

JANUARY 6, 2003

Wabash County Auditor, Carol Stefanatos, called the first meeting of the year to order and asked for nominations for Chairman. Darle Dawes moved to nominate Lester Templin chairman for 2003, second by Brian Haupert. Brian moved to close the nominations, second by Darle, and passed. Lester was selected chairman, with Brian and Darle voting aye and Les voting nay. Brian nominated Darle for vice chair, second by Les. Brian moved to close the nominations, second by Les, and passed. Darle will serve as vice chair by unanimous vote. Les took charge of the meeting, and Brian moved to approve the 12/23/02 minutes as written, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the December Financial Report, the Treasurer's November Report and the Judicial Center/Jail custodian hours. Brian moved to approve Sheriff, Leroy Striker's bond, second by Darle, and passed. Les signed acceptance. Prosecutor, Bill Hartley, asked Commissioner approval for himself and two investigators to attend a child support seminar this summer in Evansville. Although he doesn't yet know the cost of the two night meeting, the expenses for one investigator will be covered, as she is the alliance president. Commissioners agreed to the request. Probation Chief, Dallas Duggan, replacing Tina Edwards-Willey, who resigned her post, explained a TORT notice filed by Justin Graves against the Probation department and the Commissioners. Graves contends he was erroneously arrested for alleged probation violation. Duggan had data for Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern. Dallas asked Commissioners about plans for the Probation department, and they said they hope to have them relocated to Memorial Hall this year. Dallas said he might have some user fee funds he could contribute to renovation costs, if approved by the judges. Dallas said probation officers are required to have a minimum of 12 hours of continuing education per year, and the Co. Council removed all funds from that account for 2003. Commissioners accepted his offer to pay for continuing education with user fee funds. Commissioners told a representative of White's Window Cleaning Service of Peru, they need a quote for cleaning the inside windows of the lobby area in the Judicial Center. That includes the east facing wall of glass, and windows overlooking the lobby on the second and third floors. White estimates about \$900. for the job, that will require scaffolding. He notes he is insured. The Auditor is to get a written quote to White for signatures. Emergency Management director, Bob Brown, presented his first quarter fiscal report for review and signatures. He reported there were 6,754 hours of paid and volunteer work in his fiscal year that runs October thru September. He says they will probably have an exercise in April. Les signed the report. Commissioners approved final payment on the lease/purchase agreement for the department's 2000 vehicle. Brown says there's about 27,000. miles on it. Commissioners also approved a \$150. outlay for shirt collar insignia for emergency management personnel. Darle moved support for Co. Clerk, Lori Draper, to buy a microfiche reader/printer for her office, at a cost of about \$7,000.00, second by Brian, and passed. Lori plans to use a Clerk's user fee fund to pay for the purchase, as the former stock of two machines is down to none, since the vendor can't get repair parts. The fund has a balance of \$24,920.00, and is to be used for maintaining county records. Lori thinks they can get along with just one unit for now. Commissioners agreed she should attend an overnight conference for new officials in Indianapolis. Lori said a state representative will be here soon to complete the archive filming of her old records. Since they're mostly stored in the former jury room in the courthouse, Commissioners agreed the filming could be done there. This is a free service provided by the state. Lori and Les discussed the need for a paper shredder.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry learned that the deadline for applying for FA-3 projects thru IN Dept. of Transportation (INDOT) is the end of February. Old Rd. 15 S Phase III plans have been returned to Butler, Fairman & Seufert (BF&S) by INDOT, for minor revisions of sight calculations. John Speidel, Jr. with BF&S, says INDOT and Larry Rice have recommended a drainage structure at the east end of Matlock Cemetery be replaced with a larger structure. John had a construction inspection contract for Phase III of Old Rd. 15 S, totaling \$406,000.00, of which the county pays \$81,200.00, or 20% of the federal project. Commissioners signed required transmittal letters today, indicating BF&S employee Chris Wheatley, will be the project's designated full time Resident Project Representative for construction, and asking INDOT to review the proposed inspection contract before Commissioners sign it. Brian moved to sign an amended agreement with BF&S for additional right-of-way acquisition services on the Old 15 S project, second by Darle and passed, as earlier today, Council approved additional funding from the Local Road & Street account. Speidel presented county wide bridge inspection reports, completed over a two year period. Since Larry has learned the bid results for Bridge # 28 over the Eel River at Laketon, the next step is a letter to interested parties giving notice to proceed, signed by Commissioners. Larry reported accidents on Dec. 25th and 26th involving department vehicles. There was no damage to county trucks, but utility pole supports and another vehicle sustained damage. Larry has passed data to our insurance agent. County resident, John Schuler, voiced his concern over the condition of some county roads, particularly the Laketon Road north of St. Rd. 16. Schuler said CR 100 W, had too much sand for only one residence. He asked Commissioners to check the roads today, and suggested crews begin clearing at 3:00 A.M., work until roads are clear, then go home for the day. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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Lester D. Templin, Chairman

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Darle V. Dawes

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Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor