

July 27, 1998

Chairman, Les Templin, called the meeting to order in the courthouse with all members present. Minutes of the 7/20 meeting were approved as written, motioned by Darle, second by Brian, and passed. They approved the bond for Leslie Land, Superior Court Bailiff, reviewed the "99" form 144 wage requests submitted by appointed department heads, and the Payroll Claim and Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. Signed three additional appropriation requests (1) \$1,000. to raze buildings on Ralph Lawson property in Lagro (2) \$30,000. for interest payments on the Wabash Industrial Park "spec" building and (3) \$600,000. for east end expansion of No. Manchester Industrial Park.

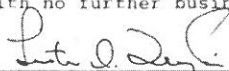
Declared Wabash Co. a disaster area from storm damage between July 3rd and July 21, 1998, motioned by Brian, second by Darle, and passed. Doug Rowles, General Manager of Wabash Co. REMC, reports extensive damage and excessive overtime. He'll get figures. Larry Myers of PSI estimates July expenses at \$150,000. plus \$6,400. for tree services to date. Most damage was from limbs hitting power lines. Larry Rice, Co. Highway dept. estimates \$11,000. thru last Saturday for materials and labor. The Elliott Rd. bridge replacement could run \$120,000., and someone from Contec is coming to look at the damaged culvert on Old St. Rd. 15. The damaged bridge on St. Rd. 114 was hit by two washed out bridges from the golf course, for the second time. Maybe their insurance would cover some repair costs. Larry is still gathering information, and estimates another \$15,000. will be used in clean up. Three roads are still closed, some have one lane only, some still have water. Mill Creek Pike has been repaired, and Hank's Construction is working on CR 250 this morning. That job may run about \$4,000. because a lot of pipe work is needed. Terry O'Brien reports high water on CR 1300 N between CR 200 and 300 W. His son, whose child uses oxygen, can't get out except on foot. County Surveyor, John Stephens, estimates 1/4 of a million dollars to alleviate the problem. Water ponds in several places, so the work is needed, but some area property owners might be opposed to the drainage assessments. Max Purdy of Ijamsville had water in his garage for the first time. There's a broken tile, and debris plugged the drain. Someone from the drainage board will look at it. Vince Harrell, County Agent, estimates damages at \$1,141,088. in corn losses, and \$1,122,336. in bean losses. Wabash Mayor, Robert McCallen, reports his departments are gathering city costs for damages. He asked about removal of debris from Charlie Creek, and Commissioners think he should contact Terry Roser with the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR). Bob Watson, Emergency Management, had damage survey forms. He will do a news release indicating forms are available at City Hall in Wabash and North Manchester and the County Auditor's office. Return deadline is August 10th. All information and pictures gathered, will be forwarded in the hopes of qualifying for federal or state aid.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway dept.: Because of the storms, no mowing or chip and seal work has been done. He's run out of dirt and is scavaging for more. Had a change order for \$671. on the Old St. Rd. 15 Phase I project. It's under the original estimates, and Commissioner's signed the order. Hank Eilts got some clean-up done on Paw Paw creek before the storms hit. Larry looked at Charlie Creek near Mill Street. There are two downed trees that have changed the course of the creek. It should be cleared, but it's not urgent. He'll check with DNR to see who should do it. Herb Underwood talked with Ray Waller (Miami St. bridge) last week, but Larry doesn't know what they decided.

Bob Watson, Emergency Management: Sand bags were used last week during the storm, and the department has a new stock of about 50,000. He also thinks we should install a tornado warning alarm system for the county. Only North Manchester and LaFontaine currently have sirens. Grant County estimates it would cost them about \$100,000.

Bob Luce, Butler Fairman & Seufert: He will talk with Ken Einselen, Miami Co. engineer, about the need for an interlocal agreement between the two counties regarding the DNR recreational road on CR 950 S in Wabash Co., that also extends into Miami Co. The counties have no monetary stake in the project, but each would only want responsibility for their county, and more work will be done in Wabash Co. Darle motioned Wabash Co. be the lead agent on the project, second by Brian and passed. Bob and Larry looked at the Bailey Road bridge, and think an adequate paved intercept is needed to channel the water down, rather than allowing it to wash under the concrete slurry currently there. Bob will have the project manager on Old St. Rd. 15 Phase I talk with property owner, Lawrence Kessler. He's unhappy with how his property was restored.

Ordinance # 98-5: Sets a speed limit on Odgen Road from St. Rd. 114 for 3,275 feet at 35 miles per hour. Commissioners had previously approved this and signed the ordinance. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Lester D. Templin, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Brian Hauptert

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor