The Executive Session of the Board of Commissioners was held at 8:30am. 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 amount of $198,851.53 were reviewed and unanimously allowed.

Items on the agenda were as follows:

HEALTH INSURANCE

The Commissioners invited Mark Zurcher to their meeting to discuss certain county health insurance issues. Mr. Zurcher appeared and explained that he was no longer available to serve as the County's insurance consultant due to accepting a new job. However, Mr. Zurcher introduced John L. Boss III with AON Consulting. Mr. Zurcher explained that Mr. Boss would be available to assist the county as an independent 3rd party consultant.

The Board explained to Mr. Boss the county's current self-funded health insurance situation. The Board indicated that they would like more information concerning the pro's and con's of maintaining the partially self-funded program or converting to a traditional type health insurance program. The Board explained that their main concern is the employee's coverage and the overall fiscal impact to the county. Mr. Boss explained that the marketing process offered by AON consulting would include:

-Accumulate information from background discussion
-Evaluate all areas...TPA...PPO access vs. value
reinsurance contract type and content...benefits level.
-Prepare and distribute RFP to the vendors
-Evaluate proposals from vendors
-Prepare final report for Washington County

Mr. Boss mentioned that the fee would range from $5,000-$7,000.

After some discussion, Commissioner McKinley made a motion to sign a contract with AON with a cap of $7,000. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The actual marketing process will begin in the fall when more claim history is available. The Board agreed to allow MR. Boss to proceed with certain research and other preliminary work.

COURTHOUSE LIGHTS

Becky Dewees and David Fred appeared before the Board to discuss the cost and materials involved in placing Christmas lights on the courthouse. The cost breakdown is as follows:

outline of courthouse-$5,000
outline of windows - $10,000
boom truck - $2,500

Ms Dewees reported that the $5,000 had been raised and the $2,500 had almost been fully donated. Mr. Fred explained that the $10,000 for the windows could be paid over a five year period. The Commissioners suggested that Ms. Dewees try to solicit donations of approximately $2,000 for the next five years to cover the cost of outlining the courthouse windows. Mr. Fred mentioned that there is a 6 year warranty on the clips but not on the bulbs. The bulbs have a 3,000 hour usage. Mr. Fred announced that his company had currently decorated 45 courthouses, including Scott and Lawrence County. Furthermore, Mr. Fred said that his company is bonded, licensed and insured. Mr. Fred said that a maintenance contract is available for $500.00 annually.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Stewart made a motion to proceed with the lighting of the courthouse. Commissioner McKinley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.The Commissioners emphasized that the courthouse lighting will not be a cost to the taxpayers.

The Board instructed Auditor Sullivan to coordinate a schedule with an electrician when the work begins.

MORRIS HOAR - VERNON TOWNSHIP

Morris Hoar appeared before the Board to discuss the platting process. Mr. Hoar explained that he has sold two lots off of a 20 acre parcel in Vernon Township. Mr. Hoar indicated that he would like to divide the remaining acreage. Mr. Hoar mentioned that he would like to sell one 2.5 acre tract to Jim Warren on contract. After some discussion, Commissioner McKinley made a motion to waive the platting requirements for the 2.5 acre sell off to Mr. Warren. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners informed Mr. Hoar that any further development of the 20 acre tract would require plat approval by the Board.

ARTERIAL PROJECT

Jim Rice appeared before the Board to present an update on the Salem/Washington County arterial project. Mr. Rice mentioned that the survey is underway. Upon completion of the survey, Mr. Rice indicated that the early stages of the physical design process would begin.

Mr. Rice mentioned that there is a possibility that the western portion of the arterial project would funded.

Mr. Rice mentioned that he will present updates on a monthly basis.

JIM DAY ROAD

Mr. Rice mentioned that the EDA grant application had been submitted for the infrastructure improvements on Jim Day Road. Mr. Rice said that he feels optimistic about Washington County receiving the funds.

VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to appoint Patrick Rice as the Veteran's Service Officer, effective April 17, 2000. Mr. Rice will be replacing Paul Lyles. Commissioner McKinley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

HOWARD TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY BUILDING

Clerk, Shirley Batt reminded the Board of the handicap accessibility rules for voting