

MARCH 24, 2003

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order with all members present. Minutes of the 3/17 meeting were approved as written, moved by Darle Dawes, second by Brian Hauptert, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the Clerk's February report and the Weights and Measures monthly report. Commissioners acknowledged and appreciated a check from Cinergy in the amount of \$ 4,015.54, to cover the cost of repairs and loss of man hours when the courthouse transformer burned 1/31/03. Barry Eppley and new employee, Adam Jones, with the Soil & Water Conservation District asked Commissioners to sign forms to put the Co. Farm on the new farm program. Darle moved to sign the application, second by Brian, and passed. Les signed the form. Jim Bailey with Havel Brothers, Ft. Wayne, presented a quote of \$ 2,531.00 to repair the integral drain in one of the jail showers. It was the only quote Sheriff Striker received, although several vendors were contacted. Havel could start work tomorrow, and Bailey doesn't foresee any additional costs, as they've done the same repairs in another shower at the jail. Darle moved to accept the proposal, second by Brian, and passed. Commissioners signed a grant application presented by Sheriff Deputy, Barry Hicks, for Operation Pull-Over. Sheriff Striker supports the project. Clerk, Lori Draper, told Commissioners putting her office on the internet thru her dedicated fax line will be better and cheaper than hooking into the law library system. The fax line will be changed to a DSL line for an additional \$ 48.95 per month, and the same could be done with the courthouse fax line. Brian moved for Lori to get a DSL line and put her office on line, second by Darle, and passed. Co. Assessor, Kelly Schenkel, says re-assessment is progressing, and the equalization report should go for state approval the end of this week. Her office is doing data entry for Accurate Assessments to facilitate progress. Brian reports, Rob Pearson with REMC, will suggest at this Thursday's board meeting, that REMC move their tower to their new location and take the county equipment with them. There would still be relocation costs for the county, but nothing like quote options previously presented. The county would have to apply for a new license, which could take some time, causing some communication down time. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, presented a letter for Frances Slocum Bank president, Hal Job, seeking his cooperation in resolving the improper withdrawal of funds from the Minnick Construction account, by Steve Minnick. It was an escrow account from the Judicial Center project. Commissioners signed the letter, and Tom will get it sent.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry had two settlement checks for the truck totaled last month. The \$ 20,400.00 check will go into his Local Road & Street fund, while the \$ 750.00 check goes to the towing service. He says a SPRINT request to bury cable in the right-of-way (R/W) on CR 600 W looks okay. It starts at CR 800 N and runs south for 3283 feet without crossing the road. Commissioners signed the request. Larry asked Mike Urschel at Wabash Materials to give him a price for a concrete abutment to place on Maple Road in Somerset. Trucks are cutting the corner and damaging the side ditch. His crews will use hot mix on Old 15 S when weather allows.

Old Road 15 S: Les says Butler, Fairman & Seufert is close to having all temporary R/W acquired. He also talked with attorney, Mark Guenin, who has met with property owners affected by the project. Guenin thinks they will settle for an additional total amount of \$1500.00. Commissioners agreed to accept that offer, and will ask Mr. Guenin for a break down of settlement figures per individual. This agreement would eliminate the need to proceed with eminent domain through the court. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor