

May 6, 2002

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 4/29 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Payroll Claim and Allowance Docket, the Payroll Check Register and the Accounts Payable Voucher Register. They reviewed the April Financial report and a notice from Insight Communications advising of a rate hike for cable services in the City of Wabash. Effective with June billings, Basic cable (24 channels) increases from \$10.50 to \$11.02 and Classic rate (41 channels) goes from \$21.57 to \$22.65 per month. The Auditor reported Co. Adjusted Gross Income Tax (CAGIT) money arrived from the state May 1st. The regular share of \$837,980.50 and the supplemental amount of \$124,208.00, owed the county from prior collections, were placed in the Co. General Fund. Benicomp representatives, Allen Miracle, Joe Clark and Jim Greer, told Commissioners the administration fee for our medical coverage is \$22.00 per person, per month, for the new contract. Prior administration fees had been set by former Benicomp employee, Neil Ropp, who now contends the county is being overcharged. Commissioners signed approval of changes in COBRA rates under the new contract. County Treasurer, Lu Ann Layman and Wells Fargo Bank president, David Rutledge, presented investment options for county funds, in an attempt to get the best rates for our checking account at Wells Fargo. Les moved to open a Treasury money market account with a 30 day yield of 1.72 %, second by Darle, and passed. Rutledge says the fund will sweep only sufficient amounts to cover checks written, it's legal to put public funds in this kind of account, it's highly automated, and he will set it up so no service fees will be charged. Les moved to donate three tables in the Health department to the Historical Museum inventory, second by Darle, and passed. They include 2 wood tables that are 8 feet long and 1 five foot steel table, none of which are currently in use. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, reports he has reviewed a sample ordinance proposal for homeland defense administration, sent by Emergency Management director, Bob Brown. Mandated by the federal government, Bob hopes to pare it down before official adoption. Tom reviewed the Servia water update grant agreement between the Dept. of Commerce and Wabash County. He says it's a standard form that puts much responsibility on the county, along with regular reporting requirements. The original understanding was that the county would only process funds for the project. Commissioners won't sign the contract until the Auditor has talked with Sara Reyman, the coordinator on this project. Les motioned to move forward with the development of a Cumulative Capital Development fund, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners set June 17th at 6:00 p.m. for a public hearing on the matter. It will be held in the Commissioner's room on the second floor of the courthouse.

Larry Rice, County Highway Dept.: Larry says Bob Bartoo has requested a road cut, and he advised that Commissioners would require written acceptance of the drainage plan from Bartoo's neighbor across the road. Larry says attempts to repair water leaks around the highway building's east windows hasn't been successful. He got two estimates to repair the leaks and fix up the surrounding wall. Gary Frierwood quoted \$3266. and Mike Paul quoted \$2285. There's money in the building maintenance account, and Commissioners agreed to go ahead with the project. Larry asked Commissioners to encourage the Plan Commission board to set up an ordinance requiring mail boxes be set 3 feet from the roadside. It could stipulate that property owners clear around their boxes, and that the county will only replace boxes they damage. Larry says his crews spend many hours maintaining mail box approaches now, so moving them back from the road shouldn't be a problem. Darle says 3 feet will put some in the side ditch, but he's okay with setting them back, some, on county roads. Les told Larry to talk with Plan Commissioner, Chad Dilling. Attorney, Tom Mattern, questioned how the ordinance would be enforced. Darle got a request to look at a drain under CR 400 E and CR 1050 N. The road dips, and the drain may be broken down. Phil Amones says there's water running thru the drain, but he'll look at it again. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor