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1 STATE OF INDIANA )  
 )SS:  
2 COUNTY OF ALLEN )  
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEN

RE: LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF

APRIL 9, 2003

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DATE: April 9, 2003  
TIME: 10:10 a.m.  
LOCATION: Room 200  
Commissioners Courtroom  
City-County Building  
1 East Main Street  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802  
REPORTER: Alan R. Bunn

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1 PRESENT:  
Linda K. Bloom Allen County Commissioner  
2  
Marla J. Irving Allen County Commissioner  
3  
Susan Elser Allen County Board of  
4 Commissioners' Office  
5 John McGauley Allen County Public  
Information Department  
6  
G. William Fishing Allen County Council  
7  
George Jarboe Allen County Human Resources  
8 Office  
9 Mike Fitch Allen County Highway Dept.  
10 Bill Hartman Allen County Highway Dept.  
11 Don Reitz Allen County Dept. of  
Planning Services  
12  
Frank Sutter Allen County Human Resources  
13  
Christopher Koop Allen County Sheriff's Dept.  
14  
Kathryn Stevens Allen County Sheriff's Dept.  
15  
Bruce Little Allen County Purchasing

16 Dept.  
 17 Mike Trevino DLZ  
 18 Nathan Wick Concordia Lutheran High  
 School  
 19  
 20 Lin Wilson Allen County Auditor's  
 Office  
 21 Larry Banks Allen County Public Library  
 22 Kevin Leininger News Sentinel  
 23 Andy Gammill Journal Gazette  
 24 Alan Bunn Rolf Reporting, Inc.  
 25

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1 IRVING: Good morning. Thank you for attending our  
2 April 9th--in Commissioner's Courtroom, our  
3 Commissioner's Legislative Session. Before we begin  
4 our agenda, I would like to introduce George Jarboe,  
5 which is the director of our Veteran's Affairs office  
6 and he would like to lead us into the pledge and then  
7 a moment of silence. Could you please rise?

8 (At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance  
9 was recited in unison.)

10 JARBOE: Please join me in a moment of silence for  
11 those who are serving our country and who are in  
12 harms way to protect our freedoms that we so enjoy.

13 (At this time, a moment of silence was  
14 recognized by all.)

15 JARBOE: Thank you.

16 BLOOM: Amen.

17 IRVING: Thank you.

18 JARBOE: Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

19 IRVING: George, sometime if you'd like, why don't  
20 you attend our Legislative Session--

21 JARBOE: I'll do that.

22 IRVING: --and tell us a little bit more about the  
23 Veteran's Affairs Office.

24 JARBOE: Good, great. Thank you very much.

25 IRVING: Thank you.

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1 JARBOE: I appreciate it.

2 IRVING: Have a nice week.

3 BLOOM: Thanks, George.

4 JARBOE: Thank you.

5 IRVING: I'd like to have a motion to approve the  
6 Minutes of our April 2, '03 Legislative Session.

7 BLOOM: So moved.

8 IRVING: Seconded. All in favor say, "Aye."

9 BLOOM: Aye.

10 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried. This morning we are  
11 going to open up a Public Hearing for the increase in  
12 our Major Bridge Fund. Before we begin and open up  
13 the hearing--I guess we'll open it first and then  
14 you're going to speak. Welcome to the April 9th  
15 Public Hearing for the Allen County Board of  
16 Commissioners and this is in reference to the Major  
17 Bridge Fund. Mike Fitch from the highway department  
18 and Bill Fishering, the Allen County attorney--

19 BLOOM: And Hartman.

20 IRVING: --and Bill Hartman--Mr. Fishering, if you  
21 want to take your normal place up there, that's fine  
22 too. We don't have enough chairs to go around.  
23 According to Indiana Law, today's Public Hearing may  
24 include only those matters that have been advertised.  
25 Mr. Fishering, has the proper notice been given?

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1 FISHERING: Yes.

2 IRVING: Thank you.

3 BLOOM: Good morning.

4 IRVING: Mr. Fitch, would you like to begin or is Mr.  
5 Fishering beginning? Thank you very much.

6 FISHERING: I'll just briefly state for you, today is  
7 the resolution to increase your Major Bridge Fund to  
8 the maximum levy allowed under state law. We're  
9 doing this under I.C.-6-1.141, which is the statute  
10 that governs the procedure for all of these matters.  
11 After the Public Hearing, if you determine to go  
12 forward and approve this matter, it is submitted to  
13 the local property tax control board for their review  
14 and the notice and another potential hearing,  
15 somewhat similar to the old process with bond issues.  
16 So this is the first step in doing that. There are a  
17 number of other steps which must follow in order for  
18 them to be done. And with that, I'll turn it over to  
19 the highway department for the presentation on the  
20 bridges.

21 IRVING: Before Mr. Fitch begins, I would like to  
22 have it noted that this is a Public Hearing only for  
23 the purpose of taking testimony. The board will  
24 discuss the merits of this proposal following the  
25 Public Hearing and, under normal circumstances, vote

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1 to determine the outcome. We do hold the authority  
2 to continue our discussions until a later meeting if  
3 we believe that this is to be in the best interest of  
4 the public. And I think our first speaker today will  
5 be Mr. Fitch.

6 FITCH: Good morning.

7 IRVING: Good morning.

8 BLOOM: Good morning.

9 FITCH: Mike Fitch, Executive Director, Allen County  
10 Highway Department. And with me today is Bill  
11 Hartman, the engineering manager for the highway  
12 department and also the person that takes care of  
13 our--

14 BLOOM: Good morning.

15 FITCH: --bridge maintenance program. I passed out a  
16 memo--Bill said I have about five minutes and I hope  
17 to get through this in five minutes, but it outlines  
18 the--

19 IRVING: By looking at those three big books, I'm not  
20 sure--we could be here in five days.

21 FITCH: This additional ammunition here.

22 IRVING: Okay.

23 FITCH: General information. The Allen County  
24 Highway Department is responsible for maintaining a  
25 total of 337 bridges with lengths of 20 feet or more,

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1 as required by Indiana Code and the Federal Highway  
2 Administration. This includes 261 bridges in  
3 unincorporated Allen County and 76 located inside  
4 incorporated cities and towns. Of these 337  
5 structures, 31 are major bridges, meaning they have  
6 spans of 200 feet or more. This is significant  
7 because Indiana Code allows county governments to set  
8 up a separate tax levy for major bridges. This was  
9 done because of the high cost to build and maintain  
10 these large structures. The highway department also  
11 maintains all structures (culverts, box culverts, and  
12 small bridges with spans from four feet to 19 feet in  
13 length out of our Accumulative Bridge Fund.) Other  
14 drainage structures (pipes and small culverts with

15 spans less than four feet are maintained out of our  
16 Road Maintenance Fund.)

17 Maintenance funds. Prior to 2003, the  
18 highway department maintained our bridges and small  
19 structures from our Accumulative Bridge Fund, Major  
20 Bridge Fund and sold bridge bond issues. CEDIT and  
21 local road and bridge funds have also been used on  
22 occasion, when available. We have used local road  
23 and street funds primarily, for bridge engineering  
24 and design fees. The income and expense from these  
25 funds over the last five years is shown below. I

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1 show a table here starting in 1998 to 2002, which  
2 shows the expenditures which have come out of--income  
3 and expenses out of Accum. Bridge Fund and the Major  
4 Bridge Fund. These have averaged approximately 1.1  
5 million [\$1.1 million] per year for Accum. Bridge.  
6 And the Major Bridge is approximately 1.3 to 1.4  
7 million [\$1.3 to \$1.4 million] per year. Other  
8 expenses--recent bond issues--went back to 1983,  
9 there was a three bridge bond issue in the amount of  
10 \$3.6 million. These were three large bridges. This  
11 was prior to the Major Bridge Fund being created, so  
12 that's why the high cost of just the three bridges.  
13 1990, there was another bond issue. There were 10  
14 bridges at a cost of 3.6 million [\$3.6 million]. And  
15 in 1996 was our last bond issue--contained 13  
16 bridges, at a cost of \$5.1 million. Other funds  
17 which have been used to supplement and pay for  
18 bridges are our CEDIT funds and also local road and  
19 street. 1999 through 2002, we spent from 250 to 1.8  
20 million [\$250,000 to \$1.8 million] out of CEDIT  
21 funds. And from local road and street, we spent  
22 45,000 [\$45,000] up to as high as 270,000 [\$270,000]  
23 out of those funds. Again, that was primarily for  
24 engineering--design and engineering fees. In 2003,  
25 we lost our Accumulative Bridge Fund to budget cuts.

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1 As this fund was part of our County General Fund  
2 (property taxes). Now we only have our Major Bridge  
3 Fund left to maintain our bridges, but this money can  
4 only be used for bridges over 200 feet in length.  
5 The highway department is currently about 4 million  
6 [\$4 million] short in funding road projects, so we  
7 don't have any available--other available funds.

8 Maintenance needs. The county is required to  
9 inspect all bridges with spans greater than 20 feet,  
10 every two years and prepare a bridge report on their  
11 condition. And that's what we have up here on the  
12 table, here, are the reports. The results of the  
13 2002 Bridge Report, recommend improvements in three  
14 categories. Repair, rehabilitation, and replacement.  
15 A separate report was also prepared for all small  
16 structures. This is the first year we've did this  
17 report. We felt that--we wanted to know what the  
18 condition of our small structures were and that  
19 report did that for us. A summary of the  
20 recommendations for both reports is as follows--and  
21 this is for--this summary is for the years 2003 to  
22 2008 as recommended in the reports. Repairs, it

23 recommends 110 bridges receive repairs at 600,000  
24 [\$600,000.00]. Rehabilitation, 31 bridges at 10.4  
25 million [\$10.4 million]. Replacement at 24 bridges

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1 at 11.8 million [\$11.8 million]. And small  
2 structures, approximately 200 at a cost of five  
3 million [\$5 million]. The total number of structures  
4 is 365. And the total estimated cost is 27.8 million  
5 [\$27.8 million]. In addition to these structures,  
6 the highway department has several additional bridges  
7 that need to be widened or reconstructed as part of  
8 an existing road improvement project. The cost of  
9 these improvements is estimated at approximately \$10  
10 million. And I'll explain that--that when we go out  
11 and do--a new developer comes in and puts an entrance  
12 in, if the entrance is in--close to a culvert or a  
13 bridge, we have to widen that bridge to accommodate  
14 the additional travel lanes or on our road projects  
15 where we go in and make improvements to the road. We  
16 usually upgrade the structures at that time, even  
17 though they may not be rated to be replaced or  
18 repaired. We do them at that time because it's the  
19 proper time to do it. This brings the total funding  
20 needs for the next five years to approximately \$37  
21 million if we add the 27.8 [\$27.8 million] and the 10  
22 million [\$10 million].

23 Bridge sufficiency ratings. The bridge  
24 report prioritizes bridge maintenance needs by  
25 developing a sufficiency rating or condition index

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1 for each structure. The sufficiency rating is a  
2 number between one and 100, with one being the worst  
3 and 100 being the best or a new bridge. Ratings are  
4 developed for the bridge deck, superstructure,  
5 substructure, channel, open--or approach road  
6 structure, geometrics and scour. All of the ratings  
7 are summarized into a final sufficiency rating  
8 number, which is between zero--or one and 100. The  
9 bridge can be considered structurally deficient or  
10 geometrically deficient. A structure that is  
11 considered structurally deficient cannot carry the  
12 design loading or weight limit required for the  
13 roadway. And a geometrically deficient structure is  
14 one that does not meet current design standards, as  
15 narrow lanes, poor alignment, sight distance  
16 problems, etcetera. The bridge report also  
17 identifies safety problems such as the unsafe bridge  
18 railings, headwalls, guardrail end treatment and  
19 missing reflective placards to identify bridge  
20 headwalls at night. The bridge sufficiency rating is  
21 used as a guide to determine the general condition of  
22 each structure, but the decision on what to do first  
23 is based on the bridge. Structural condition, the  
24 location, type of traffic and accident history. So  
25 there's more that goes into the determination of what

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1 this--number, than just the sufficiency rating.

2 The recommendations. Although, ideally it is  
3 not practical financially to maintain all our bridges  
4 at a sufficiency rating of 100, which would be all  
5 new bridges. On the other hand, we don't want them

6 to deteriorate to a point where we have to reduce the  
7 load limits or close them. It's a constant balancing  
8 act, funding versus level of maintenance. Using the  
9 information in the bridge report and our knowledge of  
10 the transportation system, the highway department  
11 staff developed the attached list of needed bridge  
12 improvement projects. The total cost of these  
13 projects is estimated at 22.3 million [\$22.3  
14 million]. This amount will address many of the needs  
15 identified in the bridge report, the small structure  
16 report and bridges on our road projects over the next  
17 five years. Many of these projects are currently  
18 under design and will be ready for construction in  
19 the next--in the near future. Bridge ratings are not  
20 an exact science, so the proposed year of  
21 construction is only an estimated time. When some  
22 projects--while some projects may be postponed a year  
23 or two, others may need to be moved up because of  
24 faster deterioration or an unforeseen failure. Based  
25 on all the information in the 2002 Bridge Report,

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1 discussions with our consultant and input from my  
2 staff, we feel these bridges needs, priorities and  
3 projected construction dates are reasonably accurate.

4 IRVING: Mr. Fitch?

5 FITCH: Yes.

6 IRVING: That is your recommendation then, correct?

7 FITCH: Yes, this las--

8 IRVING: I think, if I'm correct, Commissioner Bloom  
9 would like to talk about the funding source.

10 FITCH: Okay.

11 BLOOM: Without the Acumm. Bridge Fund, which is  
12 inside our levy, the County Council was short on  
13 money as you all recall. And the Accum Bridge Fund  
14 inside the levy was used for operating costs and  
15 salaries and our budget for the county general. The  
16 Major Bridge Fund is outside the levy. When we have  
17 bonded in the past, we've had to use some source of  
18 income that we have to back up this or it goes on the  
19 tax dollars, on the general public. When and if we  
20 can increase this Major Bridge Fund from one point  
21 two five [1.25] cents per a hundred dollar assessed  
22 value, to three point three [3.3] cents, this would  
23 generate from 1.4 million [\$1.4 million] to 2  
24 million--an additional 2 million [\$2 million] a year,  
25 which would be three point four [3.4] cents--3.4

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1 million [\$3.4 million]. So it would go from 1.4  
2 million [\$1.4 million] a year to 3.4 million [\$3.4  
3 million] a year. This could be used to cover the--as  
4 collateral and make the payments on a Major Bridge  
5 Fund. We need approximately two and a half [\$2.5]  
6 million dollars a year to just do maintenance on our  
7 bridges. There is no other way to get this money.  
8 Between bridge repairs, road repairs--there is no  
9 other funding to do this. In the past, the  
10 Commissioners have bonded every four or five years  
11 for bridge projects. Because we took the additional  
12 responsibilities this year out of our CEDIT dollars,  
13 which we've been able to use on the bridges in the



14 past, the Council also has now funded all of the  
15 Department of Planning Services out our CEDIT budget.  
16 So that cut us. So that is now a total of like a  
17 million three [\$1.3 million] out of our CEDIT money,  
18 which was used primarily for economic development and  
19 our bridges. We have no other way to get this. This  
20 is the easiest and the most fair way, I think, to do  
21 this, to raise this. So that instead of a million  
22 four [\$1.4 million] a year, we'd have three million  
23 four [\$3.4 million] a year. This could be the  
24 payments for a bond that we would take instead of  
25 obligating the general public for this.

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1 IRVING: Is there anything else you'd like to add?  
2 BLOOM: No, I'm finished. Thank you.  
3 IRVING: Mr. Hartman?  
4 HARTMAN: Yes.  
5 IRVING: You have three huge books in front of you.  
6 HARTMAN: Yes.  
7 IRVING: Those are open to the public, is that  
8 correct?  
9 HARTMAN: Absolutely.  
10 IRVING: Okay, and they are located in the highway  
11 department?  
12 HARTMAN: Yes, they are.  
13 FITCH: Yes.  
14 IRVING: And if anybody has a question on any of the  
15 bridge reports that they could come there and they  
16 are available, is that correct?  
17 HARTMAN: Yes. Yes, they are.  
18 BLOOM: We also--  
19 IRVING: Also--  
20 BLOOM: --have project lists.  
21 IRVING: Yeah.  
22 BLOOM: Yeah.  
23 IRVING: I was just going to mention that, available  
24 to the public too--it would be almost to keep you  
25 within your five minutes to read all these, but you

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1 do have a project list of bridge improvements for  
2 2003 through 2005, is that correct?  
3 FITCH: Yes.  
4 IRVING: And we do have a project list for the year  
5 2006 and 2007 that would be available to the public,  
6 is that correct?  
7 FITCH: Yes, this is all available--  
8 BLOOM: These are just bridges. These aren't roads,  
9 these are bridges.  
10 FITCH: These are all bridges.  
11 BLOOM: Right.  
12 IRVING: Can we enter this into public record without  
13 reading each individual one?  
14 ELSER: Yes.  
15 IRVING: Okay, then we will have this entered in as a  
16 packet then, too. (Complete listing included in  
17 documents of Legislative Session of 4/09/03.) And it  
18 will be available with the highway department with  
19 the bridge analysis, right?  
20 BLOOM: Right.  
21 HARTMAN: Absolutely.  
22 IRVING: Mr. Hartman, is there anything you would

23 like to add during this Public Hearing?

24 HARTMAN: I have nothing else to add. I think  
25 everything's been well entertained.

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1 IRVING: Commissioner Bloom, anything to add?

2 BLOOM: Thank you, no.

3 IRVING: Mr. Fitch?

4 FITCH: I think one of the things that the--I get--  
5 the question is, "Do we have to do this--can we delay  
6 it"? And I think that that question, as far as  
7 maintenance, is a--it's a grey area. We try to--over  
8 the years, we've tried to maintain our infrastructure  
9 at a fair or good level. Trying to maintain all  
10 these at a level 100 or a sufficiency rating 100  
11 would be impractical. Allen County compares  
12 favorably to other counties in the state, as far as  
13 how we maintain our bridges. We're not falling  
14 behind, we're about where we should be. But  
15 currently, without any Accum. Bridge Funds, we will  
16 shortly--in over a few years, if we delay  
17 improvements, those improvements will catch up to  
18 you. Because as a bridge deteriorates, instead of  
19 costing a half a million dollars [\$500,000] to  
20 refurbish a bridge today, two years from now it will  
21 cost 700,000 [\$700,000].

22 IRVING: Yes.

23 FITCH: So this is one of these things that everybody  
24 is, I think familiar with--you know, maintaining  
25 their homes, maintaining their cars, this is the

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1 same--same issue. If you--

2 IRVING: It's in a maintenance program.

3 FITCH: --keep them maintained--

4 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative).

5 FITCH: --long-term, it will save you dollars. If we  
6 don't maintain these bridges--we have over 150,  
7 almost \$200 million in infrastructure investments in  
8 our bridges.

9 BLOOM: How much?

10 FITCH: Almost \$200 million. The average cost of  
11 these bridges when they were built and the  
12 replacement cost today, would be well over \$200  
13 million, so we have a tremendous investment. And we  
14 want to maintain that investment.

15 IRVING: And Mr. Fitch, I will have to congratulate  
16 you and Commissioner Bloom, that I know your number  
17 one objective in the highway department is public  
18 safety. And bridges--because we have the three most  
19 glorious rivers that go through here, we have a lot  
20 of bridges and you're very concerned about the safety  
21 of them.

22 FITCH: Yes.

23 BLOOM: And because of our 337 structures and the  
24 amount of money that is needed, I need to remind  
25 everyone that Allen County is responsible for all the

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1 bridges in the county--in the city and the county.

2 And this is why we are the ones responsible for this

3 and we are the ones that need the money to do this.

4 Because even as annexation occurs, we are still

5 responsible for all the bridges.

6 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative). Thank you very much,  
7 Commissioner Bloom.

8 BLOOM: You're welcome.

9 IRVING: Mr. Fishing, as our counsel, is there  
10 anything that you would like to add before we open  
11 this up to the public?

12 FISHERING: No.

13 IRVING: Okay, thank you very much. If no one else  
14 has anything to add from our staff--you guys can sit  
15 right up there for a minute, yet. And I'd like to  
16 ask is there anyone else that would like to speak in  
17 favor of the bridge fund increase--Major Bridge Fund?  
18 Anyone else speak in favor? (No response.) Is there  
19 anyone here to speak against? Is there anyone here  
20 to speak against? (No response.) I will now close  
21 the Public Hearing.

22 BLOOM: I'll make a--

23 IRVING: Commissioner Bloom, if you're--

24 BLOOM: --motion to--

25 IRVING: --ready to--

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1 BLOOM: --close the Public Hearing.

2 IRVING: Okay, I will second the motion. All in  
3 favor say, "Aye."

4 BLOOM: Aye.

5 IRVING: Aye. The Public Hearing has now been  
6 closed. Commissioner Bloom, I would like to go ahead  
7 and vote on this if you would like, so I will  
8 entertain a motion.

9 BLOOM: I would like to make a motion to increase the  
10 Major Bridge Fund from one point two five [1.25] to  
11 three point three three [3.33].

12 IRVING: I will second that motion. Is--

13 FISHERING: I'm not--it's not really relevant, but I  
14 think the current rate is one point three three  
15 [1.33].

16 BLOOM: Okay, I'm sorry, it was one here.

17 IRVING: Well, let's amend the motion and would you  
18 like to start again, please?

19 BLOOM: Yes. It's currently at one point three three  
20 [1.33]. I would like to increase the rate to three  
21 point three three [3.33].

22 IRVING: I will second that motion. All in favor  
23 say, "Aye."

24 BLOOM: Aye.

25 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried. I also on this need a

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1 motion to waive the 2nd Reading, please?

2 BLOOM: So moved.

3 IRVING: Seconded. All in favor say, "Aye."

4 BLOOM: Aye.

5 IRVING: Aye. Thank you very much, Mr. Hartman and  
6 Mr. Fitch and Commissioner Bloom. Okay, I think item  
7 number three is the approval of the pre-employment  
8 drug screening policy. And I think we have our human  
9 resources director present today.

10 BLOOM: Good morning, Frank.

11 SUTTER: Good moring. I think for sometime  
12 supervisors, managers, and department heads have felt  
13 the need to do some type of drug screening for our

14 part-time and temporary employees. We've had the  
15 drug screen for full-time job applicants for probably  
16 about eight years now. So after discussion, we have  
17 come up with a pre-employment urine drug screen for  
18 part-time and temporary employees who will be  
19 operating heavy duty machinery and equipment or  
20 driving a county vehicle in the performance of their  
21 jobs.

22 IRVING: Okay.

23 SUTTER: And so we--it's been discussed and decided  
24 that we would implement this May 1st. The cost will  
25 be \$30.00 per test.

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1 IRVING: Okay, to read into the record. It says,  
2 "Effective May 1, 2003, certain job offers for part-  
3 time and temporary positions will be contingent upon  
4 the applicant taking and passing a urine drug screen.  
5 The policy applies to those positions that require  
6 the operation of heavy duty machinery or equipment  
7 and also those positions that require employees to  
8 drive a county owned vehicle in the performance of  
9 their job duties. The cost for the urine drug test  
10 will be charged back to the Non-General Fund  
11 Department." Is there any discussion on this?

12 BLOOM: I'll make a motion that we approve the pre-  
13 employment drug screening policy.

14 IRVING: I'll second it. All in favor say, "Aye."

15 BLOOM: Aye.

16 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried.

17 BLOOM: Thank you.

18 SUTTER: Thank you.

19 IRVING: Thank you very much. Agenda item number  
20 four, the bid award for transportation of voting  
21 machines and related goods from and to storage  
22 facilities for the Primary and General Elections in  
23 2003. Good morning, Bruce.

24 LITTLE: Good morning, Commissioners.

25 BLOOM: Good morning, Bruce.

0026  
1 LITTLE: A couple weeks ago we opened up sealed bids  
2 for the transportation of voting machines. We did  
3 receive one bid. That bid being from AS&L  
4 Transportation. This is the same company that's been  
5 transporting our voting machines for as long as I've  
6 been here and I've been here 25 years. The bid came  
7 in at \$19.75 per voting machine, per trip. This is  
8 the same price that they did this same service for--

9 IRVING: Okay.

10 LITTLE: --last year. What is different this year,  
11 of course, is that we're looking at--some might call  
12 it an, "off year election," this is a city election,  
13 so we won't be moving as many--

14 BLOOM: As many--

15 LITTLE: --voting machines--

16 BLOOM: --uh-huh (affirmative).

17 LITTLE: --as we do during a county-wide election.  
18 To give you an idea of the relative numbers, we move  
19 approximately 600 machines during a county-wide  
20 election. And this year for the Primary, we're  
21 anticipating moving 291 machines. And in the General

22 Election in the fall, we anticipate approximately 347  
23 machines.

24 IRVING: Okay.

25 LITTLE: And given the quality of the service in this  
0027

1 company--Pam Finlayson, from the election board who  
2 unfortunately couldn't be here today--but she does  
3 recommend that we award the contract to AS&L.

4 BLOOM: So moved.

5 IRVING: Seconded. All in favor say, "Aye."

6 BLOOM: Aye.

7 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried.

8 LITTLE: Okay, thank you.

9 BLOOM: Thanks, Bruce.

10 IRVING: Thank you very much, Bruce.

11 LITTLE: Sure.

12 IRVING: Item number five is the approval for  
13 acceptance of two Astrophysics Sentry walk-through  
14 metal detectors being donated--

15 BLOOM: Astro--

16 IRVING: --what--

17 BLOOM: --good job.

18 IRVING: Didn't I do something right?

19 BLOOM: Yeah.

20 IRVING: Through metal detectors being donated to the  
21 county by the Transportation Security Administration  
22 located at the Fort Wayne Airport. Good morning.  
23 How are you?

24 KOOP: Good morning, ma'am.

25 BLOOM: Good morning.

0028

1 IRVING: Do you want to introduce yourself?

2 KOOP: Sure. I'm Christopher Koop, Allen County  
3 Sheriff's Department, Warrants and Civil Division.

4 Along with me is Captain Kathryn Stevens. We're  
5 representing Jim Herman, Sheriff of Allen County. As  
6 you know, we received a donation, actually a donation  
7 letter from American Eagle Airlines, Troy Coleman, to  
8 donate two--their used Sentry walk-through metal  
9 detectors. In the letter written to me from him it  
10 says, "Mr. Koop, American Eagle currently owns two  
11 walk-through metal detectors that we are no longer in  
12 need of. After TSA, which is the Transportation  
13 Security Administration, took over security at the  
14 airport they bought and brought in new equipment. To  
15 my knowledge, they are both working fine. We would  
16 like to donate them to the Allen County Sheriff's  
17 Department. Feel free to come by and pick them at  
18 anytime. If you need to contact me I can be reached.  
19 And he left his phone number. These--we could  
20 probably use these. We don't have any--we currently  
21 have three and--that we're using. We don't have any  
22 back up system. We could also use one probably as a  
23 temporary thing if we had something--needed to set up  
24 somewhere else for a security measure within Allen  
25 County.

0029

1 BLOOM: In other words, you think it's an obvious  
2 thing that we should accept these?

3 KOOP: Yes, ma'am. Ours are at least 12 years old.

4 BLOOM: Okay.

5 KOOP: Two of them are at 12, one's--another one's  
6 probably six years old--  
7 IRVING: Okay.  
8 BLOOM: Okay.  
9 KOOP: --and if one would--one would break--things  
10 like that.  
11 IRVING: Okay.  
12 KOOP: And if we don't have the equipment when the  
13 new buildings--the new equipment when the new  
14 building's are--  
15 BLOOM: Okay--  
16 KOOP: --opened up--  
17 BLOOM: --then it could go--  
18 KOOP: --we can use these, right. Now, these are  
19 just the walk-throughs, these are not the x-ray  
20 machines.  
21 IRVING: Right.  
22 BLOOM: And this will be no cost to the county except  
23 for transportation?  
24 KOOP: Transportation, right.  
25 BLOOM: Fantastic. I'll make a motion we accept

0030

1 these.  
2 IRVING: I'll second the motion. All in favor say,  
3 "Aye."  
4 BLOOM: Aye.  
5 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried.  
6 BLOOM: Thank you.  
7 KOOP: Thank you.  
8 IRVING: Is the sheriff's department going to be  
9 sending a thank you letter or would you like the  
10 Commissioner's Office to do it?  
11 STEVENS: Sheriff's department will do it. Thank  
12 you.  
13 BLOOM: Thank you.  
14 IRVING: Thank you very much, Cookie.  
15 KOOP: Thank you.  
16 IRVING: Item number six, I think we have some plats  
17 to sign.  
18 REITZ: We actually have two this morning.  
19 IRVING: Okay.  
20 REITZ: Don Reitz, Department of Planning Services.  
21 The Canyon Run--  
22 BLOOM: Good morning.  
23 REITZ: --section two. And also a hearing to  
24 preserve section one.  
25 IRVING: Okay.

0031

1 BLOOM: With a left-handed pen.  
2 REITZ: If you turn the handle it writes  
3 (indiscernible).  
4 BLOOM: Okay. I think you're a fibber.  
5 IRVING: I'll let you hold the pen and be the first  
6 one on the second one there then.  
7 BLOOM: Okay.  
8 IRVING: Don, you still haven't gotten them all to do  
9 it the same place.  
10 REITZ: Well--  
11 BLOOM: No, they won't be--  
12 REITZ: --these are two very unusual--

13 IRVING: They sure are.  
14 REITZ: --plats this time. These are geographically  
15 challenged, perhaps.  
16 IRVING: You know, there's a lot of things in our  
17 life that our pretty challenging, but Commissioner  
18 Bloom, I wasn't referring to you. You make my life  
19 easy.  
20 REITZ: Thank you very much.  
21 BLOOM: Precious thing.  
22 IRVING: Thank you, is there--  
23 BLOOM: Precious.  
24 IRVING: --anything else you have for us today, Don?  
25 REITZ: No, ma'am.

0032  
1 BLOOM: Thank you.  
2 IRVING: Great, you have a big BZA meeting today, is  
3 that correct?  
4 REITZ: That will be quite a challenge just within  
5 itself. Thank you.  
6 IRVING: I think it will. Thank you very much. I'd  
7 like to have the approval and acception and  
8 completion of the construction and rehabilitation of  
9 the Hoagland Road Bridge over St. Mary's River.  
10 Well, good morning gentleman, I think I've seen you  
11 before today.  
12 BLOOM: I'd like to make a motion to accept  
13 completion of--construction and rehabilitation of  
14 Bridge 284.  
15 IRVING: I'll second the motion. All in favor say,  
16 "Aye."  
17 BLOOM: Aye.  
18 IRVING: Aye. I think we had some award bids that  
19 came in yesterday for traffic striping on various  
20 county roads, number 17-03.  
21 FITCH: Mike Fitch, Allen County Highway Department.  
22 We received bids from two vendors, Three Rivers  
23 Barricade and Equipment and the Airmarking Company.  
24 Three Rivers Barricade was low at \$208,307.43.  
25 Airmarking Company was at \$211,232.43. The

0033  
1 engineer's estimate was \$230,242.20. The highway  
2 department recommends awarding the contract to Three  
3 Rivers Barricade in the amount of \$208,307.43.  
4 BLOOM: So moved.  
5 IRVING: Seconded. All in favor say, "Aye."  
6 BLOOM: Aye.  
7 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried. I think we have an  
8 award and approval of bid reference number 18-03 for  
9 construction and rehabilitation of the Edsall Avenue  
10 Bridge over the Norfolk Southern Railway.  
11 FITCH: We received bids from two contractors, Primco  
12 Inc. and Pioneer Associates Inc. Primco was low bid  
13 at \$294,997.27. Pioneer Associates bid was  
14 \$298,495.20. The engineer's estimate was  
15 \$228,698.80. The highway department reviewed the  
16 bids because--carefully, because both bids are above  
17 the engineer's estimate.  
18 IRVING: Yes.  
19 FITCH: We also talked to Bruce Little--  
20 IRVING: A lot above.  
21 FITCH: --and conferred with our county attorney.

22 And because of the bids being so close, we felt that  
23 if we rebid the project, we're probably going to come  
24 up with the same numbers. And that the--our feeling  
25 is that the engineer's estimate was low.

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1 BLOOM: I agree.  
2 FITCH: So--  
3 BLOOM: Because usually they're not. And in this  
4 particular case--  
5 FITCH: Right, this was--  
6 BLOOM: --they're too low, yeah.  
7 FITCH: --I could say, probably one in 100--  
8 BLOOM: Yeah.  
9 FITCH: --where we're--  
10 BLOOM: I can't even remember the last one where we  
11 were under.  
12 FITCH: Usually we estimate these high.  
13 BLOOM: Right.  
14 IRVING: So are you asking for a motion--  
15 FITCH: So we're--  
16 IRVING: --to throw these out or--  
17 FITCH: --the highway department is recommending that  
18 we award this to Primco Inc. in the amount  
19 \$294,973.27.  
20 BLOOM: I'll make the motion that we accept this.  
21 IRVING: If--we can accept them when they're that far  
22 off from the engineer's--  
23 BLOOM: If they were far apart in--  
24 IRVING: Then we can, okay.  
25 BLOOM: --the number that--we would rebid, but

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1 because they were so close together that--  
2 IRVING: Okay.  
3 BLOOM: --yeah.  
4 IRVING: I'll second the motion. All in favor say,  
5 "Aye."  
6 BLOOM: Aye.  
7 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried. Is there anything  
8 else that you gentleman have?  
9 FITCH: Nope, that's all. I brought Bill up here in  
10 case you had some questions about that bid.  
11 IRVING: Yeah, you know, Bill. I really wish you'd  
12 quit monopolizing the conversation.  
13 HARTMAN: I'm sorry, I apologize.  
14 FITCH: Have a good day.  
15 BLOOM: Hey, you got a laugh out of him. Thank you.  
16 IRVING: Under other business, I have a change order,  
17 number 15 for \$98.00 for the Juvenile Center that's--  
18 BLOOM: Boy, this is--  
19 IRVING: --being built.  
20 BLOOM: --a biggie.  
21 IRVING: I know.  
22 BLOOM: You're really on top of this--  
23 IRVING: I know. It's--  
24 BLOOM: --Commissioner.  
25 IRVING: --it's carpet nosings at doors for--

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1 BLOOM: It's \$98.00.  
2 IRVING: --\$98.00. Yeah, could I have a motion on my  
3 \$98.00. Thank you very much.



4 BLOOM: So moved.  
5 IRVING: Seconded. All in favor say, "Aye."  
6 BLOOM: Aye.  
7 IRVING: Aye. Yeah, but you just wait.  
8 BLOOM: Yeah.  
9 IRVING: Susan, do we have anything else to appear  
10 before us.  
11 ELSER: I have no other business, today.  
12 IRVING: Okay.  
13 BLOOM: I'm going to do the approval to waive the 2nd  
14 Reading on any matter approved today for which it may  
15 be deemed necessary for the Legislative Session of  
16 April 9th.  
17 IRVING: I'll second it. All in favor say, "Aye."  
18 BLOOM: Aye.  
19 IRVING: Aye. Before we ask for comments from  
20 public, I have someone that I would like to  
21 introduce. Would you like to come up here and  
22 introduce yourself? And tell us where you're from  
23 and why you came to visit us today.  
24 WICK: I'm Nathan Wick. I'm from Concordia Lutheran  
25 High School, I'm a junior and we have to shadow

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1 someone for our English class to find out--kind of  
2 about maybe what we want to do when--grow up--in  
3 college and everything. And so I decided to shadow  
4 Commissioner Irving and--  
5 IRVING: Good choice.  
6 WICK: --because I have an interest--  
7 BLOOM: You actually want to grow up and follow in  
8 her footsteps? Oh, honey.  
9 WICK: I'm interested in political science, so--  
10 BLOOM: Okay.  
11 WICK: --something with that--  
12 BLOOM: I'm teasing.  
13 WICK: --maybe International Relations, so--  
14 BLOOM: I'm teasing.  
15 IRVING: Nathan, I'm not going to let you off the  
16 hook, though--  
17 WICK: Oh, great.  
18 IRVING: --okay. When you first started out, you  
19 said you "had to" shadow someone. Can you rephrase  
20 that to you really wanted to--  
21 WICK: I really wanted--  
22 IRVING: --shadow--  
23 WICK: --to shadow Commissioner Irving.  
24 IRVING: Okay, Nathan, you've been a real asset today  
25 and I hope that you learn a lot and I'm glad to have

0038  
1 you. Is there any questions that you have?  
2 WICK: Not right now.  
3 IRVING: Okay, thank you very much for joining us.  
4 BLOOM: Thank you, Nathan.  
5 IRVING: I am now opening up comments from the  
6 public. Do we have any comments from the public?  
7 BLOOM: Good morning.  
8 IRVING: Well, good morning, Lin, how are you?  
9 WILSON: Good morning.  
10 BLOOM: You're not the public, you belong to us.  
11 WILSON: Well, but this a public issue.  
12 BLOOM: Okay.

13 IRVING: Oh, okay.  
14 WILSON: I want to thank you for approving--  
15 IRVING: Well, let's introduce ourselves, first.  
16 WILSON: Lin Wilson, I'm the grant writer for the  
17 county.  
18 IRVING: Thank you.  
19 WILSON: I want to thank you for approving the  
20 rehabilitation at the Edsall Avenue Bridge. I know  
21 there was discussion to eliminate it altogether  
22 because it's in really bad shape.  
23 BLOOM: It is.  
24 WILSON: But it's the only access across the tracks  
25 for Fire Station number nine--

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1 IRVING: Yes.  
2 WILSON: --to get to their service area on the other  
3 side of the tracks. And I just thank you very much  
4 for approving that because it will greatly enhance  
5 the response time. I know there's going to be  
6 inconvenience for a while--  
7 BLOOM: Uh-huh (affirmative).  
8 WILSON: --it's being rehabbed, but it is a very  
9 important connector. There's no way you can get  
10 across over at Anthony if the trains are there,  
11 it's--you know, it's impossible to provide fire  
12 service, so I thank you very much for approving that.  
13 IRVING: Lin, you're always welcome--  
14 BLOOM: Well, thank you.  
15 IRVING: --when you've got good things to say.  
16 WILSON: Okay, no complaints here.  
17 IRVING: Thank you very much.  
18 BLOOM: Thank you.  
19 IRVING: Do we have any other comments from the  
20 public? (No response.) Seeing none. Thank you very  
21 much for attending and have a wonderful week.

(Adjourned 10:45 a.m.)

\* \* \*

0040

1 STATE OF INDIANA )  
) SS:  
2 COUNTY OF ALLEN )  
3 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE  
4 I, Alan R. Bunn, a Notary Public in and for  
5 the State of Indiana, County of Allen, do hereby  
6 certify that the above and foregoing is a true and  
7 accurate transcript of the Board of Commissioners of  
8 the County of Allen, Legislative Session, held before  
9 me on April 9, 2003 in the Allen County  
10 Commissioners' Courtroom, Room 200, City-County  
11 Building, 1 East Main Street, Fort Wayne, Allen  
12 County, Indiana; that I am not related to, employed  
13 by or interested in any of the parties to this cause  
14 of action.  
15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my  
16 hand and seal this 11th day of April, 2003.

---

Alan R. Bunn, Notary Public

19 Residing in Wells County, Indiana

20

My Commission Expires:

21 October 23, 2010