

January 19, 1999

Commissioners, Brian Hauptert and Lester Templin met with County Treasurer, Ann Gillespie at 8:45 a.m. for the Board of Finance annual meeting. Les moved to select Brian as the board president for 1999, second by Ann and passed. Les moved to select Ann as secretary for 1999, second by Brian, and passed. Ann reported on funds, noted interest income was down for 1998 due to average interest rates of 5 to 6%.

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Hauptert called the Commissioner meeting to order with all attending. Minutes of the 1/11 meeting were approved as written, moved by Darle, second by Brian, and passed. Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's Monthly Report and the Weights and Measures Annual Report. They signed a letter supporting the proposed Pathfinders Inc. home development project, outlined by John Niederman last week. Reviewed the Jail/Memorial Hall Custodian hours, and noted Solid Waste District employees will now have a separate billing for their health insurance coverage thru BENICOMP. They also approved and signed the bond for Ken Ahlfeld, the Solid Waste District Comptroller. Commissioners signed an agreement with AllStar Communications of Ft. Wayne for telephone maintenance of the courthouse system until 1/20/2000. The one year coverage is \$2730. Darle moved approval of the phone agreement, second by Les, and passed. Darle moved to reappoint George Airgood to the Alcohol Beverage Board thru Dec. 1999, second by Les, and passed. Les moved to appoint Darle as the Commissioner representative to the Common Construction Wage board for the MSD of Wabash County Guaranteed Energy Savings Project, second by Brian, and passed. Directed custodian Ron Harris to have Quality Electric offer options for heating Tina Edwards' office at the Probation Dept., since both radiators are leaking, and need replaced. Commissioners listened to county resident, John Schuler, complain about snow removal. Commissioners noted the Museum Public Meeting is set for Jan. 27, 1999 at 6:30 p.m. in the Superior Court Room of the Courthouse. The museum will be open at that time. Pat Lynn of the Local Planning Council, updated Commissioners on the Project Outreach report on mentoring and job skills. Now, sub-groups must decide if 1995 goals have been met, or need revised, before the demonstration project is tackled. It appears a mentoring program is needed, and a 15% match for the grant is necessary. Pat thinks "in kind" services could account for part of the local 15% share. Commissioners and Pat agree that the matching funds shouldn't come from tax monies. Pat will keep Commissioners updated.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: The northwest part of the county is bad today, due to new snow and drifting, yesterday. Crews have worked 732 hours of overtime the last two weeks, starting at 5:00 a.m. most mornings. Three trucks are down, two can be fixed locally, but the third must go to Fort Wayne whenever there's time to get it there. Some employees worked four hours Saturday hauling sand, and Larry had an additional 200 tons delivered earlier last week. Also 40 tons of salt were delivered Saturday, since Larry was there to accept it. He had quotes of \$4,140. and \$4,200. to repair damage to the county highway barn. Commissioners told him to select the firm that can get the repairs done promptly.

Tom Mattern, Commissioner Attorney: Had the completed Amended Ordinance 1994-9, which directs traffic traveling on the off-lane from CR 450 W to STOP at the intersection with CR 1200 S. Commissioners signed the Amended Ordinance. Tom advised that through City Attorney, Robert McCallen, he had acquired a copy of the TRIAD approved claim by Reynolds, Inc. for sewer relocation on the Carroll Street bridge project, so the claim can be paid. Noted Coregis Insurance will employ an attorney as our representative in the Glenn Barrus lawsuit. They did exclude coverage for emotional and punitive damages, along with a job reinstatement request. The county will need representation for those issues. Since Don Metz has filed an appearance for the county, Tom put him in contact with Coregis. Tom will inform our insurance carriers of the TORT notice filed by Mark Herendeen.

Bob Luce of Butler, Fairman & Seufert introduced John Spiedel Jr. who will replace Bob upon his retirement in March of 1999. Bob says bid letting on the Carroll Street bridge project won't happen before August of 1999, because of super structure design changes due to horizontal curvature. Commissioners are disturbed about another delay and the ongoing safety of the bridge. Bob will ask structural engineer, Steve Weintraut, to talk with Commissioners next week. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Brian Hauptert, Chairman

Darle Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST:

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor