

May 27, 2003

Wabash Co. Council Chairman, Paul Sites, called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with Richard Pepple absent. Leon Ridenour shared a prayer, and minutes of the 4/28 meeting were approved as written, moved by Joann Rauh, second by Eugene Schenkel, and passed. Council learned Co. General fund has a balance of \$124,099.80, and \$175,000. was borrowed from Local Road & Street fund in April. Co. Adjusted Gross Income receipts to County General in May totaled \$951,624.00. Co. General balance isn't sufficient to cover 6/2 payroll, so we'll borrow again. All taxing units in the county have received an estimated budget from the state. They have until May 30th to respond with corrections or questions. Then the state will certify tax rates. Paul will attend the May 30th hearing in Fort Wayne for the Todd Wheatley suit. Council consensus was that \$122,394. was budgeted for Bowen Center for 2003. They learned the request for 2004 is \$124,000.00, an estimate, since tax rates aren't set yet. Treasurer, LuAnn Layman said \$1,100,000. has been collected for spring taxes, voluntarily paid by property owners based on their 2002 tax statements.

Sheriff Leroy Striker: Leroy reminded Council they will have to budget about \$87,000. to cover three dispatchers in the jail budget for 2003. Because the Sheriff and Jail budgets were cut for 2003 by an unrealistic 10%, he's already exceeded the inmate medical line item. The jail population runs about 100 daily, the Dept. of Corrections isn't accepting inmates, and Striker is asking the judges to release prisoners early. He is shifting the court security officer to a jail officer position, and he will use day shift jail officers for court security. He needs a 7th jail officer so there are two on duty at all times. A 7th officer was requested for the 2003 budget, but Council held wages and the number of employees at 2002 levels. He's concerned about liability issues and state mandates for jail security. Council doesn't feel they can approve hiring an additional employee, and suggest Striker work within the existing budget using overtime funds when necessary. The Sheriff says he's working on his 2004 budget, and will need funds to buy a vehicle. He plans to trade-in 3 cars, and buy one used vehicle, cutting the fleet by two.

Dallas Duggan, Probation Chief: He's working on a Day Reporting Program for suspended students for the 2003-2004 school year. He has applied for a 3 year Dept. of Education grant, requesting \$65,000.00. Students would meet in the jail from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Monday thru Friday during their suspension. Suspensions range from one to a maximum of ten days, and if students don't attend the program they would be considered truant. One person could run the program, and he has visited a similar program in Blackford Co.

Jane Skeans, Co. Health Nurse: Homeland Security will be sending \$200,000. to district 3 which includes Wabash County. Jane has until 6/6/03 to submit a plan for use of the county share which is about \$18,000.00. The money should be available for 3 - 5 years. There are a few things she can't use the money for, including wages. She would like to find rental space to relocate the department. Joann suggested using the funds to remodel space owned by the county, and Gary Nose doesn't think Council can sanction paying rent elsewhere. Commissioners will discuss the issue with the Health department.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE V-2003

	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	AYE	NAY
COUNTY GENERAL				
County Commissioners				
174 Personal Services (Sheriff Pension)	\$ 11,676.	\$ 11,676.	6	0
February and March 2003 fees for Civil papers served. Leon moved funds be appropriated for the Sheriff Pension Fund, second by Joann, and passed.				
COUNTY HEALTH				
118 Personal Services (pt. time wages)	480.	200.	6	0
Needed to pay extra help while Kathy Carter was recovering from surgery, the amount needed was reduced to \$200.00. Joann moved to approve an additional \$200.00, second by Leon, and passed.				
319 Other Services/Charges (buy vaccine)	6,625.	6,625.	6	0
Needed to buy meningitis vaccine for high school seniors. Jane charges a fee for the service, then uses the funds to buy the vaccine. Gene moved approval as requested, second by Ted Little, and passed.				

TRANSFER RESOLUTION # 2, 2003

COUNTY GENERAL				
County Surveyor				
Increase:				
114 Personal Services (assistant surveyor)	1,063.	1,063.	6	0
Decrease:				
111 Personal Services (surveyor)	1,063.	1,063.	6	0
Kelvin Grumpp has taken on extra duties since Cheri Slee was appointed interim surveyor. At this time they won't hire clerical help. Commissioners support the wage increase. Ted moved to approve the transfer as requested, second by Joann, and passed. Ted moved to approve the amended wages form 144, second by Joann, and passed.				
County Agent				
Increase:				
118 Personal Services (summer assistant)	1,701.	1,701.	6	0
Decrease:				
311 Other Services/Charges (contract with Purdue)	1,701.	1,701.	6	0
To hire temporary summer help to ease the work load due to Vince Harrell's retirement June 30th. Gene moved approval of the transfer, second by Joann, and passed. Joann moved to approve amended wages form 144, second by Gene, and passed.				

With no further business, Leon moved to adjourn, second by Gene, and passed.

/s/ Paul Sites /s/ Leon Ridenour /s/ Gary Nose /s/ Ted Little
/s/ Joann Rauh /s/ Eugene Schenkel ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor