

November 13, 2001

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 11/5 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. Commissioner Attorney, Tom Mattern, noted receipt of a letter from Prince/Alexander Architects indicating they don't carry errors and omissions insurance. He also asked Commissioners to make time for an executive session to discuss a lawsuit filed by Stephens Fabrications against the county. They set 11/19/01 at 11:00 A.M. for the meeting, but since a Pyramid Architects representative can't attend at that time, they have reset the meeting for 2:30 P.M. on the same day. Mattern shared a copy of the letter he sent Galaxy Cablevision, advising Commissioners have received complaints of poor service from Liberty Mills residents, but are confident Galaxy will resolve the issue promptly. Deb Schneider with the Council on Aging (COA) presented the 5311 Transportation grant application for 2002. Commissioners signed the form, as Deb had provided them copies to review last week. They also signed a 2002 pass-thru agreement between the county and the COA, so money for the program funnels thru the county, then on to the COA, who administers the program. C. Robert Elrod, the county appointed member of the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission, told Commissioners he would not seek a two year re-appointment thru 12/03. Elrod says most projects are recreationally oriented, and many of the members are involved with parks departments. Commissioners thanked Elrod for his service, and will seek a replacement that would have a recreational interest, along with protecting the agricultural contingent. Paul Bergman, Emergency Management director, told Commissioners he was resigning his post, effective 1/02, to accept another position. He has notified his advisory council, and they will recommend a replacement to the Commissioners, for their approval. Paul showed the Commissioners three achievement plaques his department received from the state. He reminded Commissioners of their liability responsibility for potential HAZMAT issues throughout the county, and expressed displeasure with their lack of interest in his projects. John Speidel, Jr. with Butler, Fairman & Seufert Engineers (BF&S), had a federal aid application for bridge 208 over the railroad on old 24 W. He also had an agreement for property appraisals on Old St. Rd. 15 S. This is for the procurement of additional land needed for the project, separate from road right-of-way acquisition. The state will pay for 80% of the costs, while the county pays 20%. Commissioners signed both documents.

Wabash Co. Highway Dept.: Phil Amones replaced vacationing Larry Rice. He had drainage structure installation quotes from Hank's Construction, Wabash, and Pioneer Associates, Inc. of Leo, IN, on three projects. (1) Noble township on CR 300 W, north of St. Rd. 124, Pioneer bid \$ 27,972. and Hank's bid \$ 12,000.; (2) Chester Township on CR 150 E, 7/10 mile north of St. Rd. 16, Pioneer bid \$27,178. and Hank's bid \$11,000.; (3) Liberty Township on America Rd., north of CR 975 S, Pioneer bid \$25,601. and Hank's bid \$9,000. Brian moved to award all three projects to Hank's Construction, second by Darle, and passed. The structures for all three are here and ready for installation. Commissioners discussed the drainage problem in Urbana, near the 7 mile Mini Mart. Possibilities include a side ditch to the highway, if the state approves, or connecting to a nearby private drain that runs into the new drainage system. Commissioners will visit the site next Monday afternoon.

CR 950 N (aka Troyer Rd.): Celia Shankster presented a petition, with 35 signatures, to close the road. She has researched the Indiana Code, and submitted references pertaining to the issue. She contends there wasn't a road when she purchased the property in 1993, nor any mention of it on her abstract. Shankster says there's a lane for her property, not the old road. She feels the Commissioners are giving Todd Rager her property, in the guise of an unimproved road for his use. Suggesting she's being taken advantage of because she's an elderly widow, she questioned what information the surveyor used to stake the road. Mrs. Shankster claims the old road took a different route, possibly under her home, but she doesn't have any documentation to back up her assumption. Commissioners told her they represent everyone in the county, and strive to resolve issues as fairly as possible for all parties involved. Commissioners will get Surveyor, John Stephens' reference points for staking the road and check the Plan Commission records for a building permit for Mrs. Shankster's home, built by Ora Blocher in 1978. Tom Mattern advises a hearing will be needed to address the petition to close the road, with certified notices sent to adjacent property owners and a legal notice published according to requirements. Brian moved to take the petition under advisement, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners will notify Mrs. Shankster when they have gathered their information. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor