

March 10, 2003

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 3/3 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. They reviewed the February Financial Report, and a notice from Kone Elevator that the maintenance agreement for the courthouse elevator will increase by 8.37 %, effective 4/1/03. Commissioners would like the new contract to stipulate notification of increases for the next year must be submitted by June 1st of the prior year. Commissioners will prepare a letter for Kone, indicating their continued displeasure with service and the contract that expires next April. Maintenance records indicate no service since last October. Brian moved approval of a Health Department claim for \$ 187.39 for laminating pouches used for birth certificates, second by Darle, and passed. Darle moved for Clerk, Lori Draper, to hold off her decision on upgrading the jury management system, until she talks with County Council, second by Brian, and passed. Manatron says the proposed equipment isn't sufficient, and the cost will increase about \$2,000. The money Lori encumbered from 2003, won't be enough. The CSI upgrade for the Clerk, that increases the number of users, adds a fire wall for security and sets up internet access via the law library unit, will be billed in 2003 for \$5,594.00, with the balance of \$2,500.00 due in 2004. The program will enable electronic filing of tax warrants, whose numbers have skyrocketed. They will have some interaction with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, too. Lori would like to add a disclaimer to the contract, excluding the "doc's pop" option, which isn't wanted. Brian moved to support use of \$ 5,594. from the Clerk's Incentive Fund for the upgrade, along with adding the disclaimer, second by Darle, and passed. Lori says the CSI maintenance agreement for 2003 has been reviewed and the inventory corrected, with the final amount being \$ 6,771., a savings of about \$2500.00. Brian moved approval to pay the maintenance agreement, second by Darle, and passed. Brian suggested Lori ask that payments be changed from annual to quarterly. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, reviewed the proposed changes in the contract with the City of Wabash for ambulance services in the southern two-thirds of the county. The city proposes automatic annual renewal of the agreement, unless notice of desire to withdraw from the contract is given by either party within 60 days of renewal. The contract allows the city the option of yearly increases. Commissioners would like a June 1st deadline for notification of fee increases for the next year. Tom presented a draft of a letter to Sandy Minnick, requesting the return of \$19,896.98 to the county within 14 days from the date of the letter, 3/8/03. The letter will be sent certified mail. Funds were removed from the Minnick Construction retainage account at Frances Slocum Bank by a telephone wire transfer. Tom thinks this is more a civil case rather than criminal. After discussion, Darle moved to add 3 vacation days in 2003 only, for all county employees eligible for vacation benefits, who didn't receive raises for 2003, second by Brian, and passed. The extra benefit is offered because of no wage increases over the last two years.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry attended the field check last week for the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) access project on CR 950 S. Bid letting is set for the spring of 2004. Commissioners agreed Eriks Chevrolet, Kokomo, could display the truck they sold the county at Purdue Road School, as long as weather wasn't an issue. Neil Munsing will get it Sunday evening, 3/23, and return it Tuesday morning. Larry says he has ordered 250 tons of salt so far in 2003.

Highway Truck bids: Brian moved to close the bids for a single axle and tandem axle truck plus equipment for both at 10:00 A.M., second by Darle, and passed. Les opened and read the bids, while Mr. Mattern checked that they met requirements. Truck bids were (1) Circle City GMC, Indianapolis, \$ 48,900. for a single axle 2003 GMC and \$54,200. for a tandem axle 2003 GMC; (2) Stoops Freightliner & Sterling & Western Star, Fort Wayne, 2004 LT 7500 single axle, \$51,145. and tandem axle, \$56,796.; (3) Selking International, Decatur, \$52,700.02 for a single and \$63,959.61 for a tandem, both being 2004 International 7400 series; (4) Denney Motor Sales, Wabash, \$47,663. for a single and \$54,342. for a tandem, both being TC 8500 2003 GMC trucks; (5) Eriks Chevrolet, Kokomo, \$48,348. for a single and \$53,977 for a tandem, both being TC 8500 series; (6) W & W International Truck Sales, Logansport, quoted a 2004 International 7400 series at \$54,625. for a single and \$61,728. for a tandem; (7) Penske Chevrolet, Indianapolis, quoted 2003 TC 8500 series at \$48,143.99 for a single and \$54,976.73 for a tandem; (8) Wiers Manufacturing, Plymouth, quoted a 2003 diamond 7400 series at \$53,225. for a single and \$59,600. for a tandem. Equipment bids were: (1) Northern Equipment Co. Inc., Plymouth at \$29,397. to equip a single axle truck and \$31,220. to equip a tandem axle truck; (2) W.A. Jones & Son, Columbia City, \$29,933. to equip a single and \$31,933. for a tandem; (3) Fountain Distribution, Indianapolis, \$32,985. for a single and \$34,795. for a tandem; (4) Deeds Equipment, Lawrence, \$29,840. for a single and \$32,999. for a tandem. Brian moved to take the bids under advisement, second by Darle, and passed.

Employee insurance renewal: Allen Miracle, representing Benicomp, told Commissioners the recommended American United Life proposal would honor claims over the last 24 months, and offer the same benefits for a lower monthly premium. Pre-existing conditions with new hires are covered as long as the employee has proof of insurance before coming to work for the county. Allen recommends the county assume the liability for Short term disability claims, by continuing to factor STD costs into the monthly fees, but keep the funds locally for reimbursement as needed. Specific liability for the county will increase from \$15,000. per covered individual to \$20,000.00, with the first \$25,000. beyond the individual liability staying at \$25,000.00, then the carrier assumes costs. Brian moved to accept the AUL quote with \$20,000./\$25,000. specific and the same benefits of doctor co-pay, a prescription card, wellness coverage and a \$250. single and \$750. family deductible, second by Les, and passed. Commissioners signed a one year agreement. In response to a question about recent notice that all employees who carry medical coverage must also carry life insurance, Allen said that's becoming a universal requirement by carriers.

Roads and Bridges: John Speidel, Jr., with Butler, Fairman & Seufert, (BF&S), gave Commissioners a copy of the submitted application for federal aid to repair Bridge # 175 on CR 700 W and Cooper Road. John reports no bid date has been set for Bridge # 13 over the Missinewa River, but it could be bid this fall with work to start in the spring of 2004, with completion by 09/04. Commissioners would like the work coordinated with work on the Dept. of Natural Resources access road on CR 950 S. John says additional right-of-way (R/W) purchases on Old St. Rd. 15 S are about completed. The buyer met with six property owners last Saturday. Les heard from Mr. Aswegan, who won't settle because he feels there's unnecessary loss of trees. John presented the contract to provide construction engineering services for Old 15 S. It has been reviewed and approved by the IN Dept. of Transportation, and Commissioners signed two copies. LaFontaine town marshall, Paul Karst, asked Commissioners to check the entrance to the bridge on Old 15 S, between CR 800 S and CR 900 S. There's a significant hump, and there have been two serious accidents since 1999. Commissioners and Larry Rice will check the site today. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST:

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor