

County Council Chairman, Paul Sites, called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. with Joann Rauh absent. Leon Ridenour shared a prayer and minutes of the 1/23 meeting were approved with a correction, moved by Ted Little, second by Bob Fuller, and passed. The minutes should read Paul Sites moved to close nominations for vice chairman. Council reviewed the County General balance of \$778,292.73 as of 2/23/04. They learned assessed values were mailed to the state 2/20, but it may be 4 to 6 weeks before tax rates are returned to the county. The printer says at least 10 working days to print tax statements. Property owners must have a minimum of 15 days to make payments. The deadline for payment will likely be up to a month behind schedule this year. Co. Highway Supervisor, Larry Rice, suggested Council borrow from his Cumulative Bridge account rather than Local Road and Street (R & S), because he has more obligations in R & S. Also R & S interest goes into that account, while Cum. Bridge interest goes into Co. General. The R & S account has a balance of \$4,205,321.76 and Cum Bridge has a balance of \$1,682,597.26. Following discussion, Ted moved to approve Resolution 2004 - II, allowing the county to borrow from Local Road & Street as needed, to keep Co. General fund solvent, to an amount not to exceed one million dollars, second by Paul Bergman, and passed by all. The loan must be re-paid by 12/31/04. Sheriff, Leroy Striker, reports the Sheriff Pension Board voted to review the management of their account on 10/15/03. The current manager is no longer local, so the board requested plans from local vendors. The board recommends moving the fund to Frances Slocum Bank (a/k/a Merchants Bank), a move that may save about \$3,000. a year. Paul Bergman moved support of a switch to Merchants as new managers, second by Ted, and passed. Sheriff Striker asked Council support of plans to replace the 911 digital recording system in his department using 911 funds. He has two quotes, World Systems at \$13,200. and Mercom at \$11,790. Both would do the same thing, but the World System would be his choice as it has dual memory and 8 channels versus single memory and 4 channels with Mercom. World Systems includes more software and it's the system used by No. Manchester Police department. The current system doesn't have an instant recall button, and the memory capacity is outdated. The new system has the potential to save lives, it's not just fluff. The Sheriff will have to submit an additional appropriation request at a later date. Steve Shamo with Microvote, updated on handicapped accessible voting requirements. Included in the American's with Disabilities Act passed in 1990, compliance deadlines arrive in 2006. Currently 60 % of all voting sites are handicapped accessible. Fifteen million has come to the state for replacement of punch cards and lever machines. The second wave of funds 22,000,000.00, comes from the President's Omnibus bill signed last fall, with a final draw of 7,000,000. expected next year from Title 3 funds. This money will be under the direction of the newly elected president. Steve says Wabash Co. could get some of the 22 million by completing three steps: (1) Commissioners sign an agreement with a vendor for equipment, (2) a joint Council/Commissioner resolution indicating Wabash Co. polling places will be handicapped accessible and (3) the Auditor needs to open an account for equipment payment and fully fund the account. The state plan, not yet submitted to the federal government for approval, estimates the cost per precinct at \$4,000.00, plus \$50,000.00 for software. That's about \$150,000.00 for Wabash County, which would hopefully be fully covered by the grant. The state has selected four qualified bidders for equipment. Shamo will talk with Commissioners and the election board about equipment options. Barry Eppley with the Soil & Water Conservation District reports the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) has agreed to supplement the pay of employee Adam Jones as part of a one year agreement. Commissioners agreed the county will process the supplement, amounting to about \$13,000.00. They hope to acquire future grants to use for supplemental pay plus education programs for adults and youth. Co. Health Officer, Dr. J. Dean Gifford and Board of Health chairman, Dr. Jeffrey Pyle presented some personnel changes within the department. The board voted for Jennifer Swango to become the Environmental Specialist on 1/13/04. They recommend the wage at \$26,000.00, \$2,000. less than recently retired Harvey Omstead received. She has been filling the post since November, and state officials have been training her, so the board recommended her appointment and pay retroactive to 1/1/04. Commissioners subsequently approved the decision. Gifford has advertised to fill Jennifer's former post of vital records clerk, and has conducted interviews. He will make a recommendation at the next board meeting. Council agreed pay for this position could be set at a rate of \$9.54 per hour, as it's within the budgeted amount. After discussion of additional responsibilities for Health nurse Jane Skeans, due to Homeland Security requirements such as an action plan for bio terrorism attack due April 1st, Paul Bergman, who sees the need for extra help since Health departments have suddenly become a top end unit in defense, moved to make a full time position of the current part time post, with the balance needed for wages and benefits above the amount budgeted in County Health, to come from Health Maintenance, with an annual wage for 2004 of \$26,500.00. Second by Leon, the motion passed unanimously. Ted suggested since Co. Council is the body that established the EDIT tax, the Council should more closely monitor use of the funds by all municipalities. He asked Paul Sites to notify the various units, asking for a monthly breakdown of how money is spent, and what is done with unused balances. Paul Sites discussed the ambulance issue, noting he hasn't been able to get a fully executed copy of the agreement between the county and the Town of No. Manchester, and citing the year-end balance reported in the City of Wabash ambulance fund. After addressing additional appropriations and transfer requests, Leon moved to adjourn, second by Bob, and passed.

	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	AYE	NAY
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2004 - I				
COUNTY GENERAL				
Treasurer				
440 Capital Outlay (room humidifier)	\$ 65.00	65.00	4	2
For a tabletop humidifier, as an employee has nosebleeds, Paul Bergman moved to approve, second by Bob and denied with Ted, Leon and Gary voting nay. After discussion of a transfer versus an additional appropriation, Ted moved to reconsider the appropriation, Paul B. second, and passed with Leon and Gary voting nay.				
Courthouse				
445 Capital Outlay (tractor purchase)	2,400.00	2,400.00	4	2
The tractor is used for both snow removal and mowing. It blew a rod and snow was expected, so Commissioners deemed it an emergency purchase. A three year old unit was purchased. Leon moved approval of the request, second by Bob, the motion failed with all but Bob voting nay. After a discussion of additional appropriation versus transfer, Ted moved to approve the request, second by Bob, and passed with Leon and Gary voting nay.				
COUNTY HEALTH				
319 Other Services/Charges (meningitis collections)	108.48	108.48	6	0
Money collected for administering the vaccine, needs appropriated. Gary moved approval, second by Paul B., and passed.				
LOCAL ROAD & STREET				
5310 Other Services/Charges (engineering)	36,000.00	36,000.00	6	0
The engineering portion of repairs to the retaining wall at Treaty Creek on Old Rd. 15 S. FEMA will reimburse the county for 75% of the not to exceed amount of \$36,000.00. Gary moved approval, second by Ted, and passed.				
5316 Other Services/Charges (environmental test)	12,000.00	12,000.00	6	0
IDEM says "hot samples" taken 4 years ago must be tested. Amount requested will cover all required tests to be done by Patriot. Ted moved approval as requested, second by Paul B., and passed by all.				
5401 Capital Outlay (retaining wall)	228,000.00	143,000.00	6	0
The temporary fix done in Nov. 2003, ran \$8,000.00. Larry Rice requested \$220,000. for the permanent repair, but the accepted bid for steel sheathing repair is \$128,000.00. He thinks he can get by on a total of \$143,000.00 (8,000. for temporary work and 135,000. to repair). Leon moved approval of \$143,000.00, second by Paul B., and passed by all.				
5423 Capital Outlay (distributor truck)	125,000.00	125,000.00	6	0
Would replace a 1982 GMC used for chip and seal work. Larry will trade the old unit for a diesel truck. Leon moved approval, second by Ted, and passed by all.				
CLERK'S RECORDS PERPETUATION FUND				
119 Personal Services (pt time help)	2,000.00	2,000.00	6	0
Microfilm of records is behind schedule, and two medical leaves are coming in March. Lori Draper says this account was transferred from the Clerk's budget for 2004. Gary moved approval, second by Paul B., and passed by all.				
ADULT PROBATION USER FEES				
441 Capital Outlay (paper shredder)	660.00	600.00	6	0

A heavy duty paper shredder is needed for destroying sensitive records. Probation Chief, Dallas Duggan says only \$600.00 is needed. Leon moved approval, second by Paul B., pass.

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY

301	Other Services/Charges	(Youth Svc Bureau)	750.00	750.00	6	0	
302	"	"	(Youth Svc Aftnoon)	1,000.00	1,000.00	6	0
303	"	"	(Wab LCC Fam Nte)	2,000.00	2,000.00	6	0
305	"	"	(Fam Svc HndsHope)	500.00	500.00	6	0
309	"	"	(Bowen Ctr Indigent)	4,200.00	4,200.00	6	0
311	"	"	(Wab Co LCC)	9,000.00	9,000.00	6	0
312	"	"	(Wab Probation)	525.00	525.00	6	0
313	"	"	(NMan Police Ed)	600.00	600.00	6	0
314	"	"	(Sheriff DUIEP)	2,500.00	2,500.00	6	0
315	"	"	(SWood HS Post Prom)	700.00	700.00	6	0
316	"	"	(Wab HS Post Prom)	2,000.00	2,000.00	6	0
317	"	"	(Fam Svc Vctm Advo)	1,500.00	1,500.00	6	0
318	"	"	(NMan Police Idea)	600.00	600.00	6	0
319	"	"	(N Man Police Camera)	3,493.00	3,493.00	6	0
320	"	"	(Sheriff Mut Aid)	1,990.00	1,990.00	6	0
321	"	"	(WabPol Alco Sensors)	1,973.00	1,973.00	6	0

Formerly managed by WASA, it's back to the Local Coordinating Council (LCC), and No. Manchester Police Chief, David Young is the coordinator. Funds for the programs are generated by fines collected by the Clerk. Paul B. moved approval as requested, second by Leon, and passed by all.

E-911

117	Personal Services	(coordinator wage)	500.00	500.00	6	0	
118	"	"	(2 dispatch wage)	1,000.00	1,000.00	6	0
171	"	"	(ss & benefits)	90.00	90.00	6	0
362	Other Ser/Charges	(911 repairs)	2,169.00	2,169.00	6	0	

Accounts 117,118 and 171 are to give 3 dispatchers paid from this account, a \$500. raise each, for 2004. Account 362 is for repairs to radio equipment at No. Manchester Police Dept. Ted moved approval on all 4 accounts, second by Leon, and passed by all.

USER FEE / PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION

311	Other Services/Charges	(cont. education)	630.00	630.00	6	0
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For two No. Manchester Police officers to attend a child abuse seminar this month. Prosecutor, Bill Hartley, feels this is an appropriate use of these funds. Ted moved approval as requested, second by Gary, and passed.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE

316 Other Services/Charges (hepatitis vaccine) 1,800.00 1,800.00 6 0
For buying hepatitis B vaccine for high school seniors, using tobacco funds. Leon moved approval, second by Paul B., and passed by all.

442 Capital Outlay (copy machine balance) 852.00 852.00 6 0
To appropriate carry over grant funds to pay balance due for copy machine. Leon moved approval as requested, second by Ted, and passed.

CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

361 Other Services/Charges (Memorial Hall windows) 85,000.00 85,000.00 6 0
To replace windows on upper two floors with accepted low bid from Crystal Clear Glass. Gary applauds a move toward getting Probation relocated. Bob moved approval as requested, second by Ted, and passed by all

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT HEALTH

361 Other Services/Charges (remodeling) 13,400.00 13,400.00 6 0
Balance due for remodeling of Memorial Hall basement by Kroft Construction. Funds from a Homeland Security grant. Leon moved approval as requested, second by Bob, and passed.

TRANSFER RESOLUTION 2004 - 1

COUNTY GENERAL

Increase:
113 Personal Services (overtime) 400.00 400.00 6 0
Decrease:
111 Personal Services (surveyor) 400.00 400.00 6 0

For overtime for surveyor assistant during busy season, not to exceed 40 hours per week. Surveyor asks that her wages be reduced to cover the overtime hours. Bob moved approval, second by Ted. and passed by all.

/S/ Paul Sites /s/ Leon Ridenour /s/ Gary Nose /s/ Ted Little
/s/ Bob Fuller /s/ Paul Bergman ATTEST: _____
Carol Stefanatos, Auditor