

January 22, 2001

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 1/16 meeting and the 1/17 special meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian Haupert, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the Weights and Measures monthly report and the Treasurer's December report. They reviewed the Board of Finance minutes, and Brian moved approval as written, second by Darle, and passed. After learning George Airgood wishes to be re-appointed to the Alcohol Beverage Board for another term, Brian moved to re-appoint Airgood for the one year term thru 12/01, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners learned that upon request, Indiana American Water Corp. tested the water in the courthouse, and gave it a clean bill of health. They also approved a letter to Fountain Trust Company, indicating the county agrees to include the Fountain Trust Co. as a co-payee on all checks paid to Minnick Construction. They advised the museum inventory staff to clear the south wall first, and work towards the north, also to enlist the custodian's help with removing items from the walls. The City of Wabash has located a secure storage site for the museum items. Commissioners talked with Chris Ogg and Shari Hinds from Burgess & Niple Engineering, Indianapolis. Their firm is expanding in the state, and would like to be considered for future projects. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, thinks a written agreement between the county and Prince/Alexander Architects (P/A), should be finalized promptly, indicating P/A agrees to extend the one year management agreement until the project is complete, and alter the monthly management consultant payment amounts, in to extend them thru September or October of 2001. Brian will meet with Tom on 2/23 after meeting with the architect and judges. Tom also had a drainage issue letter prepared for Commissioner and Surveyor approval. Commissioners approved the letter. Mary Ashba, with the Wabash Co. Council on Aging, presented a public transit program agreement for review and approval by the Commissioners and Mr. Mattern. Les and Tom signed it.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: One more concrete culvert to be installed on Durnbaugh Rd and Gaunt & Son is digging today, with the culvert due to arrive tomorrow. Larry says a request from Sprint to bury cable in the right-of-way looks okay, so Commissioners signed their approval. It begins at the intersection of CR 700 W and CR 500 N and proceeds south for 535 feet. Commissioners approved Larry's recommendation to hire Craig Ringle as a driver/operator, effective today, and Larry says he has two applications from his current work force to fill a vacant mechanics position, and he'll make that decision soon.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: Jail population is running low, in the 68 - 72 range this morning. He shared a complaint from the Wabash city fire chief about a non response by Life-Med ambulance service to a Sandy Beach Estates call. The city service responded, and Brian will check the circumstances with Life-Med, who is contracted to cover that area of the county. Les asked Tim to check with J & K Communications, Inc. from Columbia City about removing the E-911 equipment from the WKUZ Radio tower, and relocating it on LaFontaine water tower as soon as possible. Currently, the county is paying WKUZ \$180. per month for antenna use. Tim thinks it will be 3 to 5 weeks before the new building is ready to house the equipment, and J & K would likely charge to move the equipment more than once, but he will talk to them. Tim has three new cars on order, and asked Commissioners their preference for the two cars he's taking out of service. Trade them in for \$1,000. each, offer them at the county auction, or give one to Emergency Management, for traffic control use at emergency situations. Tim says the volunteers are a help, especially at a road block on each end of a situation, which frees his deputies for more critical work. Emergency Management currently has one old car with lights, and Tim would like to give them one of his two old cars. Commissioners will investigate whether to keep one, and insure it for Emergency Management, or trade both in. Tim reminded Commissioners that the jail facility needs maintenance work, some structural, and the Co. Council cut his maintenance budget drastically, as part of their 2001 budget revision. They're replacing the kitchen floor now. It buckled, and they're trying to learn why. Commissioners will do a tour of the building soon. With no further business, they adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor