution of Health Dept. Fee schedule, hospital is being charged, and they're not happy. Research indicates surrounding county health departments don't get requests from hospitals for death certificates, as they use the Provisional Notification of Death forms, according to state officials. Commissioners feel a copy of the Health Dept. Official Guidelines should be forwarded to the hospital, and if they still request certified copies, then it's O.K. to charge as per fee schedule.

Commissioners approved Health Dept. request for an additional phone due to large volume of incoming calls. There will not be an additional line added.

Pat Lynn, Personnel Director, City of Wabash: Invited Commissioners to a meeting exploring the feasibility of establishing a low cost clinic in our area. Also, representing Paradise Springs, Pat requested agreement from Commissioners that she return a grant from the state which requires matching funds which have not been raised. The grant was to be used to remove and restore the Carroll Street bridge for posterity. Commissioners agreed, as there are no funds available. Several groups have shown interest in the project, such as the Dept. of Natural Resources and IN Dept. of Transportation, but have no financial resources, says George Rhoads of rural Wabash. Commissioners also gave approval to Pat's request to launch a feasibility study on transportation needs in our area.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: Will schedule a meeting of the E-911 Board this month. Reported on a recent court ruling that will absolve county of responsibility for medical expenses for pre-existing illnesses of jail inmates.

Bob Luce, Butler, Fairman & Seufert: Reports Phase I of Old St. Rd. 15 project is ready for bid-letting, whenever the state has money available. Projects the earliest starting date on Carroll Street bridge would be Nov. 1997.

Ann Gillespie, Co. Treasurer: Introduced Al Holdren with Atlas Collections, Inc. of Muncie and John Stallsmith and Patty Kaylor with Helvey & Assoc., Inc. from Warsaw. Both companies are retained by counties to collect delinquent personal property taxes. There would be no cost to the county, as collection agency fees would be added to the delinquent fees already due. Commissioners took the matter under advisement.

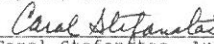
Allen Miraclo, Van Buskirk-Insurance Managers: Introduced BeniComp Inc. President, Douglas J. Short and Vice President, R. Neil Ropp. Group presented a health insurance plan that could put the city and county employees under the same umbrella of coverage.

Commissioners signed Accounts Payable Voucher Register, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Brian Hauptert, Chairman

  
Darle Dawes

  
Lester Templin

ATTEST:   
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor  
Wabash County