

April 19, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 4/12 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 Clerk and Treasurer reports for March. They reviewed quotes from Abell Elevator International to service the dumbwaiter in the Judicial Center. One quote of \$204.00 annually, is for quarterly service with an automatic one year contract renewal, unless there's written notice 90 days prior to the renewal date. The second quote of \$163.50 is for once a year service including state required tests, with the same renewal provisions. Les moved to accept the annual maintenance at \$163.50, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners noted two properties have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places effective 3/22/04. They include the Thomas Marshall School in North Manchester and the Stockdale Mill in Stockdale. They reviewed a revised quote from MJV Group, Inc. for cleaning services 3 times a week in the Judicial Center, only. The monthly rate is \$1,290.00 for a total of \$15,480.00 annually. Les moved approval of the new monthly rate which is down \$100. with the elimination of cleaning in Memorial Hall, second by Darle, and passed. Les moved to approve a request for two weeks of Family Medical Leave from employee, Kara Long, second by Darle, and passed. This extends her six week maternity leave by two weeks. Upon the recommendation of the Health Officer, Les moved to appoint David Ericsson to the Board of Health for a four year term thru 4/18/08, second by Darle, and passed. Ericsson manages the Honeywell House, and replaces Dorothea Biehl on the board. Eileen Biehl and Pamela Woodall had also agreed to accept the post if appointed. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, reports Council Chairman Paul Sites has signed his two motions regarding the Letha Jackson bequest to the Co. Farm Home, and he's proceeding with the matter. Beverly Ferry, director of the Wabash Co. Council on Aging, presented her quarterly voucher for the 5311 Transportation Grant. 6,946 rides broke all prior first quarter records. Ridership donations are up, which helps with expenses. Senior funding ran out 4/14, even though the contract runs thru June. It's the first time they have used all funds available for senior transportation. She needs more drivers, but she is very selective, and is looking for grant money to buy new vehicles. Brian signed the claim. Upon the recommendation of Allen Miracle, the county's local agent for medical insurance, Les moved to switch providers to Parkview Signature Care/Encore and Lutheran Preferred, rather than Sagamore and Lutheran Preferred, second by Darle, and passed. Allen says Parkview/Encore is now one of the largest providers and gives deeper discounts. Allen says Benicomp uses federal formulas to set COBRA rates, and he would recommend the county charge those rates. In a related matter, Commissioners decided they would charge the standard COBRA rates for a former employee on 11 months extended coverage due to a disability. According to Benicomp, the county may charge up to 50% above standard rates.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry said he doesn't recommend a "blind drive" sign at the Penny Barnett property at 3181 S Bailey Road. Her drive is 300 feet from the intersection, and the pine trees obscuring the view belong to Barnett. There's a speed limit on Bailey Rd., and drivers are approaching a STOP sign. From an engineering standpoint this situation wouldn't meet criteria. Les moved support of Larry's recommendation to deny the request, second by Darle, and passed. Larry asked Commissioners to put a decision to buy a Maxx Patcher on hold. He wants to get quotes from Dura Patcher for their machine. The two companies are in court right now. The Mississinewa Sky Hawks submitted a written request for brush removal in the area where they fly their radio controlled planes. It was cleared last year, but grew back, and the Skyhawks plan to kill it this year. Larry says it won't take long, so Commissioners agreed to do it. Larry is still working on road damage from heavy haulers. Brian has heard from concerned local producers asking what limits Commissioners plan to set. Sheriff Striker says three trucks were ticketed in succession for being overweight at the twin bridges on Old Rd. 15 S. Les wants Larry to get information from other counties on what they're doing. Larry says James Hamilton with Butler, Fairman & Seufert will be here next Monday for the annual bridge inspection. Larry says things are moving along on Old Rd. 15 S, trees are cleared and they're laying pipe. Telephone, power and gas will all relocate to the back of the right-of-way. Larry thinks Matt Bobay is doing a great job as the site foreman. Les moved to set the Annual Surplus Sale for June 25th at 4:00 P.M. at the highway department. The Auditor will locate an auctioneer and ask departments for surplus lists.

Leroy Striker, Sheriff: Leroy says there are 92 in jail this morning, but there were 106 Sunday morning. Koorsen is looking at his fire alarm system, it's not meeting current standards. He hopes to have figures today. Mike Wohlford, formerly with Havel Brothers is doing some maintenance and repairs on the heating/cooling system at the jail. Wohlford says he's up to about \$4,000. right now. Also the water heater in the kitchen needs replaced. Sheriff Striker plans to use Community Corrections or Commissary funds to pay for the work.

Memorial Hall renovation: Mary Ellen Rudisel and Jeff Kumfer with Scearce Rudisel Architects presented two plans, with the primary difference the layout for lobby and reception areas. Plan two allows the receptionist some privacy and a view. Rudisel noted Probation had asked for both a break room and a conference room, but since their conferences are inter office, Commissioners question the need for separate rooms. The plans could be commingled somewhat. Mary Ellen figured the job at \$40.00 per square foot on 868 sq. ft., which comes to \$114,720.00 for the job, about the same for either plan. The ceilings are 15 ft. 8 in. high and the windows stop at 13 ft. The ceilings are beautiful tin, but Brian said Commissioners planned for a dropped ceiling as heating ducts are below the ceiling on the third floor. There is a potential problem with handicapped access to the Memorial Hall third floor, but Rudisel will check the elevator today. There are some beautiful glass door cabinets in what will become the reception area. Commissioners think they should go to the new museum, if they can be removed from Memorial Hall. Rudisel and Kumfer will meet with Probation to finalize plans, and she will bring them to the 5/3 Commissioner meeting. Construction could begin by July 1st and take a couple of months. With no further business the meeting recessed.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

Attest: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor