

February 17, 1998

Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order in the courthouse at 9:00 a.m. with all members present. Minutes of the 2/9 meeting were approved as written, motion by Brian, second by Les and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's Monthly report and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Commissioners advised Carl Favorite a survey of courthouse employees indicated they were content with the current vending machine options, and the county would not make a change now, but thanks for his offer.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway: Urbana Cemetery roads need graded, then lots of stone. The utility company has repaired damage where they worked, but work needs done around the railroad, too. Darle will look at the area. Harry Bechtold on Cr 650 E asked for help replacing pipe. It's not been county policy to help in the past. Someone is parking vehicles on Old St. Rd. 15 where it's been closed at the intersection with St. Rd. 15 south of LaFontaine. Commissioners will ask Sheriff Roberts to check it. Paving petitions update; on CR 900 N Larry is meeting with Bill Earl and Henry Hatfield on Friday, and on Durnbaugh Rd. three property owners haven't signed yet. Larry will look at a new petition to pave CR 650 W north of CR 100N to the dead-end. Darle said Joe Slaybaugh asked about progress on his culvert. Larry will take a transit sighting. Commissioners approved a request from GTE to bury cable on CR 150 N west of St. Rd. 115 in front of 4260W 150N. Larry says the request is okay.

Paul Bergman reminded Commissioners he would like to give a quote for health insurance for county employees before we renew in April. Commissioners agreed, and Darle asked if offer could extend thru Dec. of 1999. Paul said probably.

Terry Hudson, on behalf of Matt Kennedy, requested a STOP sign replace the YEILD sign at the T-road intersection of CR 1150 N and CR 275 E. Commissioners advised they need a petition signed by neighbors to proceed.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: 71 in jail today, and he's working on the fuel tank problem.

Liberty Mills alley vacation: Attorney, Mark Guenin, representing Stanley Enyeart, Jr. and Jerry Enyeart, requested Commissioners vacate the alley between lots 96 & 97 in Comstock's Add. to the Original Plat of Liberty Mills. He had proof of Certified mailings and publication as required. This is an unimproved alley that has been vacated, had the vacation rescinded, then decreed by the Circuit Court judge to be an open alley.

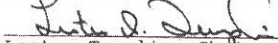
Those in opposition gave justifications for keeping the alley open, along with a petition of 73 Liberty Mills residents opposed to closing the alley. Commissioners feel this is a "neighbor dispute" that won't be resolved by today's decision. Brian motioned to keep the alley open, second by Darle with the admonition that the parties be civil to one another, and passed.

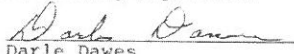
Brenda Purdy requested right-of-way land near Richvalley be sold to John Devine who is purchasing adjacent land thru the Ira Wilson estate. Howard Halderman of Halderman Farm Management and County Surveyor, John Stephens, are sorting out the mess to find if the land belongs to Wabash County or the state. If the county can abandon the ground it would revert to adjacent property owners, in this case the Ira Wilson estate.

Bill Bradley, WEDCOR: Asked Commissioners to approve Project # 14 to the Wabash Co. Economic Development Master Plan. It is for Wabash Co./Wabash City support for a Promotional Industrial building in the North Wabash Industrial Park. After deletion of the first line in the second paragraph concerning a private investor, Brian motioned to approve Project # 14, second by Darle and passed. Bill also indicated he will prepare a recommendation to use CEDIT funds to resolve drainage problems in the Urbana area. He feels it would be an appropriate use of CEDIT funds.

Wabash Co. Soil & Water Conservation District 1997 Co. Farm report: Barry Eppley, Dale Kroft and Tom Christman advised there was a net income of \$6,994.27 from crop sales. They also have 5 goals including development of trails for students, erosion control, painting the barn, a digitized soil survey of the county and additional supplements to SWCD existing programs. Income from crops will be used toward the goals.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Lester Templin, Chairman


Darle Dawes


Brian Hauptert.

ATTEST: 
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor