

JUNE 28, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M. after the Co. Council meeting adjourned. Minutes of the 6/21 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 referred a letter regarding piles of grass cuttings along a fence in Urbana to the Environmental Sanitarian. It's allegedly moldy, smelly and a breeding place for mosquitos. Commissioner attorney, Tom Mattern, presented a letter from Wabash Police Chief, Charles Smith, indicating they will be responsible for the cost of placing their equipment on the county tower at the Solid Waste building, and will be liable for any maintenance and repair costs. Mattern says the agreement looks okay, unless Commissioners want a reference about liability insurance coverage. Les moved to accept the agreement with the stipulation that a paragraph about liability insurance be added, second by Darle, it passed. Emergency Management director, Bob Brown, reports he deposited grant funds with the Auditor last Friday, except the GIS and veterinarian funds, which stay at the state level. His tabletop seminar was a success last week, with state, county and local participants. The Caprice auto he put in the annual sale, sold for \$700.00. Pat Lynn, representing Our Children Our Future, asked Commissioner support of a grant application thru the Early Learning Opportunities Act. She applied last year, but wasn't successful. This time it will be a tri-county effort, including Miami and Huntington Counties. She will request \$900,000.00, with the bulk earmarked for Wabash County. Programs offered thru the grant are designed to improve early literacy, preparing children for school. Les moved support of the grant, second by Darle, and passed. Brian signed a letter of support.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: Larry says CR 400 S, and 400 W are repaired. The new pipes are in for CR 800 N, 200 E and 180 E. He says a SPRINT request to bury cable in road right-of-way for a new house looks okay. They will go from a pedestal, back a lane at 6383 N 500 E. Commissioners signed the request. He asked for Commissioner thoughts on his chip and seal program for this year. There's been more winter damage, and he thinks his crews could repair up to 150 miles, but there's not enough money budgeted for that. He could ask for an additional appropriation, if Commissioners agree. Darle has thought all along the program should be stepped up, in an effort to ensure all roads are re-done every five years. Heavily travelled roads don't last more than 3 or 4 years. Brian noted it's not efficient to backtrack, better to do everything in one area at once. Larry plans to start tomorrow, two weeks ahead of last year. No decision was made today. Responding to Brian's query, Larry has checked the culvert on CR 300 E, just north of St. Rd. 16. He agrees it needs repaired. He will talk with Treasurer, LuAnn Layman, about an assessment on the Mendenhall ditch in the Urbana area. The county has been notified that INDOT has received an addendum # 1 to the 1997 geotechnical report on the bridge over Speicher Creek on Old Rd. 15 S. Walt ant Witzig Engineering made the recommendation. Butler, Fairman and Seufert Engineers have prepared an Appraisal Problem Analysis Report for Old Rd. 15 S, from CR 1000 S to CR 600 S.

Leroy Striker, Sheriff: There are 96 in jail this morning. Replacement of the jail kitchen air conditioning unit should be completed this week. The guts of the 800 MHz radio system should be set up this week. The report on the annual jail inspection is due soon. He reports the former inmate who did extensive damage to the isolation room, has died, and likely the county will have to cover the estimated \$3,000. in repair costs. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor