

OCTOBER 20, 2003

Commissioner Chairman, Lester Templin, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 10/14 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 Clerk's September Report, the Weights & Measures Monthly Report and the Benicomp Insurance September report. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, presented an amendment to Ordinance 1994-9. It adds a STOP sign at the intersection of CR 150 W and Division Road as agreed last week. Mattern also presented Resolution 2003-VI, which establishes support of acquisition of government vehicles at a nominal sum of \$1.00 per sponsor endorsed vehicle. The next step is to complete the grant application thru the Homeland Security Vehicle program. Commissioners signed both documents. Emergency Management director, Bob Brown, invited Commissioners to a statewide meeting on terrorism strategy next Monday at Indiana/Purdue Ft. Wayne, from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Bob says the TAP unit in North Manchester is still interested in joining his group, and he has some available funds to bring them on board. It would add about 10 people to his roster who would need covered under the Workman's Compensation policy. When he checked with the insurance agent about the cost, he learned his department's coverage has been dropped, and the agent is exploring the matter. Brian advised waiting until the insurance issue is resolved. Commissioners gave approval for Bob to open a charge account for purchasing materials thru his Homeland Security grant. The department had one in the past, but Bob closed it out. Russell Cox, Twin Lakes Estates resident, told Commissioners property owners are blocking roads in the subdivision, making them impassable. He questioned a double standard, indicating one owner was taken to jail for blocking a roadway, but nothing has been done about many others doing the same. Cox said he has blocked a road that goes nowhere, as people dump trash there if it's left open. Cox asked about county standards to accept a gravel road into their maintenance system. Larry Rice said he hasn't seen any criteria, but the county does maintain nearly 25 miles of gravel roads.

Lori Draper, Clerk: Lori says she will need an additional appropriation next year to cover bank charges. Her new account receives interest, but those monies go into the County General Fund, and she has no money budgeted for monthly fees of \$500. to \$600.00. Lori also needs a fire proof box to store computer back-up tapes, and they run about \$200. per box. She has funds available to pay the balance of the CSI bill for computer upgrades, and Commissioners agreed she may pay it, after she is certain the system is okay. She may either pay in December or encumber funds for a February payment. She is still looking at copy machine options, but has Commissioner approval to purchase, using funds from her Clerk's Incentive and Records Perpetuation Funds.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry says the damage on CR 700 S at the Rick Sweet property was done by a contractor, and can easily be repaired with a couple wheelbarrow loads of material. Damage on CR 750 W is from trucks involved in the Corps of Engineers project at the Mississinewa Dam. Designated truck routes were established at the beginning of the project, but aren't being honored by all contractors. Damage near the Woodlawn Methodist Church in Somerset, is the result of concrete trucks working a new home project. It needs repaired before winter. Originally the property owner agreed to pay repair costs, but has changed his mind and hired an attorney. The contractor, Homestead Builders says it's not their responsibility. Larry says repair costs for all damage will be significant. Brian suggests Larry check with other highway departments about their policy. Mr. Mattern says an agreement between an owner and the contractor might address the issue. Les reports there's a hole in the sidewalk at Branson and Walnut Streets in LaFontaine. There must be a void under it, and he was told the Co. Highway Dept. repaired it several years ago. Larry doesn't understand why the county would be involved in an incorporated town. John Speidel Jr., with Butler, Fairman & Seufert (BF&S), presented an agreement for on-call engineering services for the repairs to the Treaty Creek retaining wall on Old Rd. 15 S. The agreement, prepared by Jim Hamilton with BF&S, includes inspection costs, but Larry had questions about contract terminology and the total amount. After Speidel telephoned Hamilton, it was determined the total estimate was \$36,000. instead of \$24,000. as interpreted by Speidel. The inspection fee is \$12,000. in addition to \$24,000. for repair costs. The work is based on hourly rates, and should come in well under the "not to exceed" estimate, John said. He said planning is proceeding, even though the agreement isn't signed. Commissioners didn't sign the contract today.

Highway truck bids: At 11:00 A.M., Brian moved to close the bidding for a flat bed truck, second by Darle, and passed. Three bids were received. (1) Denney Motor Sales of Wabash quoted \$19,450. for a 2004 GMC per specifications. (2) Dorais Chevrolet, Wabash, quoted \$19,325. for a 2004 C-3500 model with delivery after 1/1/04. (3) Shepherd Chevrolet of North Manchester quoted \$19,204.56 for a C-3500 Silverado. Brian moved to take the bids under advisement, second by Darle, and passed. No bid bonds were required. Larry will review the quotes. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Lester D. Templin, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Brian K. Hauptert

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor