

October 29, 2001

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 9/22 meeting were approved with the correction that state highway crews are laying asphalt rather than county crews, moved by Brian Hauptert, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register, and reviewed the Treasurer's September report and the Weights and Measures monthly report. They noted the Christmas lighting service will be 11/17 at 5:00 P.M. Commissioners corrected the 2001 holiday calendar to include 12/31, and set 12/21 for the final payroll distribution of 2001. Elected officials, Lu Ann Layman, Kelly Schenkel, Brenda Conner, Donna Friedersdorf and Jo Ann Hettmansperger ask Commissioners to consider changing the vacation schedule section of the employee manual, adding a fourth week of vacation after 15 years of service, since there were no raises for 2002. Commissioners said they would consider the request, after talking with the highway supervisor to learn if that would be a hardship for him. The policy for carry over of unused vacation time wouldn't change. Paul Bergman, Emergency Management director, asked for Commissioner support of his planned request for a wage increase for 2002. Paul says his hours have increased significantly, he's spending close to 60 hours a week on a job that pays for 15 hours a week. The state reimburses for half his wages, and both Miami and Huntington counties pay their director more. Paul has talked with Co. Councilman, Ted Little, and has the support of his Local Emergency Planning Council. He plans to present the request to the Co. Council at their 12/3 meeting, with or without Commissioner support. Upon the recommendation of the tourism board, Brian moved to reappoint Louella Krom, Rosemary Eppley and Randy Fruitt to the Wabash County Tourism Commission, second by Darle, and passed. Each will serve a two year term thru 12/31/03, with Krom representing the Roann community, Eppley representing southern Wabash County and Fruitt representing the North Manchester motel/hotel and bed and breakfast industry. Commissioners also approved reappointments to the Wabash Co. Health Board, as recommended, moved by Brian, second by Darle, and passed. Mary Brane and Robert Taylor will serve three year terms thru 12/04 and Linda Mattern and Jeffrey Pyle will serve four year terms thru 12/05. Commissioners agreed Rene Chenault could use the Roann covered bridge for a wedding on 7/6/02, however she should check with the Roann Lions Club to make sure they don't have a conflict. Commissioners will ask their attorney, Tom Mattern, to notify Galaxy Cablevision Commissioners have received complaints of poor service from Liberty Mills residents. Toby Steffan, Butler, Fairman & Seufert (BF&S) site foreman on the Carroll St. bridge project, says there will be two change orders (c/o) coming on the project; # 5 for any finalizing work that overruns \$5,000. and # 6 deals with force main work. There will be a pre-final meeting on 10/30 at the job site, and final inspection may not be until spring, after the grass has come up. The contractor, Atlas Construction, has notified Toby in writing, they want an extra 272 days for delays, and the state is holding \$13,700. in retainage. Toby doesn't know whether the contractor and the state will settle, and the state will release the retainage, or bargain on the 272 extra days. John Speidel, Jr. with BF&S, says they have asked the state to include the extra inspection of bridge # 13 over the Mississinewa River, due to the similarity to the Hoan bridge that failed, as part of the bridge renovation project, then the county would only have to pay 20% of the \$13,000. for extra inspections. Design changes during the renovation should improve stability, but the state will still require extra inspections. Commissioners agreed with the proposal. Commissioners want it on record that CR 950 N, recently reopened, is traditionally known as Troyer Road.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: CR 800 N is closed for work. Allen Blocher of Laketon, has asked that one block of Main Street, in Laketon, be closed 11/10 for a tractor pull. It would be closed from 1:00 P.M. until the event concludes. Commissioners agreed. Work is progressing on the Blue Star Highway project.

Highway Supplies Bids: At 9:30, Brian moved to close the bidding, second by Darle, and passed. Les opened the bids that included: (1) Crushed Stone: Irving Materials, Inc., Rock Industries, StoneCo; (2) Gravel: Peru Sand & Gravel, Siders & Sons, W & W Gravel; (3) Sand: Rock Industries, W & W Gravel, LaFontaine Gravel; (4) Liquid Asphalt Imulsion: Pierceton Trucking Co., Koch Materials; (5) Liquid Asphalt: Pierceton Trucking Co., Laketon Refining; (6) Winter/Summer Cold Mix: E & B Paving, Phend & Brown; (7) Hot Asphalt: E & B Paving, Gaunt & Son Asphalt, Phend & Brown; (8) Gasoline: J.M. Reynolds Oil, North Central Cooperative; (9) Diesel Fuel: J.M. Reynolds Oil, Petroleum Traders, North Central Cooperative; (10) Bridge Material: American Timber Bridge; (11) High Performance Cold Mix: Phend & Brown; (12) Grader & Plow Blades: American Wire Rope & Sling; (13) Culvert Pipe: DebCo; (14) Road Signing Supplies: Hall Signs; (15) Tires: no bids; (16) Motor Oils: J.M. Reynolds Oil, Jackson Oil & Solvents, Master Petroleum Products; (17) Liquid Calcium Chloride: AJP Corporation, Great Lakes Chloride, Inc.; (18) Calcium Chloride or Rock Salt: Cargill Salt; Equipment Rental: Gaunt & Son, Siders & Son, John Camden Construction, Hank's Construction, Beer & Slaybaugh, Phend & Brown. Seneca Petroleum, IMC Salt and Morton Salt declined to bid this year, but want to stay on the bidders list. Brian moved to take the bids under advisement, second by Darle, and passed. Larry will ask Tom Mattern to review the bids for compliance with requirements.

Judicial Building: Commissioners agreed they would purchase the phone system and some computer cabling work on a 5 year lease thru Verizon. The program, at 7% fixed interest, has a \$1.00 buy out, and payments may be made monthly, quarterly or semi-annually. Brian moved to award the courtroom pews bid to Wings Contract Furnishings, second by Darle, and passed. Once Pyramid has confirmed the location of materials, and accepts responsibility for them, the county will release a check for partial payment (50%) of the contract. Mike Murphy with Pyramid, shared revised drawings for the parking lot, but said he'll have the final plans next week. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor