

January 14, 2002

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 1/7 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket and the Payroll Check Register. They reviewed the Jail/Memorial Hall custodian hours. After learning George Airgood would accept a reappointment to the Alcoholic Beverage Board, Darle moved to appoint Mr. Airgood for a one year term thru 12/31/02, second by Les, and passed. Darle moved to accept the agreement with Dan Clark, Inc., d/b/a Universal Consultants, to appraise county buildings for insurance purposes, second by Les, and passed. For \$250. they will update the highway garage and salt shed, the courthouse, jail, and probation buildings. Commissioners discussed a letter from Wabash Mayor, Arvin Copeland, and Brian will meet with Mr. Copeland to discuss obstacles to a new ambulance service agreement, and encourage the mayor to attend the Co. Council meeting January 28th. After learning the quote from Arab to treat the Probation office covers mice and insects, except wood boring insects, Commissioners agreed that Tina Edwards may proceed with Arab for one year of service. The Auditor advised Commissioners letters were sent to local lenders on 1/9, requesting quotes for a short term loan to complete the judicial building. The deadline to accept quotes is 1/22. Brian signed an agreement with Purdue University for the county share of wages (\$32,375.) for extension educators, Vince Harrell and Nancy Radabaugh for 2002. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, reports he has talked with Bart Karwath of Barnes & Thorburg, regarding the Stephens Fabrication lawsuit against the county. Karwath has petitioned the court for an additional 30 days to respond, and has talked with the plaintiff's attorney, so all is well for now. Tom has reviewed and approved a form letter to notify property owners of plans to close various county roads. Larry Rice will get the letters typed, and once Commissioners have set hearing dates, he'll also arrange advertising. County Treasurer, Lu Ann Layman, and Commissioners met for their annual Board of Finance meeting. Darle moved to retain Les as President and Lu Ann as secretary for 2002, second by Brian, and passed. Lu Ann says \$682,728.34 was earned in interest for 2001, down from over \$969,000. in 2000. Paul Finnell with Boston Mutual Life Insurance Co. reports 50 of 113 employees he talked with enrolled with his plan. he said 80% of the Sheriff department and 50% of the highway department signed on. Commissioners agreed he could use them as a reference. Stephen Romano with Alternative Elevator, asked Commissioners to consider signing with his company for maintenance of the courthouse elevator. They have one year agreements, and would charge \$127. per month. They installed the judicial building dumb waiter, and are working on the museum elevator. The current contract is with Kone, originally signed in 1994 and renewable every five years. Commissioners will talk with Kone, before making any changes. Mike Shrider with the Sheriff's department and John Salb, Conservation officer, asked Commissioners to consider amending the 1976 snowmobile ordinance to allow off road vehicles to use the county road system. State law already allows this, and Kosciusko Co. (since 1995) and Miami Co. (since 1999) have ordinances to allow this. The vehicles would have to be registered and operated by a licensed driver, travel in single file, not obstruct the flow of traffic, and have mufflers for noise abatement. They wouldn't be allowed on roads within incorporated areas. Les moved to take the request under advisement, second by Darle, and passed. Shrider and Salb will get ordinance examples to Mr. Mattern.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept: Larry had crews out Saturday night in the northern part of the county. He presented a request for an additional appropriation from Local Road and Street funds to purchase a shop truck, totaling \$25,000. The bed and equipment will be switched from the old truck. Quotes are due by January 25th, but the request will have to wait for the 2/25 Council meeting, as the advertising deadline has passed for their 1/28 meeting. Les moved, Darle second, and passed, to support the request of \$25,000. Funds were encumbered from 2001 to buy another truck for the department. Les told Larry of a pot hole on Odgen Road he noticed last week, and Larry says it was fixed last Friday. They talked with Tom Mattern regarding an ordinance to prohibit trucks on the unofficial detour for the St. Rd. 13 S project. Larry will add a "local traffic only" sign under the "no trucks" sign when they install the signs. Since there are sign standards, Tom will specify "commercial trucks" are prohibited, in the ordinance he prepares. Agreements on the Mississinewa Recreational Road project have been signed by all parties, and the Auditor has copies on file. Larry will send Mr. Klare and Mr. Vanderpool a letter, listing options to eliminate their water problems on CR 100 S. Larry says a request from Verizon to work in the road right-of-way along CR 200 S, from 7400 W for 2/10 of a mile to 7610 W, looks okay, so Brian signed.

Judicial Building: Mike Murphy, with Pyramid, reports the concrete test reports arrived today with good results, and workers will dismantle the temporary supports. He presented the Municipality Grant application with Wabash Co. Solid Waste District, for use of recycled materials in the project. The requested \$95,000. will cover the cost of recycled materials including: carpeting, ceramic tile, steel, ceiling tile and paint. Les moved to approve the grant application, second by Darle, and passed. All three Commissioners signed the application. Murphy says the court benches are due this Saturday, courtroom carpet should be installed and door security systems completed by weeks' end. Woodwork should be done by 1/23, and the remaining HVAC mechanical work in the courthouse along with concrete work at the judicial site done by 1/25. Kellam Contracting still has curb work in the parking area, and Campbells Construction has fill work to do, yet. Counter tops contracted thru M & W are being held by the vendor, as M & W owes one payment. The county paid M & W before they withdrew from the project, so Murphy is negotiating to get the counter tops released. Mike says the installation cost for the two additional phone lines is \$35. each, and Commissioners must make the request. Brian will contact Verizon to order the lines for a fax machine and the elevator phone. Mike presented Change Orders for Quality Electric, both already figured in the budget. (1) \$3,787. for exterior building lighting and (2) \$4,021.60 for electrical and mechanical changes (\$24,192.60 in additions and \$20,171. in deductions). Les moved to accept and sign both change orders, second by Darle, and passed. Brian signed the orders. Les asked Mike to take measures to better protect the finished floors. With no further business, they adjourned.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor