

March 6, 2000

Commissioner Chairman, Brian K. Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners Conference Room, with all members present. Minutes of the 2/28 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and carried. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Accounts Payable Voucher Register, and reviewed the February Financial Report and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Commissioners agreed to pay the one year maintenance fee of \$900. for the Canon copy machine in the Extension Office, and used by offices in the basement. Commissioners reviewed and signed the first quarter report completed by Paul Bergman, Emergency Management director. C. Robert Elrod, our representative on the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission, reports a brochure of historic sites along the river corridor is being prepared for distribution, and asked if the county would like to contribute up to \$1,000. towards the project. Commissioners suggested Bob contact Trula Frank at the Wabash Convention and Visitors Bureau, to see if she has any uncommitted funds. Bob also said the National Highway Department has started a grant program in an effort to save and relocate iron bridges. Bob left information on the program with the Auditor.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Department: Part of CR 700 W will be closed 3/7 for culvert replacement. Larry says his mowers are a 1992 and 1995, and the 1995 is okay for now. The "92" has 3,822 hours on it. The 1985 GMC truck being replaced has 184,000 miles on it, and the grader and roller need considerable work to be put back in working order. Larry has contacted vendors to get separate cost updates for underseal work on CR 175 E and CR 300 E. Each area covers about one mile of roadway. Larry says a road cut request from Energy Inc. looks okay. Energy Inc. will provide the pipe and backfill for the pipe that would be installed three feet below the lowest point in the side ditch. Commissioners signed approval for the cut. Larry and Commissioners reviewed the standing policy concerning broken tile along county roadways. If it's on private property, it's the owners responsibility to repair it.

Insurance Committee members met with Commissioners at 1:00 p.m., and shared their informal poll results concerning employee preferences for insurance coverage in the new policy year. The results of those responding, although sketchy from the Sheriff's department, were 35 who wanted at least one of the additional options of Wellness, Dr. Co-pay or Rx card, and 34 who wanted no changes. There is concern among Commissioners that the County Council might reject an additional appropriation request to cover the cost of additional coverage thru 2000. Committee members, excluding Commissioners and Co. Council member, Paul Sites, voted unanimously to opt for no changes for the plan year that begins 4/1/00. Members asked that additional money be budgeted for 2001 to allow for additional coverage in the next plan year. No further meetings are planned at this time. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor