

February 26, 2001

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 2/20 meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian Hauptert, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer and Clerk monthly reports, and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Kone Elevators notified Commissioners of a 3.46% rate increase effective 4/1/01 on our annual elevator maintenance agreement. After discussion with Paul Bergman, Commissioners agreed that one of the Sheriff cars set for trade-in, could be donated to Emergency Management for use as a 2nd traffic control vehicle at incidents. Paul is to learn from Larry Rice, the process to solicit quotes for the sale of the old Dodge truck that belongs to the department. Duane Truss asked Commissioners to leave the veterans service office in the Memorial Hall building, since it was built for veterans. He says the VFW post has applied for an Eisenhower memorial ash tree to place at Memorial Hall, and will relocate the cannon that would encroach the new parking lot at its current location. They hope to have a dedication service for both on Memorial Day. Noel Phillips and Jeffrey Kachmer with Aetna Financial Services, the new 3rd party administrator for the 457 retirement plan thru the state, explained the advantages of the county staying with the state plan rather than going with an independent firm. The state plan eliminates county responsibility for fiduciary issues and emergency withdrawal request decisions. The state hopes to have the new fund options ready by July 1st.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Had copies of the completed highway annual report and inventory for 2000. After Larry said the request is reasonable, and the Sheriff has already agreed, Darle moved to approve the Whites Residential Services request to close CR 50 E on June 16 and 17 between 10:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., as part of their 150th anniversary celebration, Darle moved approval, as long as "road closed" warning signs are posted at the intersections just north and south of the White's facility, second by Brian, and passed. Since the estimates to repair the highway building vary considerably, Larry will do needs specifications, in an effort to get quotes for similar work. He suggests block halfway up and framed above, with 10 windows repaired to look like the front of the building. He will request an additional appropriation from the Co. Council of \$15,000., at their April 2nd meeting. The insurance adjuster hasn't looked at the damage yet, so Larry doesn't know if insurance will cover any of the repairs. Larry has agreed to have his crews place some Mississinewa Reservoir signs, supplied by the Dept. of Natural Resources, when they're working in the reservoir area. He had a petition signed by about 20 area residents, to slow or eliminate truck traffic on CR 300 E between new U.S. 24 E and Lagro. After learning Sheriff deputies will enforce the regulation, Darle moved to post signs prohibiting commercial truck travel on CR 300 E, second by Brian, and passed. Larry will suggest the state and the Town of Lagro post signs warning truck travel on CR 300 E is prohibited. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, will prepare the ordinance. Les said he had a request for the county to cease plowing snow into the entrance to the Isaac Walton drive. Traditionally, the county has done this because it's a bus turn-around area. Larry made note of the request.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: Tim introduced, Jim Bailey with Havel Brothers, Fort Wayne. They are both mechanical and pneumatic contractors for heating, cooling and ventilation (HVAC) systems. There's been a lot of wear on the jail's air handler units over the last 22 years, with collected dirt and worn bearings. Cleaning, repairing and replacing some parts will be a big job, that will take two men several weeks to repair, at a significant cost (Bailey estimates \$30-40,000.), however there are air standards that must be met for jail inmates. Also, the water heaters need vents to bring outside air inside. There's \$68,887. in the County Corrections fund that Tim had hoped to use on needed structural repairs to the jail, but this may be more urgent. He could ask the Co. Council to appropriate some additional funds. Commissioners asked Bailey to make a prioritized list of needed work, possibly in multiple phases. Bailey told Commissioners his firm also does maintenance agreements to keep things in working order. Tim is buying shelving today, so the voting machines can be stored in the secure property room in the jail basement. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST:

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor