

Chairman, Paul Sites, called the Co. Council meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with all members present. Leon Ridenour shared a prayer, remembering recently deceased members Eugene Schenkel and Richard Pepple, for their service for Wabash County. Paul welcomed new members, Paul Bergman and Bob Fuller, and asked a moment of silence for Gene and Rich both of whom wanted the best for Wabash County. Minutes of the 9/8 meeting were approved as written, moved by Leon, second by Ted Little, and passed. Paul Bergman thanked Paul Sites for the informational lunch. Council reviewed their board appointments which include: (1) Joann Rauh to the Solid Waste District Board replacing Richard Pepple; (2) Paul Bergman to the Museum Board replacing Gary Nose; (3) Bob Fuller to the Community Corrections Board, (4) Ted will stay on the Plan Commission Bd; (5) Leon will stay on the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board; (6) Paul Sites will remain on the WEDCOR Board and (7) Gary will stay on the Emergency Management Assoc. and Local Emergency Planning Commission. Council set their meeting schedule for 2004, with all meetings except the August budget hearings beginning at 8:00 A.M. August meetings begin at 9:00 A.M.

January 26th	February 23rd	March 29th	April 26th
May 24th	June 28th	July 26th	Aug. 23 & 24
September 13th	October 25th	December 6th	

Council changed their December 2003 meeting from the 8th to the 1st. Upon Ted's request, Council learned the Co. General Fund as of 9/30/03 is \$890,263., up from \$211,595. the same time last year. The county has borrowed \$475,000. from Local Rd. and Street in 2003 versus \$625,000. in 2002.

Sheriff, Leroy Striker, and Probation Chief, Dallas Duggan, reported on progress with the Community Corrections program. Commissioners passed a resolution supporting the program at their 10/14 meeting. Both judges and the prosecutor support the program. It will take about 6 months to implement the state funded program, and the first phase will be a work release center. The jail basement is the ideal location, and the state pays for renovations. An advisory board will be established, then a director hired. The county doesn't have to cover medical costs for work release participants. Council members support the program.

Referencing the 2004 budget, Dallas asked Council to reconsider his request to give equal pay to his two support staff members. They are cross trained, and can perform all jobs. County Clerk, Lori Draper, told Council she will ask for an additional appropriation next month from her Clerk's Perpetuation Fund to help pay for a new copy machine. The latest County Bulletin prepared by the State Board of Accounts, indicates it's required. Lori changed banks, and receives monthly interest dividends that go into Co. General Funds, but she has bank charges, too. She will ask for an additional appropriation next year as she has no money budgeted for bank fees. IV-D funds may be used for some, but not all, of the charges. Regarding mandated voting machines for the handicapped, Lori has been told a vendor contract must be signed by the end of October to make the county eligible for possible federal funds. The equipment will cost \$141,000.00, but there aren't any guarantees of federal help for all counties. Wabash is designated a Tier B county, and Tier A counties get assistance first. The federal government says handicapped should be able to vote without assistance, so the new equipment has audio thru headphones. Ted isn't opposed to signing a contract, but has a problem with paying a bill for mandated equipment without federal assistance. Joann supports postponing a decision until more information is forthcoming, second by Leon, and passed with 4 ayes and 3 nays from Ted, Paul Sites and Paul Bergman. Lori says she and Commissioner Templin have been working towards making all voting polls handicapped accessible according to new standards. All voters must be within 1 mile of a polling place, so the only precincts she may combine are within Wabash and North Manchester. The main problem is gravel parking areas at several locations. Linda Klinck, Region 4 representative with the Indiana Dept. of Commerce, works out of Kokomo. She works with sewer and brownfields assessments and she urged Council to call on her if they need help. After addressing additional appropriation and transfer requests, Joann moved to adjourn, second by Bob, and passed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE X

	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	AYE	NAY
COUNTY GENERAL				
County Commissioners				
174 Personal Services (Sheriff pension)	\$ 5,484.	\$ 5,484.	7	0
Joann moved approval as requested, second by Gary and passed.				
County Jail				
312 Other Services/Charges (inmate medical/dental)	67,400.	67,400.	6	1
Sheriff Striker went with a provider 10/01. The cost is \$7,025. per month and covers all but transport costs. Since the change, prescription costs dropped from \$4500. for two weeks to \$175. for the same time period. Request covers charges already incurred, plus the new program fees thru December. Gary thinks inmate medical expenses are another unfunded mandate placed on local government by legislators. Joann moved approval as requested, second by Paul B., and passed with Gary voting nay.				
COUNTY HEALTH				
118 Personal Services (nurse assistants)	290.	290.	7	0
126 Personal Service (pt.time help)	160.	160.	7	0
For extra help from EMT's. Transfer from Local Health Maintenance account and appropriate in this account.				
119 Personal Services (clerical full time)	255.	255.	1	6
Position was paid at an hourly rate set by former Health Officer Dannacher. Hourly rate exceeded Council budgeted amount, so it's short to complete the year. Council doesn't feel it's their problem the department head exceeded his budget. Paul Bergman moved to approve all three Health Dept. requests, second by Joann Rauh. After discussion, Paul B. moved to reconsider the motion, second by Leon, and passed. Paul moved to approve # 118 and 126 as requested, second by Leon, and passed. Paul B. moved approval of # 119, second by Paul S., and re-opened for discussion. The final vote was 1 aye (Joann) and 6 nays.				
E-911				
111 Personal Services (dispatch)	27,392.	0.		
112 Personal Services (dispatch)	53,784.	0.		
Wages for 3 county dispatchers must come from Co. General fund, so no action was taken today. The request will be re-submitted. Council learned all county phone services still aren't charging the increased fee of \$2.00, but 911 coordinator, Sandy Beeks is working on that. Gary asked if losses were retroactive, as the county is losing substantial sums.				
COUNTY CORRECTIONS				
362 Other Services/Charges (air conditioning repair)	8,594.	8,594.	7	0
Units 3 & 4 have been repaired by Havel Brothers per their quote, and are working. Joann moved approval, second by Bob, and passed.				
ELECTRONIC HOME DETENTION				
441 Capital Outlay (imaging system)	28,000.	28,000.	7	0
Seven year old system, bought with user funds, needs replaced. Minolta no longer offers the product or replacement parts. They can no longer scan their documents. Joann moved approval, second by Gary, and passed.				
HEALTH MAINTENANCE				
118 Personal Services (nurse assistant)	290.	290.	7	0
126 Personal Services (extra help)	160.	160.	7	0
Appropriate from this account and transfer to Co. Health for paramedic services. Leon moved approval on both, second Paul Bergman, and passed.				
JUDICIAL CENTER BONDS				
421 Capital Outlay (misc. expenses)	13,844.	13,844.	6	1
There's \$28,781.39 in the account, but no funds were appropriated for 2003. Bond account management fees, Memorial Hall HVAC architect fees, and elevator inspection fees were paid from this account. Council unhappy with Auditor, Carol Stefanatos, as she failed to get them advanced paperwork for their review. Joann moved approval as requested, second by Bob, and passed, with Ted voting nay.				
CUMULATIVE BRIDGE				
3418 Capital Outlay (Br. 177)	7,000.	7,000.	7	0
3419 Capital Outlay (Br. 70)	7,500.	7,500.	7	0
Both bridges had scour damage from 7/4/03 storms. FEMA will reimburse 75% of the repair costs. Paul B. moved approval for both requests, second by Gary, and passed.				
LOCAL ROAD & STREET				

5401 Capital Outlay (Old 15 S retaining wall) 8,000. 8,000. 7 0
 5402 Capital Outlay (Rd 1100 S storm gutter) 4,502. 4,502. 7 0
 Repairs from 7/4 storms. The wall is a temporary fix, the storm gutter a permanent fix.
 Joann moved approval for both requests, second by Bob, and passed.

TRANSFER REQUEST # 4

COUNTY GENERAL

Increase:
 216 Supplies (law books) Circuit Court 4,000. 4,000. 7 0
 Increase:
 216 Supplies (law books) Superior Court 6,000 6,000. 7 0
 Decrease:
 136 Personal Services (grand jurors) Circuit Court 3,000. 3,000. 7 0
 319 Other Services/Charges (pauper counsel, appeals) Superior 1,000. 1,000. 7 0
 Decrease:
 119 Personal Services (substitute reporter) Superior 2,000. 2,000. 7 0
 135 Personal Services (petit jurors) Superior 2,000. 2,000. 7 0
 311 Other Services/Charges (pauper counsel, appeals) Superior 2,000. 2,000. 7 0

Library costs have exceeded what was anticipated for both courts. Joann moved approval on both courts' transfer requests, Leon second, and passed.

COUNTY HEALTH

Increase:
 113 Personal Services (L. Dannacher) 1,333.52 0. 7 0
 117 Personal Services (K. Carter) 3,457.49 0. 7 0
 Decrease:
 311 Other Services/Charges ((Gifford) 4,791.01 0. 7 0

Health department has changed their minds about taking funds from the 311 account, want to take it from elsewhere. Due to indecision, Joann moved to table both requests until December, second by Paul B., and passed to table.

JUVENILE PROBATION

Increase:
 115 Personal Services (day reporting wages) 4,391. 4,391. 7 0
 171 Personal Services (social security) 1,237. 1,237. 7 0
 172 Personal Services (Perf) 1,518. 1,518. 7 0
 211 Supplies 500. 500. 7 0
 441 Capital Outlay 500. 500. 7 0
 Decrease:
 310 Other Services/Charges 8,141. 8,141. 7 0

The program began 10/20/03 for county students expelled for up to 10 days. Students must complete the day reporting program to get back into school. Dallas Duggan got a Criminal Justice grant of \$15,000.00, \$10,000. budgeted in Juvenile Probation for 2003, a \$2,000. commitment from each public school district and a \$300. grant from the tobacco institute. These funds need appropriated for the program. Marti Striker will run the program. Ted moved approval of all transfers, second by Joann, and passed.

/s/ Paul Sites /s/ Leon Ridenour /s/ Ted Little /s/ Paul Bergman
 /s/ Gary Nose /s/ Joann Rauh /s/ Bob Fuller

ATTEST: _____
 Carol Stefanatos, Auditor