

December 17, 2001

Wabash County Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 12/10 meeting were approved as written, moved by Darle Dawes, second by Brian Haupert, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and reviewed the November Financial Report, the Clerk's November Report, the Benicomp November report, the Weights and Measures Monthly Report and the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. Commissioner Attorney, Tom Mattern, reports one of the court appointed appraisers for Old Road 15 S right-of-way (R/W) appraisals, Bob Halderman, doesn't do appraisals any longer, so Judge Vanderpool appointed a replacement. They will be sworn in December 19th. Tom also reviewed the itemized listing of outstanding expenses on the judicial building project sent by Stephens Fabrication, Inc. Of the \$32,838.36 listed as outstanding, \$14,997.85 in reimbursements are requested in an existing lawsuit filed by Stephens Fabrication. Brian will forward a copy of the itemized letter to Bart Karwath at Barnes and Thornburg law firm, for his review. Brian will ask Bart if the county should negotiate with Stephens Fabrication. Ron Bakehorn, Cooper Road in Noble Township, asked Commissioners to allow him to maintain the road side near his home. He will keep things trimmed back. Commissioners agreed, and said they're willing to work with land owners as long as they keep their areas maintained. Highway Supervisor, Larry Rice, agrees, and suggests if Commissioners set a policy for trimming, they don't use utility poles as a guideline, because they're not always 10 feet off the road. After discussion, Brian moved to accept the Wabash Co. Emergency Management Advisory Council recommendation to appoint Bob Brown as interim director of Wabash Co. Emergency Management, second by Darle, and passed. The appointment is for a trial period not to exceed 90 days, beginning 1/1/02. Beth Miller, representing Working Against Substance Abuse (WASA), presented their 2002 grant requests. Of the requested \$36,730. they recommend approval of \$36,000. Beth says the board is more strict about how funds are spent, and in answer to Brian's question about using the funds for a radar gun, said police report 50% of their traffic citations are alcohol related. Thus, they're allowing the Wabash Police Dept. half the cost of a radar gun. Brian moved to support the presentation to the Co. Council, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed a jail inspection report. Overall, things are okay, with overcrowding causing some issues. They also looked at a report from Employers Security Insurance, our Workman's Compensation carrier. They reviewed the county facilities, and recommend security measures for the courthouse. Brian will look into this matter, and Commissioners will re-visit this next year.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Commissioners reviewed and signed a letter to property owners along CR 1300 N, concerning a drainage issue. Larry's crews have worked on Troyer Rd. and CR 950 N, in an attempt to make the hill area safer. After discussing options, Brian moved to request additional funds to the Highway General fund, building repairs account, to pay for highway barn electrical work. Second by Darle, the motion passed. Larry had quotes for a bridge truck (V-8 automatic, 155 inch wheel base, tall seats). The old vehicle will be sold at auction, or advertised, rather than traded. The Shepherd Chevrolet quote of \$19,650. for a 2002 model, appears to be the lowest, and Larry has a \$1,000. rebate good on any General Motors product. Brian moved to accept the Shepherd quote, second by Darle, and passed. Larry has mailed the request for the rebate certificate. If the rebate was used on a 2000 model at Denney's, the final cost would be lower. Larry says a request from SPRINT to bury cable and bore under the road on CR 800 S, from CR 600 E, west for 2800 feet, looks okay. Commissioners signed.

Judicial Building: Jeff Stinson, with Pyramid, says 98% of the doors are in, but the supplier forgot to order two. They're installing door hardware now. The dumbwaiter is installed. Dane Architecture will re-fit the entry doors that aren't quite right. Kellam Contracting is framing the entry steps, and starting work on the sidewalk from the north. Commissioners want Kellam to put top soil around the sprinkler unit on the north side of Memorial Hall. They also want the judicial building windows cleaned. Commissioners discussed the need for two additional phone lines in the judicial building. One line for the elevator phone and one for the Clerk's fax line. The elevator company must supply the phone. The security guards will need a phone in their office, Judge Sposeep wants a phone in the law library on his floor, and Judge Vanderpool doesn't think a phone is needed in the conference room on his floor. Forty phones plus the switchboard station were ordered with the new system. A minimum of 41 phones are needed unless changes are made. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Haupert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor