The Executive Session of the Board of Commissioners was held at 12:30 p.m. 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 $136,931.35 were reviewed. Claims totaling in the amount of $136,861.65 were unanimously allowed. Auditor Sullivan noted that Claim #36, totaling $69.70 was a duplicate payment from the Sheriff's Department. Therefore, Auditor Sullivan asked that Claim #36 be denied. Items on the agenda were as follows:

LAKE SALINDA PROJECT

Awareness class member, Cindy Zink, appeared before the Board to present an update on the Lake Salinda Project. Ms. Zink asked for the Commissioners support and mentioned that the project committee may ask for the County to apply for grants on behalf of the Awareness Class in the future. The Board thanked Ms. Zink for her efforts.

DELANEY CREEK WATERSHED

Delaney Creek Watershed Board Member, Paul Callaway appeared before the Board to discuss drainage problems and financial issues of the Conservancy District. The Commissioners mentioned that they were under the impression that the Conservancy District had the funds available to cover drainage ditch costs. Mr. Callaway noted that the DNR had provided some man labor assistance to the Delaney Creek District. After much discussion concerning the income and expenditures of the Conservancy District, Attorney Allen agreed to address a letter to the concerned citizens and explain that the funds are not available to cover drainage ditch costs.

TAX SALE SERVICES

Auditor Sullivan announced that no proposals had been submitted for providing tax sale services to the County. With no further discussion, Commissioner McKinley made a motion to approve the Addendum to the contract with SRI, Inc. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Addendum states that there is a fee increase from $40.00 to $50.00. Auditor Sullivan reminded the Board that this fee is paid by the delinquent taxpayer.

BLUE RIDGE SUBDIVISION-PIERCE TOWNSHIP

Don Graves appeared before the Board to discuss certain aspects of the Blue Ridge Subdivision. Mr. Graves spoke of drainage and driveway problems. Mr. Graves announced that there would be an on-site meeting on March 7, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. Auditor Sullivan presented a resignation letter from the Pierce Township Trustee, Donald Pickerill. Mr. Pickerill was chairperson of the Pierce Township Subdivision Plat Advisory Committee. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to accept Mr. Pickerill's resignation and temporarily appoint Highway Supt., Orville Gilbert to fill the position. Commissioner McKinley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Board will make a decision on the approval of the Blue Ridge Subdivision once a recommendation is made by the plat advisory committee.

WORK RELEASE CENTER

Terry Cottongim and John Hawkins approached the Board with various ideas concerning the work release center. Mr. Cottongim mentioned that one possibility would be to house all the Judicial Offices under one roof. However, this method would involve more up front cost for the County. The second alternative would be to attach just the work release facility to the current standing Detention Center. It was mentioned that the attachment be made to the west side because of the location of the kitchen. The Board suggested that all individuals who might possibly be affected by this project gather to share concerns and ideas. Attorney Allen agreed to arrange a meeting with the following people: Commissioner Bundy, Commissioner McKinley, Commissioner Stewart, Judge Bennett, Judge Newkirk, Probation Officer Ernie Gravatt, Prosecutor Lewis Maudlin, Sheriff Claude Combs, Clerk Shirley Batt, Councilman Day, Councilman Fisher, Attorney Mark Clark, Attorney Jay Allen, Terry Cottongim and John Hawkins.

ANNEX ROOF AND COURTHOUSE ROOF

Terry Cottongim discussed various problems with the Courthouse Annex roof. Mr. Cottongim mentioned that the back doors needed to be raised approximately three (3) inches due to the slope of the sidewalk. Also, Mr. Cottongim mentioned removing the AC units off of the Annex roof.

Mr. Cottongim suggested that the belltower be tuckpointed and waterproofed.

PUBLIC DEFENDER ORDINANCE

Attorney Mark Clark appeared before the Board to discuss an ordinance which develops a Public Defender Board. Attorney Clark explained that County's can have some of their fees reimbursed if some requirements have been met and the ordinance serves as a type of insurance policy with 50% reimbursement for capitol murder cases. Attorney Clark mentioned that the County Council would be studying the passage of such an ordinance at their next regular meeting. The Commissioners will discuss the ordinance again at their 1st or 2nd meeting in April.

SEICO INVOICE

Economic Growth Partnership Director, Steve Hilton, appeared before the Board to give an update on the letter which was sent to Family Dollar asking for reimbursement for work that was done to the Industrial Park on behalf of Family Dollar. Hilton reported that Family Dollar had received the letter but had not yet responded. The Board asked Mr. Hilton to stay abreast of the situation.

PARK MANAGER-CHRIS STRANGE

Chris Strange introduced himself to the Board as the Delaney Creek Park Manager and entertained any questions or concerns.

HOOSIER HILLS P.A.C.T.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve a letter of support for a $25,000 grant to be used for the operations of the shelter. Commissioner McKinley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Hoosier Hills P.A.C.T. will administer the grant.

In other business, John Kuss agreed to serve on the advisory committee for the work release center.

Mr. Kuss asked for permission from the Board to use the old County Garage space which is directly behind the shelter. Mr. Kuss explained that the space would be used for an additional playground area. The Board agreed to allow the shelter to use this area.

HOSPITAL BOARD

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to re-appoint Ann Hoar to the Washington County Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. Commissioner McKinley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Auditor Sullivan agreed to notify Ms. Hoar and Rodney Coats of the re-appointment.

VETERANS TRANSFER PROGRAM

Commissioner McKinley made a motion to increase the current base rate from $32.00 to $35.00 for the transfer of Veterans provided that the County Council will fund the increase. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE TRUCK-CF-96-252

Commissioner McKinley made a motion to approve the CDBG Disclosure Report. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SURPLUS AUCTION

Auditor Sullivan expressed the need for a surplus auction and asked the Board for their consent. Commissioner McKinley made a motion to hold the auction on Friday, May 26, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. EST. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Auditor Sullivan agreed to advertise the auction, solicit local auctioneers and inventory the County property which will be offered for sale.

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

Commissioner: Joseph L. Buddy

Commissioner: Dale McKinley

Commissioner: Kevin W. Stewart

ATTEST: Lana Sullivan
Lana Sullivan