

June 29, 1998

Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order in the courthouse with all members present. Minutes of the 6/22 meeting were approved as written, motioned by Darle, second by Brian, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Payroll Claim and Allowance Docket, the Payroll Check Register and the Clerk's Monthly Report. Due to the resignation of Beckie Elliott from the Wabash Tourism Commission representing the Roann area, and acting upon the recommendation of director Trula Frank, Darle moved to appoint Louella Krom of Roann to complete the term, second by Brian and passed. Commissioners reviewed an updated price list for LIFE MED ambulance service. With both increases, reductions and new charges, the average ambulance call is down \$150. Agreed with 4-H Fair board President, Terry Knee, that two fans belonging to the fair board were put in the surplus sale by mistake, and the items were returned with no charges assessed. Mr. Knee had bid \$45. for each fan at the auction in order to retain them.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway dept.: Calcium treatments are completed. Regarding closing gates on roads near the reservoir, Senator Wheeler contacted Jerry Pagic with the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR), who contacted Larry. Mr. Pagic feels any agreement should be between Wabash Co. and the Corp. of Engineers. Larry noted last Thurs. the Sheriff's dept. contacted him to open gates on roads no longer flooded. Larry hadn't been notified by either the DNR or Corp. of Engineers. Commissioners want to arrange a meeting with all three groups to seek a resolution. Larry will fix the school bus turn around on Jones Street requested last spring. After conferring with city street superintendent, Bill Hapner, they decided the area was outside the city limits. Larry noted that Hank Eilts is still not recuperated, and he hasn't gotten estimates for Liberty Twp. bridge # 51 replacement or removing underground fuel tanks at the highway garage. Larry heard from Leon Ridenour who has concerns about traffic danger near Maple Leaf Farms. There are two entrances used by trucks, and one is a blind entrance. Commissioners asked Larry to place signs near both entrances indicating a truck entrance. Larry reports 7 semi truckloads of scrap were removed from the highway department following the surplus sale. With new laws taking affect July 1st, Larry hopes to sell scrap periodically throughout the year from now on.


Tom Mattern, Commissioner attorney: Had sample ordinances for adoption of a Public Purchasing Policy. Following discussion, Brian motioned to appoint the Commissioners as the purchasing agency, and designate officials/department heads as purchasing agents. Officials/department heads may designate a proxy during their absence, and buying American products whenever possible will be encouraged. Second by Darle, the measure passed. Tom will have the ordinances ready for approval next Monday. Tom and Sheriff Roberts updated on the possibility of inmates paying for incarceration costs. Sheriff Roberts had some sample ordinances for review. The judges would determine who met the qualifications financially to pay, and Tim doesn't feel the additional paper work would require additional employees. Tim estimates fewer than 10% of those in jail would qualify financially to pay, and inmates may not be held in jail for failure to pay. Tom Mattern has corresponded with Judges Vanderpool and Sposeep, and will set a meeting with the Judges, the Sheriff, the Commissioners and himself.

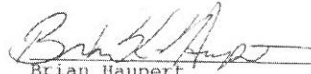
Bill Bradley, Chris Garber and John Mugford: Asked support from Commissioners to use some of the County share of CREDIT funds for improvements on about 65 acres on the east side of the No. Manchester Industrial Park. Engineering has been completed, and they estimate \$600,000. is needed to prepare the area for marketing smaller plots of land for industrial and/or commercial use. The county would provide about 80% of the cost

with No. Manchester contributing about \$42,000. to the project. Bill estimates the CREDIT fund will have more than \$900,000. in uncommitted funds by the end of 2003, he supports the project, and encouraged the Commissioners to support it also. Darle asked if tax abatement would be offered to new businesses, as he thinks it's grossly unfair to existing businesses. Bill says they would expect it, but not all qualify. Brian moved to support the project as part of the CREDIT plan, second by Darle and passed.

Dick White, Ameritech: Presented a package for updating E-911 equipment plus a 10 year agreement for service. The county would lease the equipment, and Ameritech would maintain and update it. Mr. White anticipates his costs would not be lower than GTE, but he might be able to find a market for our GTE equipment currently in use. If the county is interested in switching from GTE, Mr. White will come back with cost figures. Sandi Beeks, E-911 coordinator, is to contact GTE about a cost comparison for a short term lease of 6 months or 1 year rather than the long term lease they presented. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Lester D. Templin, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Brian Haupt

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor