

August 24, 1998

Chairman, Lester Templin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse with all members present. Minutes of the 8/17 meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian, second by Darle and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim and Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. Reviewed the BENICOMP monthly report and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Noted that the county has not charged Triax Cablevision franchise fees in the past, and they don't see any need to change now, in response to a letter from Triax noting regulation changes. They noted Co. Highway Supervisor, Larry Rice, is on vacation this week. Spoke with Vince Harrell, Co. Agent, who advises removal of the evergreen tree on the northeast corner of the courthouse square. He says it's too large to trim or cable the separating limbs, and have it look good. Vince suggested replacing it with a Colorado Blue Spruce.

Tom Mattern, Commissioner Attorney: Presented completed Ordinance 98-6 for the Innkeepers tax increase from 3% to 5%. Commissioners signed, supporting the increase. Tom also had completed Resolution 98-6 accepting Shopping Center Road in Somerset into the county road system. Commissioners signed the resolution. Tom noted he has forwarded three TORT notices to our insurance carrier for review.

Bill Bradley, WEDCOR: Presented an agreement with the county for WEDCOR services in 1999 and 2000. Currently, \$42,500. per year is ear marked from county CEDIT funds, and Bill is asking for an increase to \$45,000. He plans to ask the City of Wabash and the Town of North Manchester for an additional \$2,000. to \$3,000., also. Bill noted he's pleased to work with Wabash County, and thinks some positive things are going on now. Brian thanked Bill for his good efforts, and moved to approve and sign the two year contract at \$45,000. per year for WEDCOR from CEDIT funds, second by Darle, the motion passed.

Urbana Drainage project: John Caton of Gove and Associates, the engineering firm, and Richard Starkey of Baker and Daniels law firm updated Commissioners. Caton says Surveyor, John Stephens, is completing his survey and forwarding it to Gove. A review of the reports and a hearing are the next steps. If all goes well, work could begin within 45 days, and continue throughout the winter if weather permits. Mr. Starkey presented some financing possibilities, as the committed CEDIT funds are to be used over a five year period. He thinks a five year bond issue could come in under 5%. Darle moved to proceed with setting up a 5 year bond issue, second by Brian, and passed. Commissioners will hold a hearing with Urbana residents soon, concerning them paying 10% assessments as their share of the project. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle Dawes

Brian Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor