

December 6, 2004

Commissioner Chairman, Brian Hauptert, called the meeting to order following the County Council meeting, about 11:30 A.M. With all members present, Lester Templin moved to approve the 11/29 minutes as written, second by Darle Dawes, and passed. Commissioners reviewed and signed the Accounts Payable Voucher Register, and reviewed the Treasurer's October Report, the Benicomp Insurance November report and the Jail/Judicial Center custodian hours. Upon the recommendation of director Joanna Strode, Les moved to re-appoint Wayne Barkey to a third 4-year term on the Carnegie Library Board, second by Darle, and passed. The term runs thru December, 2008. Plan Commissioner, Chad Dilling, recommended re-appointing David Schuler to the Plan Commission Board and Don Roser to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Darle moved approval of new 4-year terms for both Schuler and Roser to the respective boards, second by Les, and passed. Both terms run thru December 2008. Beverly Ferry, director of the Wabash Co. Council on Ageing, updated Commissioners on the specifics and requirements of the 5311 Transportation grant, and Brian signed the explanation form, which becomes part of the "pass thru" agreement. It designates the county as the funds processor. As part of the agreement, Beverly would need Commissioner approval to hire a consultant for an amount in excess of \$10,000.00. Commissioners are content with quarterly reports, rather than monthly. She has been notified a 5310 grant application has been approved, and she will receive 2 new mini vans, each with a lift. After review and upon the recommendation of Co. Assessor, Kelly Schenkel, Commissioners signed an agreement with Accurate Assessments, Inc., of Ft. Wayne, for New Construction appraisals in 2005. The fee is \$12,000.00 to a maximum of 400 parcels, and \$30.00 per parcel beyond 400. Jay Harvey, Vice President of Marketing with Strategic Health Services, introduced his firm, which is privately owned and heading into it's 10th year. They have evaluated 3rd party administrators over the years, and have 65 clients in the midwest. They're a liaison between an employer and the insurance industry. Harvey says 65% of the county's insurance costs are claims, with fixed costs and administration costs covering the remaining 45%. Insurance inflation rate is about 12% nationally, with national costs per covered individual at about \$5,000.00 per year. He says that figure is about \$6,000.00 locally. Commissioners will review his report, before considering hiring his firm.

Larry Rice, Co. Highway Dept.: There will be a pre-final meeting on Phase III of Old Rd. 15 S on 12/8 at 8:30 A.M., followed by a pre-final meeting regarding the retaining wall project at Treaty Creek on Old 15 S. Butler, Fairman & Seufert engineers are working on a response to the state inquiry about a discrepancy in cost figures for construction and construction engineering for BR # 13. The presented contract indicates a cost of \$1,265,000.00, while state records show \$1,000,000.00 was approved. There may have been an approved increase that has been misplaced. Commissioners set 12/13 at 11:30 A.M. for the ribbon cutting ceremony on Old Rd. 15 S. Les asked Larry to remove the dirt pile at the west end of the courthouse parking lot.

Bob Brown, EMA director: He is in residence in his new courthouse office, and the phone system will go in today. He needs more electrical outlets, 7 or 8 in the two offices, plus one in the hallway for a drink machine. Commissioners agreed to adding outlets in his offices, and in the hall for the machine. They also gave approval for signage for his offices, for which Bob has funds. At this time Commissioners won't erect signs in the courthouse parking lot for three EMA cars, although Les supports parking for one vehicle. Bob will check other parking options.

Memorial Hall Renovation: Jeff Kumfer with Scearce/Rudisel Architects, presented change order # 5 in the amount of \$945.00 to cover a change in door locks at \$300.00, upsize two lights in reception at \$325.00, with the \$320.00 balance for repairing plaster where new windows were installed. Kumfer also recommends approving Pay Application # 4 in the amount of \$4,161.00, along with retainage money. Change order # 5 expenses are included in that total. He has talked with Dallas Duggan, who seemed satisfied with the work, and a roof leak is unrelated to this project. Les moved to accept Change Order # 5, second by Darle, and passed. Les moved to accept the final pay application and release retainage to the contractor, second by Darle, and passed. Commissioners thanked Kumfer for his efforts, and indicated they hope to work with him in the future. The courthouse roof and downspouts will be an upcoming project, possibly next year. With no further business, the meeting recessed.

Brian K. Hauptert, Chairman

Darle V. Dawes

Lester D. Templin

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor