

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 1/13 meeting were approved as written, moved by Darle Dawes, second by Brian Hauptert, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Benicomp insurance December report, the Treasurer's December report and the Weights and Measures monthly report. Brian moved to accept the proposal of \$300. from Dan Clark, Inc. (formerly Universal Valuation Consultants), for appraisal updates of county buildings, second by Darle, and passed. For insurance purposes, buildings include the Courthouse, Judicial Center, Jail, Probation and highway buildings. Brian moved to support the grant application for the Victim Assistance program administered by the Prosecutor's office, second by Darle, and passed. The 2003 grant totals \$18,394.00, plus a local match of \$4,598.00. Commissioners reviewed and signed the semi-annual report for the Dept. of Commerce Planning grant for the Servia water upgrade project, prepared by Sarah Reyman with the IN Rural Community Assistance program. Brian moved to accept the software maintenance agreement for the Microvote Election Management System, second by Darle, and passed. Clerk, Lori Draper recommended signing the 2003 contract for \$1500.00. Brian moved approval to pay a J & K Communications claim for \$1850. from E-911 funds, second by Darle, and passed. It's for installation of a page recorder and interface cable, programed to Lagro tone. Commissioners reviewed a quote from Havel Brothers for repairs to a jail shower, totaling \$2531.00. Other vendors have been contacted, but haven't submitted a quote. Commissioners asked the Auditor to learn what fund the Sheriff will use for payment, if work is approved. Commissioners reviewed Dr. Wm. Dannacher's letter of resignation as Co. Health officer, dated 1/15/03, and tendered upon the contingency his wife, Lynn, be hired as the Food Sanitarian Specialist. Brian moved to deny acceptance of the resignation as tendered with stipulations, second by Darle, and passed. His letter indicates the Board of Health approved Mrs. Dannacher for the position at their 1/14/03 meeting. Commissioners suggested board attorney, Larry Thrush, might clarify the effective date of resignation. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, reviewed the medical insurance policy, the employee policy manual and the Indiana Code reference to Prosecutor's offices. He also reviewed an Attorney General opinion on prosecutor employee vacation time, which indicates the county has no jurisdiction over that. Apparently the Prosecutor's office falls under the judicial system, which means the county must fund the programs, but has little authority over the running of the department. Tom says it's not a cause worth fighting in court, and suggests coverage be offered to the part-time deputy prosecutor, as did agent, Allen Miracle. Tom reports he sent the TORT notice involving the Probation office to our insurance carrier, who denied any obligation to represent the county on this case. There may be no liability coverage for Probation, unless they fall under the Sheriff's coverage.

Emergency Management: Director, Bob Brown, reports the county may receive \$16,188. in a grant from the state, thru FEMA, for research and development of the county's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. The county would also participate in a mutual aid agreement in case of a dire emergency. The grant needs legislative approval and Commissioner signatures. Bob will know more after a March meeting. He's looking into another grant opportunity, but it may not be worth the effort. Bob presented a Homeland Security Resolution draft for review. The proposal would establish the local EMA as the lead agency for Homeland Security, and the EMA director would be the Homeland Security director, too, reporting quarterly to Commissioners. Mr. Mattern, has reviewed the proposed resolution, and Bob will get the final draft back for Commissioner signatures. Brian moved approval for the EMA to buy a City of Wabash squad car for \$1.00, second by Darle, and passed. It includes radio and light bar, has 30,000 fewer miles on it than one in use, is white, but won't be painted. The car being replaced will have the markings removed and sold at the county auction.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry reports the west end of CR 100 S may be closed this week for installation of the new box culvert, if weather permits. Commissioners set March 10, 2003 at 10:00 A.M. as the bid deadline for a highway truck. The board maintains the county will make repairs to mailboxes that are struck by county vehicles, but not to those damaged by snow that's being cleared. Larry reminded federal aid project applications are due Feb. 10th. He noted repairs of streets in small towns might qualify for federal projects, but then the requirements are more stringent. Larry mentioned receipt of a TORT notice regarding an accident in North Manchester at St. Rd. 13 and Villa Court. The highway department is named, along with the Sheriff and Commissioners. He reports, Charles Cable has lowered his original fee of \$1275. to \$1050.00, for a sign he made for the highway department, that wasn't ordered. Commissioners didn't act on the matter.

WEDCOR: Director, Chris Martin, introduced Laura Ihnen, a Manchester College student who is interning with him. He presented a draft of the Capital Improvement Plan for 2003 through 2005, for review. Reports indicate the county wide share of CEDIT funds in 2003 will be \$77,000. less than 2002. Chris says the plan doesn't reflect likely income increases due to elimination of the inventory tax, and assumed increase of CEDIT tax to compensate for the lost revenue. He noted the plan is amendable as necessary, and he will keep Commissioners updated on progress with the loan programs being instituted this year. He said quarterly payments of the county's share would slow implementation of their programs, so Commissioners agreed to semi-annual payments. Brian moved to approve the three year plan that includes 17 ongoing projects, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners signed the plan. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor