

August 2, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all members present. Minutes of the 7/26 meeting were approved as written, moved by Lester Templin, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Accounts Payable Voucher Register and reviewed the Jail/Judicial Center custodian hours. In response to a request from Manchester Community Schools, Les moved to appoint Brian as the taxpayers' representative on the construction wage board for their upcoming project, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners reviewed a report from Cincinnati Insurance Co. representative, Paul Courtney, who made a "loss control" visit to the Jail complex, the Judicial/Memorial Hall buildings and the Courthouse. He indicated there were three concerns: (1) no records available regarding inspection and testing of the Judicial Center sprinkler system; (2) no smoke/heat alarm in the jail basement mechanical room; (3) combustibles stored near the circuit breaker panels next to the Sheriff dispatch room. Commissioners had no new business with their attorney, Tom Mattern. Beverly Ferry, director of the Council on Aging, asked Commissioners to sign the application for the 5311 Transportation grant for next year. She doesn't expect to receive more money than she got for 2004, and has implemented cost cutting measures to keep the program running this year. She and her board have looked at options, but don't feel increasing user fees would generate significant income, and would be a hardship for those they serve. Commissioners serve as the funds pass thru authority, and Brian signed the grant. EMA director, Bob Brown, asked Commissioners, again, about placing a sand pile for his emergency use at the Co. Highway Department. Highway supervisor, Larry Rice, has space for the sand pile, and Commissioners agreed to give it a try. Chief of Probation, Dallas Duggan, reported he will attend a construction meeting at Memorial Hall tomorrow at 9:30 A.M., and hopes some Commissioners will attend, too. Dallas and the Commissioners agreed funds to cover a phone system and necessary electronic wiring to relocate to the Memorial Hall will come from Probation User Fees. He has a quote of \$5,141.57 from Verizon, to interface a new system with the courthouse phone system, but doesn't have a quote for needed wiring, at this time. Allen Miracle, the county's health insurance agent, talked of an employee application to add a spouse to the plan. A spouse may be added without question within 30 days of marriage, within 30 days of losing a job or prior insurance coverage, or at the annual open enrollment in December. Without further clarification, the application doesn't appear to meet any of the criteria. The county is open to liability if the plan document isn't followed. Allen reminded Commissioners, an employee is responsible for reporting changes in their circumstances, and must do it in a timely manner. Commissioners consensus is to follow the plan document, and Benicomp will seek additional information from the employee. In response to a question, Allen would recommend the county not limit it's medical provider's to one entity, such as Lutheran Preferred, in order to cut costs. He says to remember that all medical costs don't come from hospital bills, and the discount applies only when network providers are used. Commissioners will meet with Allen soon, to discuss moving toward a policy that rewards those in good health with lower deductibles. John Schumacher and David Manck with Simplex/Grinnell Fire and Security, indicate all necessary equipment is in place to monitor the fire and sprinkler system in the Judicial Center. Monitoring on a 24/7 basis would run \$396.00 annually, and Simplex would need a contact list beyond the fire department. They will work with Quality Electric, a sub contractor for renovating the third floor of Memorial Hall, to get a quote to extend the alarm system to Memorial Hall. Simplex recommends alarms on all 3 floors, rather than just the third floor. Commissioners agree that smoke detectors are not needed, if not required by law. The county doesn't have a maintenance program for the system that would cover the state required annual inspection. Manck will get figures, but estimates a contract for an annual inspection would run \$700.-\$800. per year. Commissioners noted the alarm has been beeping periodically, and it's an annoyance. Schumacher will look at it today, but he's not a technician.

Phil Amone, Co. Highway Assistant Supervisor: Les asked Phil to check around the show arena at the fairgrounds, where grindings were placed and rolled, but aren't sticking. Dean White called Les about the matter. Phil will look, but said apparently it wasn't hot enough when the grindings were placed. Putting chip and seal material over the top wouldn't work. Jim Hall of Urbana, asked permission to dig in the alley by his property to repair a septic problem. He has a six inch pipe that heads toward the east end of the alley, and G & L Plumbing lined up to do the work. Darle reminded there are other lines and tiles in that alley, so caution is needed. Commissioners gave approval for work to proceed, but want the surveyor and the highway dept. to look at it before the work site is covered. Hall's second concern is that the area in front of his business, Iron Customs, has become a parking area for trucks, and sometimes the alley or the entry to his business is blocked. He needs to do repairs to the front of his business, and the trucks hinder access for his customers. Darle said the Sheriff told him this morning the area is public right-of-way, and there's no ordinance to prohibit parking along a county road. Phil agrees there isn't an ordinance, but feels blocking an alley or drive, or parking on a sidewalk, might be an enforcement issue for the Sheriff's department.

Leroy Striker, Sheriff: There are 90 in jail today. An inmate flushed shoe soles down a toilet, causing extensive flooding in the jail basement. Criminal mischief charges may be filed, and there will be an attempt to get restitution. The "rubber room" is repaired and back in use. Both new cars are equipped, except for radio systems. The Community Corrections grant application is in the final phase of approval. Sheriff Striker and Dallas Duggan, have worked hard with state personnel to get the application in optimum condition for approval. Approval may come within two weeks. He said the city street department plans to remove curb on the north side of Main Street, across from the jail, where it's crumbling and hazardous. They will replace it with asphalt sometime this week. The city has painted parking lines, and inmates did some painting around the fire hydrant. The county would be responsible for replacing any bad sidewalk, but Sheriff Striker would like to have angle parking on that side of the street, too. Striker said the EMA may be offered space in the hospital basement. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

Attest:

Carol Stefanatos, Auditor