

August 3, 1998

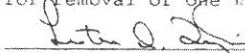
Commissioner chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order in the courthouse with all members present. Minutes of the 7/27 meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian, second by Darle and passed. Commissioners reviewed the BENICOMP health insurance monthly report, the jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours, the Monthly Financial Report, the Clerk's Monthly Report and the Accounts Payable Voucher Register. Noted the three office doors now correctly say Superior Court rather than County Court. Asked courthouse custodian, Ron Harris, to tie up the separating branches on the evergreen on the northeast corner of courthouse square. Brian motioned to accept the County Assessor's recommendation to hire Accurate Assessments of Ft. Wayne to do the land re-evaluation job for Wabash County at a cost of \$35,620., second by ^{Darle} Brian, and passed. Noted a letter from ProVal and Equitax computer and software companies indicating the Co. Assessor's system provided by them is year 2000 compatible. Signed Resolution # 98-5, the section 5311 transportation grant, motioned by Darle, second by Brian, and passed. The resolution indicates county support for pursuing the grant. Appointed Paul M. Bergman director of the Wabash County Emergency Management agency, moved by Brian, second by Darle and passed. Robert Brown is the new deputy director.

Allen Miracle, Van Buskirk Insurance Managers: Advised Commissioners the BENICOMP health policy considers full time employment at 30 hours (or more) per week, and employees who meet this criteria, are eligible for coverage if they wish. There will be an open enrollment period for current employees who would fit between the 30 hrs. and our current policy of 35 hours a week. Our employee policy manual must be corrected to agree with this change. Commissioners also signed an agreement that adds coverage for prescription oral contraceptives to our health insurance benefits.


Larry Rice, Co. Highway dept.: Noted he will attend a field check meeting with In Dept. of Transportation (INDOT) at the Pearson Mill site on 8/5 at 9:00 a.m. Crews are mowing again. Larry has not heard from Terry Roser with the Dept. of Natural Resources. Larry asked him to look at the problems with water obstructions on Elliott Rd. and Mill Street. Herb Underwood decided a permanent graded trough from the street to Charlie Creek is the best answer for the Ray Waller water problem at the Miami St. bridge. John Camden has better equipment for the job, but Larry's department could do it. Commissioners will decide who will do the job after Larry has finished chip and seal work. Larry has 67 storm damage problem areas with only Elliott Rd. still closed, and one lane only on Bailey Road. Some berms still need fill dirt and some culverts are still plugged. Larry has secured a supply of fill dirt. Brian asked Larry to look at a sink hole near a mailbox on Meridian Rd. just south of CR 1400. CR 1300 N near the O'Brien property is now drained and passable. Larry had an estimate from Debco Metal Products (CONTECH) of \$79,304. to replace the concrete box culvert on Elliott Rd. with an aluminum one. Larry doesn't interpret the estimate to include removal of the destroyed culvert or the installation labor for the new one. If approved today, it could be completed by 9/28. Commissioners took it under advisement. Larry and Bill Solomon looked at Tillman Rd. and there is no structural damage, but it needs underpinning for reinforcement. There are several other roads with the same problems from wash-out, including CR 1200 S, and Larry will get estimates on all of them from John Camden. Hank Elits should soon be working on repairing Bailey Rd. so both lanes will be open. The county bridge on the Wabash/Whitley Co. line, has been damaged for the 2nd time by footbridges that broke loose at the Sycamore Hills Golf course. The footbridges were anchored with a 5/8 inch bolt. Commissioners will either (1) advise the golf course owner a 3rd incident, and they will pay for repairs, (2) find if the golf course has insurance coverage for damages or (3) ask Whitley Co. to help with repairs, since the bridge was originally a joint project. Larry noted a 12 or 15 inch tile along the road on CR 300 N at CR 600 W is broken in 4 places. Also there is a 6 x 6 ft. hole along the road on CR 400 N where there is a 24 inch tile. They could be regulated drains, and in the past clay tile repairs have not been a Co. Highway responsibility. Larry had a road cut request from Robert France of 125 Smith St. in Servia, for drainage. Mr. France, in the asphalt business, would like to repair the cut himself, and wonders if the county would charge for the road cut anyway. Darle suggested allowing Mr. France to make the repairs himself, but if the county doesn't approve upon inspection, we'll repair it to our specifications and charge France. Commissioners signed the request. Commissioners approved Aug. 10th and the week of Aug. 24th thru 28th as vacation days for Larry Rice.

John and Shirley Adams of CR 200 W just south of the NIPSCO distribution station had water in their garage and storage building which was built for their model trains. Commissioners will look at the area to see if a drainage tile would improve the area.

Underground fuel tanks: Commissioners previously approved removal of the tanks, and an additional appropriation request of \$20,000. to do the work. Darle motioned for the monies to come from the two departments with the underground tanks, the County Highway and the Sheriff. Second by Brian, the motion passed. The highway dept. should request additional funds to remove 3 tanks at their site, and the Sheriff would need more funds for removal of one tank. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Lester D. Templin, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Brian Haupert

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor