

January 26, 2004

County Auditor, Carol Stefanatos, called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with all Council members present. Ted Little moved to nominate Paul Sites as chairman for 2004, second by Joann Rauh. Bob Fuller moved to close the nominations, second by Gary Nose, and Paul was unanimously elected chairman. Gary moved to nominate Leon Ridenour as vice chairman, second by Bob. Paul moved to close the nominations, second by Bob, and Leon was unanimously elected vice chairman. Paul Sites took charge of the meeting and Leon shared a prayer. Leon moved approval of the 12/01/03 minutes as written, second by Bob, and passed. After learning Phillip Mendenhall was agreeable to another term on the Alcohol Beverage Board, Leon moved approval of his re-appointment for 2004, second by Joann, and passed. Joann moved approval to sign the Dexter Axle abatement application for 2001, second by Bob and passed. The state had rejected the application because it lacked Council approval. They agreed talk of a reciprocal agreement between the county and the City of Wabash to waive ambulance fees for local transports from the jail in exchange for free copies of documents and recording services from the county, would be a Commissioner decision. Council consensus is that the county will again have to borrow from Local Road & Street to keep the County General Fund solvent until spring taxes are paid, but were pleased that the 1/1/04 balance was \$200,000. higher than 1/1/03. Council will approve an ordinance to borrow at their February meeting. Highway Supervisor Larry Rice said he lost \$9,000. in interest from his Road & Street account due to the loan in 2003 and lower interest rates. Larry reports he will be asking an additional appropriation for IDEM required testing where fuel tanks were removed in 1999. Patriot will do the testing for \$11,170.00. There also will be an appropriation request for the retaining wall repairs at Treaty Creek on Old Rd. 15 S that didn't get advertised for today. Larry says it was resolved in 1996 that interest from the Cumulative Bridge account would go into Co. General Fund. He suggests it might be time to reconsider allowing the interest to stay in Cum. Bridge. Co. Clerk, Lori Draper, reports she will need additional funds appropriated to pay bank charges for her account. The former vendor probably won't forgive their charges, since she switched banks. The new account has monthly charges, but also pays interest that goes into Co. General fund. She will likely need to buy new software to meet new state requirements coming up. Her vendor is almost in full compliance, but likely won't be the vendor chosen by the state. In response to a letter from Co. Health Officer, Dr. J. Dean Gifford and Board of Health president, Dr. Jeffery Pyle, concerning personnel changes, Council would like to talk with them at their next meeting. With no further business Joann moved to adjourn, second by Leon, and passed.

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

ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor