

June 25, 2001

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M, with all members present. Minutes of the 6/18 meeting were approved as written, moved by Brian Hauptert, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register, reviewed the Clerk & Treasurer reports for May and the Weights and Measures monthly report. They learned the Sheriff will have a written policy requiring body armour when actively involved in enforcement by years' end to accommodate insurance requirements, even though the policy is already followed. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, presented agreements with the Town of LaFontaine, one involving payment of \$5,650. for the county share of a ditch installation in connection with the new Handy Andy business located along highway 15 S. LaFontaine paid an equal share, and will assume responsibility for maintenance. This contract will be recorded after signed by all parties. Darle moved to sign, second by Brian, and passed. Brian moved to approve the five year (no fee) lease agreement with LaFontaine for space on their water tower for E-911 equipment, second by Darle, and passed. The town also accepts possession of the equipment storage building, built by the county. Tom reports the Sheriff's, rather than the county, liability insurance would cover potential claims resulting from the Canfield Tort notice. Hauser and Associates Insurance representatives presented a life insurance package for county employees thru Boston Mutual that's portable, and goes with the individual, while our current life insurance coverage thru Benicomp, ceases when employment ends. Commissioners will consider offering this post tax option to employees. Commissioners agreed that Co. Agent, Vince Harrell, do a survey of county office's need for internet access. Vince says all offices could connect thru an Intelenet T-1 line for about \$5500. a year. They talked with Health Department sanitarian, Harvey Omstead, about the new state stand on soil testing for septic systems. Parts of the county have been included in a recessional moraine area where soil content is potentially 50% or more clay, and unacceptable for sewer systems. Harvey thinks his requirement that new rural home sites have a minimum of 1 acre of ground, prevents potential problems. He's telling the state he won't comply with their lengthy and expensive testing until they can prove the testing is necessary. Commissioners feel local experts know best about local conditions, but advise caution in defying the state. They learned from County Assessor, Kelly Schenkel, that Accurate Assessments of Ft. Wayne have cut their charges for extended reassessment services due to indecision at the state level, in half, to \$54,000. She doesn't think Accurate Assessments would agree to adding a "no continuation" clause to the contract. The cut eliminates their offer to implement a new parcel numbering system, being mandated by the state. Kelly must have township trustee approval before Commissioners sign the contract. Commissioners have two estimates to remove the brick wall encroaching road right-of-way along old Rd. 15 S. They will meet with property owner, Jack Weekley, next week. Commissioners reviewed a request from the Council on Aging for an increase in funding of \$3,000. for the 2002 budget. That would be an annual subsidy of \$16,000. from the county.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Crews are mowing, and CR 400 N between CR 100 E and CR 300 E will close tomorrow for two to three days. Weather prevented the work last week. Larry took delivery on the tandem truck last Friday, and his mechanics will add a radio. He says a Verizon request to bore under the roads at CR 800 S and CR 550 W for 1660 feet, looks okay, and Commissioners signed approval. Les says the work is already in progress. Brian moved for Larry to request additional bridge money totaling \$198,000., at the 7/16 County Council meeting, second by Darle, and passed. The four concrete box culverts to be replaced, and ballpark estimates include: (1) Chester bridge # 7 on CR 150 E, north of St. Rd. 16 at \$40,000., (2) Chester # 83 on CR 800 N, west of CR 650 E at \$65,000., (3) Noble # 6 on CR 300 W, north of St. Rd. 124 for \$48,000., and Liberty # 36 3/4 mile east of America Rd. on CR 975 S at \$45,000. Commissioners signed the specifications for two single axle trucks plus equipment, set for bid opening on July 23rd at 10:00 A.M.

Judicial building: Pyramid Architect representatives, Terry Burnworth, Mark Cullivan and Jeff Stinson presented pay application # 13 for approval. The \$110,364.58 claim includes 4 change orders totaling \$5,522.69, three for Eclipse Masonry and one for ADM Interiors. \$1,231.47 due Eclipse for bricking around elevator doors after the doors were installed should be reimbursed from the Minnick Construction bond, and possibly \$930.97 to Eclipse for removing masonry at elevator openings in order to install the doors, too. The claim also has \$4,170.56 in retainage funds. Brian moved to accept the 4 change orders, second by Darle, and passed. Brian moved to approve pay application # 13, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners signed a contract with Indiana Monument and Cut Stone, Inc. for project stonework. Pyramid representatives will meet with Clerk, Jo Ann Hettmansperger, about shelving proposals (which came in under budget) and relocation of the dumbwaiter. Since lobby area doors must be one hour rated for fire safety (take one hour to burn thru), and a variance request to use 20 minute rated doors could delay building completion, Commissioners must decide by next week how to proceed. The planned, six panel oak doors befitting a judicial area, jump to \$4700. per door when one hour rated, while 6 panel, twenty minute, doors are equivalent in cost to solid wood, one hour doors. At this point stone cutters can't keep up with the masons, due to other obligations, but that problem should cease in four more weeks. Terry presented a proposed schedule and cost estimate to renovate the second floor of Memorial Hall for the Probation Department. Work couldn't begin until the museum is relocated, probably about April 2002, and would run about \$184,000. He left a contract with Pyramid for Commissioners to review.

Life-Med: Commissioners met with owner, Chris Brown, and North Manchester Town Manager, Dan Hanaford. Brown says a company called Tri County is looking into covering ambulance service for the county north of St. Rd. 16. Hanaford says Timbercrest Home has pledged \$10,000. (\$6,000. from residents), Manchester College and Peabody have each committed \$5,000., leaving the town responsible for \$35,000. of the needed \$55,000 to keep Life Med in service thru 2001. The town share would have to come from CREDIT money, and all commitments are one time gifts at this time. Brian reminded of the Co. Council stipulation of a written commitment to \$55,000. before the county releases an additional \$22,500, to make the county share for 2001, \$100,000. Hanaford says the town board would want semi annual reviews of Life-Med accounts. With no other business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor