

June 14, 1999

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members attending. Minutes of the 6/7 meeting were approved as written, moved by Les, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket, the Payroll Check Register and the Accounts Payable Voucher Register. They gave County Assessor, Kelly Schenkel, approval to purchase a modem, and tap into the fax line in the Clerk's office. This will link her to her software provider, Proval, and she will use re-assessment funds to cover her expenses. The fax machine will not be usable while Kelly is in contact with Proval, but she thinks that time will be limited. Learned from Nancy Hoffman and John Hennelly of ARC of Wabash Co., that due to decreases in state and federal funding for their many successful programs, they are requesting \$53,000. from the county for 2000, up from \$51,000. in 1999. They have served 197 families throughout the county this year, and the birth to 3 year old program has jumped from 43 families last year to 78 this year. They expect income from the handicapped shelter workers program to be up this year. Nancy doesn't expect to see any of the 39 million designated by the state to facilitate services to those in need locally, as they keep people placed in programs suited to their needs. Hennelly, who is about to retire, thanked Commissioners for their support throughout the years and says Hoffman is doing well as executive director. Hoffman introduced Board members Ron Haney and Kathy Brubaker, who attended the meeting. Commissioners thanked Hennelly for his years of dedication and service to ARC of Wabash Co. Commissioners checked the ceiling that fell in over the weekend, at the Probation office, but made no decision today about repairing it.

Larry Rice, Co Highway Dept.: Reports a SPRINT request to bury cable to a new home on Old St. Rd. 15 S, about 1700 feet south of St. Rd. 124 is acceptable. Les moved to approve the request, second by Darle, passed and signed. Larry told Gene Cooper he was aware tree limbs need to be removed from the creek on Cooper Road north of Mill Creek Pike. When the tree was cut down, his crew didn't have the necessary equipment with them to remove the limbs, but he will see the job is completed. Les moved to support additional appropriation requests from the Local Road & Street funds to buy a truck from Denney Motor Sales for \$75,000. an underbody for \$5,000., \$80,000. for liquid bituminus and \$25,000. for bituminus mix, second by Darle, and passed. Larry is to keep track of maintenance and repairs on both the GMC model and the International brand approved last month, to see which holds up best. The GMC won't have spoke wheels, overhead wipers or battery disconnect like the International truck does. The bituminus will be used to do more miles of chip and seal this year. Sheriff Roberts commended Larry and his crews for their clean up efforts after last weeks' storms. Representatives from DebCo and Con-tech assured Commissioners last years' bid to replace bridge # 51 on CR 600 E and CR 975 S is still valid for an aluminum box structure. Contech visited the site, talked with Larry Rice about flowage history, and think this structure, about 25% larger than the existing structure, should be more than adequate. Darle thinks an hydraulic study should be done to assess the needs, so Commissioners will get back to Contech about doing hydraulic work, after talking with County Surveyor, John Stephens.

Tim Roberts, Sheriff: 80 in jail this morning. Tim updated Commissioners on the newly legislated Community Transition Program, that allows early release of prisoners from state facilities, back to the local level. Tim thinks it's a dangerous plan, as statistics show most people violate their probation requirements, and early release should increase the problems. Appearing to be a plan to help with overcrowding at the state level, he fears a tragedy will occur. Currently, a voluntary plan that gives local judges the right of refusal due to "just cause", both the Sheriff and the Probation department are not equipped to handle this additional responsibility. Probation director, Tina Edwards, sent Commissioners a letter indicating Judges' Vanderpool and Sposeep would invoke the "just cause" loophole, to prevent early releases to local authorities. Roberts fears the state will ultimately make the program mandatory. Tim says the new emergency generator is installed, ignites easily, and is environmentally friendly. The old underground fuel storage tank had been removed at the Co. Highway Department. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Brian Hauptert, Chairman

Darle Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor