

March 30, 1998

Chairman, Les Templin, called the meeting to order with all members attending. Minutes of the 3/23 meeting were approved after the name James Crispin was corrected to James Christman, motioned by Brian, second by Darle and passed. Commissioners signed a lawn care agreement for 1998 with Grounds Master, one weed & feed treatment for the courthouse square. Will ask the highway department or jail trustees to remove debris from the crumbling wall on the southwest corner of the courthouse square. Signed an agreement to cash Ames stock toward payment on delinquent property taxes, on the advice of Treasurer, Ann Gillespie, who had conferred with Edward D. Jones & Co. Reviewed the hours of Memorial Hall/Jail custodian. Declined signing an agreement for annual maintenance on the courthouse clock with Tower Clock Company. Explained their duties to the Leadership Development Class touring the courthouse, and answered questions. Heard the Wabash Garden Club will be planting flowers around the flagpole and Lincoln statue in mid May, just as they provided them last year. Darle noted there's a new law that prevents Co. Surveyors from doing some jobs, which now must be done by private sector surveyors or engineers. County will not send funds to the Nat'l Assn. of Counties for lobbying against removal of local authority jurisdiction over tower locations and regulations. Noted the switchboard operators in the courthouse are having trouble with line 8 on the phone system. The Superior Court faxes come in on that line, which is not a dedicated line, and regular calls and the faxes are interrupting one another. Les noted the fax machine should be set on 4 or more rings. The Auditor will find if that's the case. Darle looked at the abandoned property in Servia, and says it looks pretty secure, with some overgrown brush. Commissioners will talk to the owner, Tim Eubank, about keeping it mowed and secure. Will accept the gift to the county of lot 5 in Blk. 4 of Unit I of Twin Lakes Estates from Al and Pauline Wilson. The Commissioners will ask County Attorney Mattern to prepare the papers.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway: Crews are working on Urbana Cemetery lanes. Both Larry and James Christman have reminded the railroad they need to work along Old U.S. 24 E (Lagro Rd.) to ease water run-off, but they've done nothing so far. County will put in an 18" pipe under the road at the Gene Custer property on CR 1000N. T junctions will be at property owners expense and there will be no charge to Gene Custer from the county. Because there isn't much fall there, John Stephens and Scott Eads both recommend smooth rather than corrugated pipe, but it's more expensive. Larry will get estimates. Stakes are in for the Odgen Rd. project, but 45' from the center of the road takes a big chunk out of Mr. Ulrey's yard. Larry suggests getting temporary right-of-way while working, then change the right-of-way to the back slope along the road way. John Stephens can adjust his survey. Commissioners agreed to closing the road while work progresses, it's expected to take one week, and begin April 6th. Norfolk & Southern R.R. had indicated pavement markings were not in place at the Mill St. crossing. They were done by Air Marking, and Larry will contact them. From Road School, Larry noted the funding mechanism for "local road & street" will run out in June of '99, and legislators need to be reminded, the Road School manual has a section on right-of-way on pg. 115, and Morgan Co. is sending a copy of the form they use for utilities. Commissioners ask Larry to place a sign on CR 500 N just east of St. Rd. 13 warning to watch for a blind man. Dorothea Biehl says the sign may go on her property.

County Attorney, Tom Mattern: Discussed terms of a one year lease for tillable ground on County Farm property (prepared by Soil & Water Conservation District) with Commissioners. They amended or deleted some sections. Corrected agreement will be reviewed next week. Commissioners responded to questions from Cindy Barrus and Terry Hudson.

Courthouse /Memorial Hall roofs: The Common Construction Wage scale meeting will be held on April 28, 1998 at 9:30 A.M. in the Commissioners' room. Darle motioned to appoint Brian Hauptert as the Commissioner representative to the board, second by Les and passed. Mary Ellen Rudisel of Scarce Associates will be the industry representative, and Brian will ask Chris Garber of North Manchester to be the third representative.

Kelly Schenkel, Clerk: New filing cabinets are in the backroom of the Small Claims office upstairs. It's crowded, but it will work. Kelly had an estimate from Terry Parrett to paint the front room of Small Claims for \$400. Darle motioned to approve Parrett do the job for \$400., second by Brian and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed a letter to employee, Carolyn Shaw, who has been ill since October of '97, on medical leave since Jan. of '98.

Health Insurance for county employees: Heard presentations from Paul Bergman and Donna Palmer (Farm Bureau Insurance) for coverage by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield of IN. Both proposals were identical coverage for identical service, and at \$33,280. about \$330. per month higher than the BENICOMP renewal presentation. Commissioners will study the options overnight and make a decision on 3/31/98 at 8:30 a.m.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: 69 in jail today. The front section of the jail roof is finished, and they're working on the back. Warsaw Roofing is removing stone in the old rubber roof and laying strips that are then heated. Brian says it should work well. Brian asked if juveniles may now be housed in the same facility as adults. Tom Mattern says there have been modifications, but suggests caution in making changes. Tim noted judges at their discretion, under certain circumstances, may place juveniles in the same facility with adults. Brian says the new Kosciusko Co. juvenile center will be a secure facility.

Since Bill Cloud was absent for his Poor Relief Appeal hearing scheduled for 1:15 p.m., it was re-set for April 6, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's room of the courthouse. The Auditor will notify him by certified mail. Liberty Township trustee, Lori

Draper, who denied the request, found he has only one vehicle, but has other wasted resources.

Chad Dilling, Plan Commission: Advised unsafe buildings in Lagro Corp., currently being used for parties, have been unsold in two delinquent tax sales, and are due to come over to the county this fall. The properties belong to Ralph and Pauline Lawson. They need to be razed, and he would prefer that the county not have to pay for that. Chad and Harvey Omstead are concerned about safety. The Commissioners feel it's the responsibility of Lagro Corp. until it's deeded to the county. In another matter, Chad will advise the Fed. Emergency Management Assn. (FEMA) that the northwest part of the county could use more detailed flood maps. In response to a CENSUS 2000 request for updated maps, Chad and the Commissioners agree that they are requesting only new incorporations or dis-incorporations of towns, and we have no changes, so Chad will sign and return the maps as they were sent to him.

Tina Edwards, Probation: Learned from Commissioners that the "dummie monitors" and keyboards being replaced by lap top computers, may be offered to other county offices for replacing their equipment, or sold at the annual county auction.

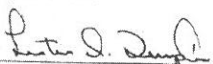
Shopping Center Drive, Somerset: It's not on the plat of Somerset, and the county has no right-of-way, but has always maintained it. In order for maintenance to continue, Somerset residents need to file a petition asking the county to take over the street, and the plat needs to be amended, adding the street. Les will talk to David Compton.

Accrued longevity request for Lisa Rapp: There has been no precedent set for this, and Commissioners will pass the request on to the Co. Council without a recommendation. Auditor will notify the Soil & Water Conservation District, pursuing the matter is up to them. Commissioners will discuss the request with Council members on 4/20.

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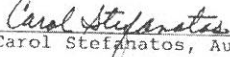
Commissioners reconvened to make the health insurance coverage decision. Les noted the Parkview hospital system is not included in the Anthem network of Blue Cross. Following discussion, Brian motioned to stay with the BENICOMP program and leave the deductible at \$100., second by Darle, the motion passed. Commissioners hope to re-negotiate in Nov. and return to a Jan. thru Dec. schedule. For fairness to all involved, all quotes will be accepted on the same day next time.

Commissioners had attended the breakfast for the Annual Report for the County Hospital, and learned there has been a great improvement financially in the last two years. They feel David Hunter is doing a good job. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Lester D. Templin, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Brian Hauptert

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor