COMMISSIONERS MEETING - MAY 15, 2000

The Executive session of the Washington County Board of Commissioners was held at 8:30 am. Present were Commissioner Bundy, Commissioner McKinley, Commissioner Stewart, Attorney Allen and Auditor Sullivan. Only pending litigation and personnel matters were discussed.

The regular session was called to order by President Bundy with all other members in attendance. Minutes of the previous session were read and approved. Claims totaling in the amounty of $344,851.22 were reviewed and approved by a vote of 2 with one abstention.

Items on the agenda were as follows:

ANIMAL CONCERNS - JANAY FRANCIS

Janay Francis, representing the Indiana Hooved Animal Humane Society, appeared before the Board to discuss animal cruelty and endangerment issues in Washington County. Ms. Francis addressed certain animal neglect situations and discussed various items with Sheriff Claude Combs and Prosecutor Lewis Maudlin. Ms. Francis asked for a modification and animal cruelty laws to be devised and enforced on the local level. The Board asked Ms. Francis to present her information to the Washington County Board of Health. President Bundy explained that the origination of such laws must begin with the local Board of Health.

Commissioner Stewart asked for an explanation of the steps that the Hooved Animal Society must follow once an animal neglect situation has been reported. Ms. Francis explained all of the precautionary steps involved.

Also, Ms. Francis made a video available which involved a local animal neglect situation and ask that the Commissioners simply review it. Also, Ms. Francis submitted the Indiana State Board of Health Technical Bulletin LG-1.97 and other related documents.

In conclusion, Ms. Francis depicted that she would like for it to be known that she had reported the above information. By doing so, Ms. Francis had made the Commissioners aware of certain neglect situations and the seriousness of each circumstance. Furthermore, Ms. Francis ask the Commissioners to refrain from taking any action at this time.

TRUCK ROUTE, BYPASS, ARTERIAL PROJECT

Jim Rice of Sieco, Inc. appeared before the Board to present an update on the Washington County/City of Salem truck route. Mr. Rice stated that the ground surveying was almost complete. Sieco engineers would then continue with platting aerials and speaking with property owners. Mr. Rice reported that additional federal money had been approved for the contruction of 135S to 56W which includes a large bridge. The Board thanked Mr. Rice for the update.

JIM DAY ROAD

Jim Rice presented an update on the progress of improving Jim Day Road.

HIGHWAY BUSINESS

Highway Superintendent, Orville Gilbert, reported that the Highway Department was ahead of their paving schedule for the year.

Also, Superintendent Gilbert reported that the mowing program was well underway.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Board unanimously approved the Annual Report of the Board of Commissioners of Washington County to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

With there being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned.

Commissioner Bundy

Commissioner McKinley

Commissioner Stewart

ATTEST: Lana Sullivan
Washington County Auditor, Lana Sullivan