

March 8, 1999

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse with all members attending. Minutes of the 3/1 meeting were approved as written, moved by Les, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the Monthly Financial Report. They spoke with attorney, John Johnston, regarding the TORT notice filed on behalf of Robert and Scott Carty, and Commissioners signed affidavits prepared by Mr. Johnston.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Ralph Dawes tile work is completed. Yield to Stop sign changes are done in rural areas and two of the small towns. Larry will talk with John Speidel Jr. of Butler Fairman & Seufert, to learn the status on the bridge inspection report they are preparing and INDOT is expecting. Commissioners will try to set a meeting with Laketon residents regarding a drainage problem. Larry has learned some of the proposed access roads for the new U.S. 24 project do not allow turn around space for a highway truck or school bus. He's working with engineers to get changes made. As part of the new 24 project, they will be closing CR 400 E for the duration of construction, and Commissioners agree with Larry that a local detour route isn't needed. Attorney, Tom Mattern, said he has a meeting with John Speidel Jr. of Butler Fairman & Seufert this week regarding the Old St. Rd. 15 project.

Truck chassis and equipment bids: At 10:00 a.m. Les moved to close the bid acceptance, second by Darle, and passed. There were 5 truck bids: (1) Whiteford Truck Center, Ft. Wayne, \$48,044. (2) Wise International Truck, Ft. Wayne, \$51,775. (3) Selking of Decatur \$51,334.96, (4) Denney Motor Sales, Wabash, \$48,132.50, (5) Dan Young Chevy/Honda, Indpls \$48,700. Equipment bids were: (1) Deeds Equipment, Plymouth, \$22,789. (2) Northern Equipment, Plymouth, \$20,065. Commissioners thanked vendors for their bids, and Darle moved to take all bids under advisement, second by Les, and passed.

Allen Miracle local agent, and Neil Ropp and Cathy Stanley of BENICOMP proposed the county switch to partial self-funding (PSF) for our medical insurance renewal. With PSF there is a potential for reimbursement at the end of the policy year if the claims were modest. The county will see a 55% increase if we stay with the current coverage.

Sheriff Tim Roberts said he and Jack Fetrow, Director of Public Safety in North Manchester, recommend switching to dispatching Chester and Pleasant Township fire calls thru the new North Manchester Police Department system. Details would have to be worked out, and Chester and Pleasant Township Trustees would have to approve the plan. Tim will get back to Commissioners for their formal approval, last.

Mary Ellen Rudisel, Scarce, Rudisel Architects: She has inspected the courthouse roof repair work, and isn't pleased with the work. She's sent a letter to the contractor with a punchlist of 12 problems. She recommends retaining the balance due of \$41,238.15 until these issues are resolved. Commissioners told Mary Ellen to stay after MidState on this project and Atlas Industries about the peeling paint from their work in 1997. She also got an estimate of \$9,000. for new lighting fixtures (doesn't include installation) to better light the clock tower. She also looked at the jury room and thinks the wood on the walls is original and should be left intact and restored. The marble fireplace should be restored rather than replaced with a wood mantle. She thinks the dingy appearance of the room could be improved with new lighting, furniture and carpeting. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Brian Hauptert, Chairman

Darle Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor