

August 27, 2001

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 8/20 meeting were approved with two corrections, moved by Brian Hauptert, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. The correct quote for the judges benches was \$38,600. and Mrs. Biehl's property is 8 ft. 2 inches from the platted road in Richvalley. Commissioners reviewed the Clerk's July report and the Memorial Hall/Jail custodian hours. Clerk, Jo Ann Hettmansperger, asked Commissioners to approve a fee of \$28.00 for checks that are returned for non-sufficient funds and a fee of \$25.00 for stop payment requests on county issued checks. This is what the bank charges her, and she would like to pass the cost along to the party involved. The fees would go into county general funds for payment of the bank charges. She says this primarily involves child support participants. She won't accept personal checks from an individual after one of their checks has been returned for non-sufficient funds. Brian moved to approve the two fees, effective 9/1/01 second by Darle, and passed. Jo Ann will talk with her computer vendor about moving her equipment to her new location in the judicial building. She says contractors have already installed the cable. In an effort to get more quotes for judges and clerk's benches in the judicial building, Brian moved to rescind last week's tentative acceptance of the single quote of \$38,600., second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners set 9/4/01 at 10:00 A.M. for the new deadline to accept quotes. B & G Woodworking, the lone bidder, will be notified to re-submit a quote for the entire job, plus a quote for part of the job. Brian reports the crux of the problem for M & W Construction is that their bond company went out of business, and they haven't been able to recoup their \$4500. payment, now needed for a new bond. Negotiations are ongoing. Les says Quality Electric employees shared some concerns about judicial building plans, and he asked them for a written list. Commissioners will then meet with owner, Larry Hoover, to discuss them. Wabash Fire Chief, Tim Niccum, voiced continuing concern over the ambulance service for the county. He will arrange a meeting within the next three weeks. Todd Rager of Laketon, asked for Commissioner assistance. He has owned property since 1973, that was accessed from CR 950 N, until it was abandoned in 1990. Access still wasn't a problem until the new property owner, Celia Shankster, denied him use of the abandoned road. Rager doesn't recall being notified in 1990, of a hearing to close several roads around the county, and he's spent \$5,000. for legal services to date, trying to get his access rights verified. The court issued a temporary injunction to allow him access to the property. Rager took a copy of the Commissioner minutes of 12/18/89, identifying roads to be abandoned, giving him proof that access existed in the past. Larry Rice will talk with county highway employees who might have plowed the road to the former Ora Blocher property, now owned by Shankster, in the past. He asked for signed Affidavits indicating there was a road at one time, that the county highway department plowed it and kept stone on it and that property cannot be landlocked, with no access, if the Commissioner minutes don't resolve his problem. Mr. Rager could petition to have the road opened, again, and paperwork for that is available at the county highway department. Rager did indicate he and Mr. Blocher had erected a gate, in the past, to limit public access to the area.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: 90 miles of chip and seal are done, there's 1/2 mile to go on America Road, then they'll move to the Somerset area. A Verizon request to bury cable on CR 500 S from 2806 E 500 S, west for 155 ft, looks okay, as it's an extension of existing cable. Commissioners signed the request. Randy Renbarger with the 4-H Fair board, told Larry the board acquired 12 used, large lights (\$300-400. each, new). They could be installed in the highway barn area, and Larry will get estimates for installation for both 110 and 220 lines. Commissioners will then decide how many, if any, to install, and whether they will ask the fair board to share the cost. It's dark in the barn on winter mornings, and may be darker after windows are removed on the north wall during repair work. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor