

June 21, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 6/14 meeting were approved with a correction, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Ordinance # 1 regarding Br. # 38 places a speed and weight limit rather than height and weight limit. Commissioners reviewed the Weights & Measures monthly report and the Jail/Judicial Center custodian hours. Wabash Police Chief, Charles Smith, reports the city is upgrading their radio system with J & K Communications, Inc. doing the work. Ted Hurley, with J & K, suggested the county tower at the Solid Waste District office had some available space about 90 feet high that would be ideal for locating police equipment. Commissioners asked Smith to get a written agreement covering liability, insurance and maintenance issues to their attorney for review. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, noted receipt of a TORT notice from John Barshney and Mary Ann Richardson Henderson. He has forwarded a copy to the county's insurance carrier. Upon the recommendation of Joy Harber, Roann Paw Paw Township Library director, Les moved to appoint Meredith Brower to the library Board of Trustees for a four year term thru July 31, 2008, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners approved a request from Hans Harms, President of the Laketon & Pleasant Township Association. Main Street from Wayne St. to Lake St. in Laketon will be closed from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. on June 27, 2004 for the Laketonian Days festival. Larry Rice says Harms gets barricades from his department. Commissioners reviewed a proposal from Cleaver Cabling & Consulting for preparing courthouse offices for internet access. The estimate of \$6,865.00 covers 30 access points. Commissioners would like a couple more proposals, before making a decision. Les told Gary Schue, with U4Com Phone Company, to check with the county after the new year. At this point Commissioners aren't ready to switch their local service from Verizon. County Clerk, Lori Draper, reports she will get new voter registration equipment next year, at no cost to the county. Manatron, her current software provider, didn't get the state contract. Emergency Management director, Bob Brown, asked Commissioners to accept a 2004 Homeland Security grant in the amount of \$182,188.00. It includes \$57,871. for first responders; the second award for law enforcement, towards installation of an 800 MHz radio system in the amount of \$82,073.00; \$10,432. for law enforcement; \$20,701. for an ortho photography mapping update for GIS, that should improve up close resolution; and \$11,111. for statewide agricultural counter terrorism training and equipment for veterinarians. The agreement ends 11/30/05. Les moved to accept the grant and its requirements, second by Darle, and passed. Brian signed acceptance. Bob says he has received \$624,338.76 in grants and equipment since 2002. For budgeting purposes, Bob reminded Commissioners the county will be responsible for insuring the vehicle used by EMA personnel in North Manchester beginning in 2005. He also asked Commissioners to support increasing EMA hours for 2005, either verbally or with a letter. Nancy Hoffman, Cathy Bakehorn, Donna Wilhelm and Richard Rider, representing the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC), thanked the county for past support and asked that their charitable subsidy be restored to the 2002 level of \$53,500.00. Due to finance problems, the county has contributed less than that the last two years. Cathy demonstrated some of the tasks performed by adult workshop employees, and Commissioners participated. ARC got the highest possible accreditation last November, and because of the won't have to be re-accredited for three years. They service the entire county, but the bulk comes from the City of Wabash. They have had considerable challenges the last two years with some medicaid services, and, because several residents had to be relocated from Manor Care to communal homes, the staff has grown. Commissioners commended ARC for its efforts to help those in need.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry said CR 800 S, 200 E, 300 E, 700 S, 100 W and 950 S have been repaired. All were damaged by heavy load traffic. Les moved that the county request property owners and contract haulers to pay 50% of repair costs, second by Darle, and passed. Darle had reservations about the contention that vehicles were carrying over weight loads, but agreed the traffic has been much heavier than the roads were built to accommodate. The asphalt build-up on CR 800 S, and just beyond the dairy drive is done. Larry is still assessing damage from last week's storm. His department has been back to clean out a pipe installed last year on CR 700 N, west of CR 800 E, three times. Water backs up, as there isn't any place for it to go, then the area washes out. It may be a drainage issue. There are two structures that need replaced. The one on CR 1200 S, east of St. Rd. 13, is a hazard to the road. The other one is on CR 500 E, south of CR 400 N. Repairs to Bridge # 120 on CR 300 E, north of St. Rd. 124, should be completed today. Larry says the area near the intersection of CR 400 S and 400 W gets blocked with stone periodically, then water runs over the road. Larry asked Commissioner help with a resolution. Larry says to expect property owners in the area of CR 390 E and CR 350 S to attend the 7/6 drainage meeting. According to the surface area and calculations done by Kelvin Grumpp and Larry, the existing culvert should be large enough. Area residents may disagree. Larry says a Verizon request to bore and bury cable on CR 200 W between U.S. 24 and Division Road, looks okay, although he will remind Verizon there are two tiles and a sewer line and stormwater drain belonging to the city in the area. Commissioners signed the request, and a copy will go to the Surveyor. Brian signed appraisal and Just Compensation reports for properties on CR 950 S and CR 300 W. This DNR project is fully reimbursable for right-of-way acquisition and damages. Properties include: Ernie Ball, Steven Dunnagan, Marlin Faust, Stephen Julian, James Needler, Jeffrey Ravenscroft and Teddy Ricketts. Commissioners talked with representatives from Butler, Fairman & Seufert and the IN Dept. of Transportation, regarding possible design changes on the Old Rd. 15 S project. Construction costs for changes would range from \$53,000.00 to \$220,000.00, and BF&S would need to submit a level 1 design exception to INDOT for approval. Changes in one area could impact another section or property owner. BF&S representatives will talk with some residents and get back with Commissioners. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST:

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor