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

8  
9 RE: LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF  
10 JULY 2, 2003  
11  
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14

15 DATE: July 2, 2003  
16

17 TIME: 10:00 a.m.

18 LOCATION: Room 200  
Commissioners Courtroom  
19 City-County Building  
20 1 East Main Street  
21 Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

REPORTER: Alan R. Bunn  
22  
23  
24  
25

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1 PRESENT:  
2 Marla J. Irving Allen County Commissioner  
3 Linda K. Bloom Allen County Commissioner  
4 Edwin J. Rousseau Allen County Commissioner  
5 Susan Elser Allen County Public  
Information Department  
6  
7 John McGauley Allen County Public  
Information Department  
8 Mary Hitchens Allen County Public  
Information Department  
9  
10 Lin Wilson Allen County Auditor's  
Office  
11 Bruce Little Allen County Purchasing  
Department  
12  
13 Brian Andonian ACS  
14  
15 Mike Fitch Allen County Highway  
Department  
16 Ed Steenman Allen County Information  
Technology  
17  
18 Paula Hughes Allen County Council  
Patrick Rew Allen County Department of Planning  
Services

19 Miguel Trevino DLZ  
 20 Sandra Flum Allen County Legislative  
 Liaison  
 21  
 22 Teresa Devenner Allen County Resident  
 23 Zack Myers TV 33 - WISE-TV  
 24 Ben Ridenour Allen County Highway  
 Department  
 25 Alan R. Bunn Rolf Reporting, Inc.  
 0003  
 1 Larry Banks Allen County Public Library  
 2 Kevin Leninger News-Sentinel  
 3 Dan Stockman Journal-Gazette  
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- 10. Approval to waive the 2nd Reading on any matter approved today and for which it may be deemed necessary for the Legislative Session of July 2, 2003 23
- 11. Comments from the Public 23

1 IRVING: Good morning and welcome to our July 2nd  
2 Legislative meeting. Can we start with Commissioner  
3 Rousseau leading us in the pledge and a moment of  
4 silence, please?  
5 (At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was  
6 recited in unison by all present.  
7 \* \* \*  
8 (At this time, a moment of silence was  
9 observed by all present.)  
10 ROUSSEAU: Thank you very much.  
11 BLOOM: Amen.  
12 IRVING: Thank you very much. Approval of minutes  
13 for the June 25th meeting, please?  
14 BLOOM: So moved.  
15 ROUSSEAU: Second.  
16 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."  
17 ROUSSEAU: Aye.  
18 BLOOM: Aye.  
19 IRVING: Aye. Motion carries. Bid Award Reference  
20 22-03 for personal computers and equipment for the  
21 second half of 2003. I thought it was going to say  
22 printers.  
23 LITTLE: Peripheral equipment.  
24 IRVING: That's right.  
25 BLOOM: Good morning.

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1 LITTLE: Good morning. I'm Bruce Little, purchasing  
2 director for Allen County.  
3 ANDONIAN: Brian Andonian, tech services manager for  
4 ACS.  
5 LITTLE: A few weeks ago we opened up bids for the  
6 purchase of PCs and printers for the second half of  
7 2003. We've had Brian and Ed Steenman carefully  
8 evaluate the bids. We typically award these  
9 contracts as two sections. The first section being  
10 the PCs and monitors and the second section being  
11 printers and peripheral equipment. With the first  
12 section--with PCs and monitors, the apparent low  
13 bidder was SHEA-PC out of Minnesota. Brian and Ed  
14 took a careful look at the PC being offered, and it

15 turns out that the PC offered on the bid did not meet  
16 one of our key criteria, and that is that PC system  
17 was not a Novell certified system. There was also a  
18 problem with the pricing of the MS Office XP. The  
19 version that was offered on the bid is--while it was  
20 less than what we normally pay, it's not the type of  
21 license that we are eligible to buy. It's only open  
22 to schools and educational institutions. So based on  
23 those two facts, we--I deemed that bid to be  
24 nonresponsive for the PCs. We then went to the  
25 second low bid, which was from Arsys Innotech and

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1 their system is Novell certified and their bid was in  
2 order. It was responsive, and we're recommending  
3 that the PCs be awarded to Arsys Innotech. That is  
4 the same company, by the way, that we--that currently  
5 supplies our PCs. Now, on the second section, again,  
6 SHEA-PC was the apparent low bidder, and there were  
7 no irregularities on their bids for the printers and  
8 peripheral equipment. So we're recommending that  
9 that contract be awarded to SHEA-PC being the low  
10 bid.

11 BLOOM: I'll make a motion that we accept Arsys for  
12 the personal computers and monitors and SHEA-PC for  
13 the printers and peripheral equipment for the second  
14 half of 2003.

15 ROUSSEAU: Second.

16 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."

17 ROUSSEAU: Aye.

18 BLOOM: Aye.

19 IRVING: Aye. Okay, motion carries.

20 LITTLE: Thank you.

21 IRVING: I'd also like to add that we can now proceed  
22 with ordering the new equipment for the Juvenile  
23 Justice Center now that we have the bids in.

24 ANDONIAN: That is correct.

25 IRVING: I think that with the 800--is it--\$805.00

0010  
1 per unit, is that what Arsys' bid is?

2 ANDONIAN: Yes.

3 BLOOM: Yeah.

4 IRVING: Okay, the bid that came up on that  
5 equipment, I think was over \$1,300.00--that came up  
6 on the bid for the Juvenile Justice--so, this will  
7 save approximately \$500.00 a unit and we have 30  
8 units, is that correct.

9 ANDONIAN: That's correct.

10 IRVING: Okay.

11 BLOOM: Terrific.

12 IRVING: Thank you very much, I appreciate it.

13 BLOOM: Thanks.

14 ANDONIAN: Thank you.

15 IRVING: Next on the agenda is the appointment for  
16 the Plan Commission. Ed and Linda, I'd like to bring  
17 before you the name of Susan Hoot. She will be  
18 finishing out the term for Tim Gough, which has moved  
19 from Allen County area. This appointment needed to  
20 have someone that is a registered democrat and also  
21 lives in the county. A few things about Susan, she  
22 has a Churubusco address, but she lives in Allen  
23 County. She just lives out off of Heffelfinger Road.

24 She's been very active in the National Association  
25 for Women in Construction. She's been very active in

0011  
1 the Chamber of Commerce. She's been active in the  
2 Huntert--I mean, the Huntertown Chamber of Commerce,  
3 Parkview YMCA off of Dupont, Huntertown Heritage  
4 Days, and she owns a--her and her husband own a  
5 company in the Huntertown area. So I'd like to bring  
6 her name before.

7 ROUSSEAU: So moved.

8 BLOOM: Second.

9 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."

10 ROUSSEAU: Aye.

11 BLOOM: Aye.

12 IRVING: Aye. This appointment will run through  
13 today through December 31st of 2004. Okay, thank you  
14 very much. Okay, we have a few change orders here  
15 for the Justice Center. Industrial Piping, change  
16 order 26 for \$57,935.00, Industrial Piping &  
17 Engineering--oh, I'm sorry, I said that twice. Great  
18 Oaks Construction, change order 32 for \$7,881.36, and  
19 Weigand Construction for \$56,016.54 for a total of  
20 \$121,892.90.

21 BLOOM: I have reviewed these. These are all for the  
22 new sanitary lift station at the Justice Center and  
23 I'll make a motion that we approve the \$121,892.90.

24 ROUSSEAU: I second that and I would assume that it  
25 would be more than just the sanitary--storm water, I

0012  
1 would assume is part of it.

2 BLOOM: Well, there's electrical work involved and  
3 pumps and rails, is that--

4 ROUSSEAU: But this--isn't any of this used for the  
5 basement problem?

6 BLOOM: This is all for the force main, yeah--yeah,  
7 and the sanitary lift station.

8 ROUSSEAU: Okay, thank you. I second it.

9 IRVING: If we're still open for discussion, I'd like  
10 to ask a question, too. I know we've had a motion on  
11 the floor and it's been seconded. If this is city  
12 sewer why are we paying the cost of this?

13 BLOOM: We're paying the cost of this because there's  
14 no line from Clinton over to the Justice Center and  
15 the only way we'll be able to open this building is  
16 by doing this lift station and the reason it's not  
17 hooked up--I've never really had a good answer for  
18 that. We're having to put in this very expensive  
19 lift station to accommodate the opening of the  
20 Justice Center.

21 IRVING: Is there any other locations in downtown  
22 that would be able to hook into this or is this  
23 solely just for the Justice Center.

24 ROUSSEAU: This is a territorial--why they--there may  
25 be other problems like this that exist, but this is a

0013  
1 territorial little problem that came up and we felt  
2 we had assurances that since this sewer line was  
3 lower than the basement--

4 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative).

5 ROUSSEAU: --that--which is most of our sanitary

6 system throughout the community of Fort Wayne--the  
7 older community, we relied upon that being the  
8 answer. In this particular case, while the sewer was  
9 lower than the--the line was lower than what our  
10 basement is--

11 IRVING: Right.

12 ROUSSEAU: --it still--I guess they call it backwash  
13 or something--and whatever it was it--it's caused  
14 this problem. The only way to resolve it based upon  
15 the configuration of the sewer system and all the  
16 lines that currently exist, was to put this forced  
17 main--

18 IRVING: Forced line, okay.

19 ROUSSEAU: --situation. This will resolve the  
20 problem.

21 IRVING: Okay, it's been moved and seconded. All in  
22 favor say, "Aye."

23 ROUSSEAU: Aye.

24 BLOOM: Aye.

25 IRVING: Aye. Motion carries. Approval of a

0014

1 warranty deed from Thomas H. Spencer and Kyle Lee  
2 Spencer granting additional right-of-way for parcel  
3 68 on Union Chapel Road project.

4 BLOOM: So moved.

5 ROUSSEAU: Second.

6 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."

7 ROUSSEAU: Aye.

8 BLOOM: Aye.

9 IRVING: Aye. Approve a warranty deed from Jefferson  
10 Street Properties, LLC for additional right-of-way  
11 for property on lots three and four in New Haven's  
12 addition, located on West Jefferson Boulevard, Aboite  
13 Township.

14 BLOOM: DeHaven's.

15 IRVING: DeHaven's. I'm sorry.

16 BLOOM: So moved.

17 ROUSSEAU: Second.

18 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."

19 ROUSSEAU: Aye.

20 BLOOM: Aye.

21 IRVING: Aye.

22 BLOOM: Now, let him introduce--

23 IRVING: Okay, well let me--

24 BLOOM: --himself, would you please?

25 IRVING: --well, let me read it and then he can.

0015

1 How's that?

2 BLOOM: Whatever you want.

3 IRVING: Approve change order number two for project  
4 00-32, McNabb Road Bridge over Metcalf Drain, Bridge  
5 number 1506, between Primco and Allen County for a  
6 decrease of \$1,411.51. Good morning, Mike.

7 FITCH: Good morning. Mike Fitch, Allen County  
8 Highway Department. This is a--the final change  
9 order for the bridge project. This is just a

10 resolution of all the miscellaneous bid items and it  
11 resulted in a decrease of roughly \$1,400.00.

12 IRVING: Great. I love it when you bring decreases.

13 FITCH: Yes.

14 IRVING: Probably not as much as Linda loves it,

15 but--  
16 BLOOM: So moved.  
17 ROUSSEAU: Second.  
18 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."  
19 ROUSSEAU: Aye.  
20 BLOOM: Aye.  
21 IRVING: Aye. Approve and accept project completion  
22 of project 00-32, the McNabb Road bridge over the  
23 Metcalf Drain.  
24 BLOOM: So moved.  
25 ROUSSEAU: Second.

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1 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."  
2 ROUSSEAU: Aye.  
3 BLOOM: Aye.  
4 IRVING: Aye. Motion's carried.  
5 FITCH: That's all I have.  
6 ROUSSEAU: This decrease thing is just like a good  
7 day at Ayre's, isn't it?  
8 BLOOM: Or anywhere.  
9 IRVING: I don't know, Commissioner Rousseau, you  
10 keep so busy I never have a chance to shop anymore.  
11 ROUSSEAU: What about you, Linda?  
12 BLOOM: I can shop.  
13 IRVING: Mike, do you have any other business to  
14 bring us--before the Commission?  
15 FITCH: Just an update here on the Union Chapel Road  
16 project. We are going to bid the intersection  
17 improvements at Tonkel Road. The project is about  
18 \$1.2 million estimate. We're hoping the bids will  
19 come in substantially lower than that.  
20 BLOOM: Right.  
21 FITCH: We are going to receive bids July the 22nd,  
22 so--  
23 IRVING: Okay.  
24 FITCH: --construction on that should start in  
25 August.

0017  
1 IRVING: And this is a shared cost with the state?  
2 FITCH: No, this is 100%--  
3 BLOOM: No, this is ours.  
4 IRVING: This is a 100%--  
5 FITCH: --county cost.  
6 IRVING: --ours, okay.  
7 FITCH: This is a project--we're going to cut down  
8 the hills on Tonkel Road and realign the intersection  
9 on Union Chapel, east, west direction, so--and  
10 install a new traffic signal at the intersection.  
11 BLOOM: And hopefully the federal money will come  
12 when we--  
13 IRVING: The Tonkel--  
14 BLOOM: --do the Tonkel project.  
15 IRVING: --Dupont, yeah.  
16 BLOOM: Uh-huh (affirmative)--  
17 IRVING: I was too far--  
18 FITCH: --it's a major project.  
19 IRVING: --I wasn't far enough north because I knew  
20 that one of them was.  
21 BLOOM: And guess what, the Aboite Center Bridge  
22 opened today.



23 FITCH: Yes.  
24 BLOOM: Yes.  
25 IRVING: Wonderful.

0018

1 FITCH: We really have--  
2 IRVING: And that was what 55 days early I heard on  
3 the news or--  
4 FITCH: Yes, I think the original--it was as much as  
5 five months, and they did it in three months, so--  
6 BLOOM: I know there's a lot of bonuses going  
7 around--  
8 FITCH: Yes, close--  
9 BLOOM: --from the--  
10 FITCH: --to \$300,000.00 in--  
11 ROUSSEAU: Now--  
12 FITCH: --additional bonuses.  
13 BLOOM: --for early completion, yeah.  
14 ROUSSEAU: It brings up a good question. We were, I  
15 think, disassociating ourselves from this because it  
16 was a state project, weren't we?  
17 BLOOM: Well, yeah.  
18 ROUSSEAU: Well, now that it's done--  
19 BLOOM: But it's involved--  
20 ROUSSEAU: --we want to take credit for how great it  
21 works.  
22 IRVING: Way to go, Linda--  
23 BLOOM: Wait a minute--  
24 IRVING: --give me five.  
25 BLOOM: --wait a minute--

0019

1 IRVING: --wonderful. Way to go, Ed.  
2 BLOOM: --wait a minute.  
3 IRVING: Good project. It's done early.  
4 ROUSSEAU: Nice job.  
5 BLOOM: Well, wait a minute. Because of our  
6 ingenious thought process here, as they did--the feds  
7 did the Aboite Center Bridge, we also got included in  
8 this project the widening and resurfacing of Aboite  
9 Center Road from Jefferson down to Coventry Lane.  
10 Now, because all the ducks aren't in a row yet, we  
11 did, however put three inches of asphalt on top of  
12 the existing road, because it was pretty bad. So, we  
13 do want the residents in that area that use this  
14 everyday to know that this will happen next spring or  
15 next summer.  
16 FITCH: Yes, next--next year the road improvements--  
17 widening will be--project will be started. It will  
18 probably be finished in '05, but we will start it in  
19 '04.  
20 BLOOM: Because this bridge--  
21 FITCH: It's going to take over a year.  
22 BLOOM: --is four lanes with pedestrian paths. It's  
23 great and we're hoping to do just a wonderful job on  
24 Aboite Center Road down to Coventry Lane.  
25 FITCH: Yes.

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1 ROUSSEAU: I'm excited.  
2 BLOOM: I'm excited.  
3 FITCH: Yes, major project.  
4 IRVING: If you two are excited, then I'm excited,  
5 too.

6 BLOOM: Oh, give me a break.  
7 IRVING: Are we going to have a "Share the Road" sign  
8 out there, too, because of having the bike lanes--  
9 BLOOM: I've seen those.  
10 IRVING: --and all that?  
11 FITCH: Yes.  
12 BLOOM: I've seen those.  
13 FITCH: Yes, and that program--  
14 IRVING: Mike?  
15 FITCH: --I believe we have all of our "Share the  
16 Road" signs. I've had a couple E-mails asking me  
17 where that program was at, and I believe we have all  
18 of them installed.  
19 BLOOM: I've seen some of them, they look wonderful.  
20 ROUSSEAU: I saw one last night.  
21 FITCH: Yeah, I've received a lot of--  
22 ROUSSEAU: Auburn Road maybe--  
23 FITCH: --positive comments.  
24 ROUSSEAU: --or something.  
25 IRVING: I haven't seen one.

0021  
1 BLOOM: I don't have all the locations of those. If  
2 Ed would like to see those, maybe you could share  
3 the--  
4 FITCH: Okay.  
5 BLOOM: --"Share the Road" signs.  
6 FITCH: I learned today that July the 16th is "Ride  
7 to Work" day.  
8 IRVING: "Ride to work"?  
9 FITCH: "Ride to work" day.  
10 BLOOM: No, no, I saw that somewhere, too.  
11 FITCH: This comes from the motorcycle--  
12 BLOOM: Yeah, I saw--  
13 FITCH: --riders.  
14 BLOOM: --that, too.  
15 FITCH: It's a national--  
16 BLOOM: Have you got any extra Harleys?  
17 IRVING: I'm supposed to ride to work on my Harley?  
18 BLOOM: Have you got any extra Harleys?  
19 FITCH: Yeah, so--  
20 BLOOM: Can't you see us pulling in the garage on  
21 Harleys?  
22 IRVING: I could see Ed in his leather chaps.  
23 BLOOM: Yeah.  
24 ROUSSEAU: I've had a motorcycle and I loved it right  
25 up to the time I went over backwards on it and then I

0022  
1 got rid of it.  
2 IRVING: Let's call and find out if Sheriff Herman is  
3 going to be riding his. Couldn't resist. Thank you,  
4 Mike.  
5 BLOOM: Thanks, anything else?  
6 FITCH: Thank you very much. That's all I have.  
7 IRVING: You have a nice weekend.  
8 FITCH: You too.  
9 IRVING: Thank you. I couldn't resist that one and  
10 don't anybody tell him I said that.  
11 BLOOM: What--do we have more?  
12 IRVING: Okay, we have a plat signature for Amber  
13 Highlands. Good morning.

14 REW: Good morning.  
15 BLOOM: Good morning.  
16 IRVING: Would you like to come and introduce  
17 yourself and bring your left-handed pen?  
18 REW: I would love to. It's actually a right-handed  
19 pen.  
20 BLOOM: Then I'm not doing anything.  
21 IRVING: Just bring it right up here, Patrick.  
22 REW: Oh, up here?  
23 IRVING: You have to introduce yourself, so--  
24 REW: Patrick Rew, Allen County Planning.  
25 BLOOM: Hi, Patrick.

0023  
1 IRVING: Which is a number one sand volleyball  
2 player. Travels nationwide.  
3 REW: No.  
4 IRVING: Well, you were in Chicago, that's  
5 nationwide, isn't it?  
6 REW: It's regional.  
7 IRVING: Oh, regional. Hey, to somebody that never  
8 gets out of the office, Chicago seems like it's on  
9 the other side of the world.  
10 BLOOM: We're big on Kendallville and Churubusco,  
11 yeah. We don't get that far.  
12 IRVING: That is a wonderful, wonderful pen.  
13 REW: Brand new.  
14 IRVING: We're going to have send--  
15 REW: Brand new.  
16 IRVING: --Patrick here more often.  
17 REW: Only the best. Here let me switch this to a  
18 left-handed pen.  
19 BLOOM: Thank you ever so.  
20 IRVING: Isn't he cute.  
21 BLOOM: By golly this one's okay.  
22 ROUSSEAU: That's B-L-O-O-M.  
23 BLOOM: Oh, no, it's skipping. You're telling me how  
24 to spell my name. Thank you ever so.  
25 IRVING: You smeared it.

0024  
1 BLOOM: Oh, give me a break.  
2 IRVING: I'm kidding. You didn't.  
3 BLOOM: Thanks.  
4 IRVING: I'm glad it's a--we got a three day weekend  
5 coming up. May I have a motion to waive the 2nd  
6 Reading on all matters of today's date?  
7 ROUSSEAU: So moved.  
8 BLOOM: Second.  
9 IRVING: All in favor say, "Aye."  
10 ROUSSEAU: Aye.  
11 BLOOM: Aye.  
12 IRVING: Aye. Motion carried. Do we have any  
13 comments from the public? Would you like to come up,  
14 please.  
15 BLOOM: Good morning.  
16 DeVENTER: Good morning, Commissioners.  
17 IRVING: Good moring. Would you like to introduce  
18 yourself to us?  
19 DeVENTER: Yes, good morning. My name is Teresa  
20 Deventer. I'm a resident on Bethel Road here in  
21 Allen County.  
22 IRVING: Welcome.

23 DeVENTER: Thank you very much. The reason why I'm  
24 here today--actually taking time away from my  
25 family's vacation to be here this morning--is to

0025  
1 request financial assistance through the use of CEDIT  
2 dollars to help offset the financial cost our  
3 community is going to have to incur over the next  
4 year for installation of city sewers to our area.  
5 You're probably aware that our area has failing  
6 independent septic systems.

7 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative).

8 BLOOM: Uh-huh (affirmative).

9 DeVENTER: Allen County--due to the failure of the  
10 septic systems, Allen County has overflowing or a  
11 backup problems of sewage in peoples lawns, area  
12 streams, it spreads bacteria, pollutes the ground  
13 water, breeds insects, and currently the ditch that  
14 runs along the property of Carroll High School and  
15 Hickory Center Elementary School, that's the same  
16 ditch our properties drain to. In January, the  
17 E. Coli bacteria level measured 35,000 parts per 100  
18 milliliters. That is an alarming increase. County's  
19 standard is 250 parts per 100 milliliters.

20 BLOOM: Oh, my Lord.

21 DeVENTER: That's 140 times our state standard. We  
22 have received bond funding through the Regional Sewer  
23 District. That is the only source of our financial  
24 area where we're going to be able to pay for this  
25 sewer system. I've contacted such organizations as

0026  
1 the Indiana Department of Commerce, the County  
2 Extension Office, the Indiana Housing and Finance  
3 Authority, the Indiana Rural Community Assistance  
4 Program or RCAP. The U.S. Department of Agricultural  
5 for Rural Development and the Indiana Department of  
6 Environmental Management or I.D.E.M., just to name a  
7 few, to see what type of funds are available for our  
8 rural community.

9 All come back with the same story. Grant  
10 money is not available to us, due to the fact that we  
11 are not in a low to moderate income area. Perry  
12 township is one of the most--I would say rich  
13 townships in--

14 IRVING: Affluent.

15 DeVENTER: --in the county, so we do not fall under,  
16 you know, special guidelines to re--you know, to  
17 receive section 504 housing grants or loans. So,  
18 that's--that's why I'm here today, to request funding  
19 through CEDIT dollars to help offset our cost. We  
20 are looking per home owner, approximately \$10,000.00  
21 each for the construction and installation of these  
22 sewers. We are--

23 IRVING: Do you want to come up, too?

24 DeVENTER: --absorbing the totals cost for this  
25 project.

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1 IRVING: I think our--I hate to call you our sewer  
2 gal--

3 FLUM: I've been called worse.

4 IRVING: --expert here, if it helps. And I think you

5 have talked with Commissioner Rousseau, is that  
6 correct?

7 DeVENTER: Yes, I have.

8 IRVING: Why don't I turn the discussion over to the  
9 two of you at present. Sandra, would you like to  
10 introduce yourself?

11 FLUM: I'm Sandra Flum. I'm the Legislative Liaison  
12 for you and I've also been working on septic and  
13 sewer issues on your behalf.

14 IRVING: Right.

15 FLUM: And I met with Mrs. Devenner yesterday with a  
16 member of the Indiana Housing Authority Finan--well,  
17 Indiana Finance Housing Auth--it's those words--

18 IRVING: Were you there at the meeting?

19 FLUM: -- in some order.

20 IRVING: I'm just kidding. Just kidding.

21 FLUM: I'm just not sure what order those words go  
22 in. Anyhow, he outlined one of the grants that he  
23 thought might be available, but as he continued to go  
24 through it, the income and the requirements of the  
25 grant seemed to be something more than what most

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1 residents would be either eligible for or willing to  
2 undertake. I mean, it's very much designed to  
3 eliminate prospects in the grant.

4 BLOOM: Uh-huh (affirmative).

5 FLUM: And looking at the problem, I mean, Mrs.  
6 Devenner has been a strong advocate for her community  
7 and has pretty much taken the spokesperson role in  
8 order to get sewers there. I mean, the city was  
9 originally not going to allow them to hook up because  
10 there was a capacity issue.

11 BLOOM: Capacity, right.

12 FLUM: And due, I would say, solely to Mrs.  
13 Devenner's work, they offered the capacity and then  
14 the sewer district came forward with the bond that  
15 will help lay the infrastructure, but it does require  
16 \$10,000.00 per homeowner in order to do that.

17 IRVING: With the bond, can it be extended over a  
18 period length of time?

19 FLUM: That bond--

20 BLOOM: 20 years.

21 FLUM: --would be a 20 year bond and it makes it  
22 about a \$50.00--just to repay the bond, it would be  
23 about \$50.00 per homeowner per month over that 20  
24 years, and that is an investment back into the  
25 property. I realize that their property values right

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1 now, because of the failing septics, are negligible  
2 because--

3 BLOOM: Absolutely.

4 FLUM: --it would be very difficult to unload it.

5 BLOOM: Absolutely--literally.

6 FLUM: Yeah.

7 DeVENTER: To give you a little bit of history of our  
8 area. Our homes were built in the 60s and 70s.

9 BLOOM: Okay.

10 DeVENTER: We--out of the 31 homes that are going to  
11 be involved with this project, five are seniors that  
12 have very fixed income. I mean, they are very  
13 nervous about having to find additional funds to pay,

14 you know, this monthly fee. I know a couple of them  
15 had to come down to the county and request assistance  
16 to pay their heating and electric bills this past  
17 winter and, you know, I've come to love and  
18 appreciate my neighbors, and my being here today--I  
19 have a responsibility to my neighbors to request some  
20 type of funds to help offset our cost that we're  
21 going to incur. We're not saying, you know, we get  
22 these sewers in, we're not going to pay for it.  
23 Definitely we're paying for this project, but we do  
24 need to find some other means to help offset these  
25 costs. I have read numerous articles over the

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1 internet and the county's web-site is wonderful. I  
2 love your web-site.

3 BLOOM: Thank you, Marla.

4 DeVENTER: In Indiana--

5 IRVING: Thank you.

6 DeVENTER: --33% of six milliion--of our six million  
7 residents live in rural areas, I being a rural  
8 resident. Rural residents expect similar services  
9 from local government as urban areas, but our  
10 communities lack the tax space, the staff and  
11 full-time leadership to help support them. So, I  
12 have taken, you know, many, many hours to, you know--

13 BLOOM: Absolutely.

14 DeVENTER: --see what options and solutions we have.  
15 Like I said, E. Coli bacterias are high. We have a  
16 responsibility to our environment. I've grew up in  
17 this area and I graduated from Carroll High School  
18 and this is where I'm raising my family. And I  
19 don't--out of the 31 homes, everyone's lived in their  
20 home more than five years, except for maybe three or  
21 four residents that have recently moved in. We do  
22 have a resident that owns approximately six lots in  
23 our community, and that's how dedicated we are to  
24 living here. We love this area.

25 IRVING: Commissioner Rousseau, is there anything

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1 you'd like to add.

2 ROUSSEAU: Well, as you know--and additionally, I  
3 remembered receiving a letter from you--

4 DeVENTER: I don't believe I sent a letter, I think I  
5 just--

6 ROUSSEAU: Pardon me?

7 DeVENTER: Just a phone call. I think I just spoke--

8 ROUSSEAU: Maybe it was phone call, yeah.

9 DeVENTER: --yeah.

10 ROUSSEAU: I remember the discussion, then, which has  
11 been several months ago, at this point. In sewer  
12 projects we've had in the past, we've had one with  
13 Hoagland which was about \$200,000.00. They had--  
14 Hoagland's situation--I don't remember the numbers.  
15 They had like the capacity for 600 and they had like  
16 900 pieces of property on the sewer system. And it's  
17 been back quite a few years, I don't remember how  
18 long ago, but it's been four or five years maybe or--  
19 at least. And we had the Mayhew Road project which  
20 was about \$100,000.00 and at Grabill, it was  
21 \$50,000.00 and that was an economic development loan

22 that has been repaid. And then we had the Hessen  
23 Cassel project, which was a catholic church and  
24 school and there was a subdivision nearby, and that  
25 was about \$75,000.00. What has happened in course

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1 over the last few years. The--first of all, we  
2 were--these were kind of test projects, as far as the  
3 septic tank, sewer situation. We've found now  
4 because most of our taxes now--or a lot of them are  
5 on income taxes and that type of thing. Our revenues  
6 have dropped very, very far and we now have the  
7 Regional Water and Sewer District which is taking a  
8 higher profile situation. We expect them to be on  
9 their own with a staff and will have to work out  
10 their funding situations, pretty much on their own,  
11 because of our financial situation and in addition to  
12 that, the increased workload that they're going to  
13 have. As you pointed out, there are--I think you  
14 used a figure like 33% of the situation, I think  
15 had--was a rural situation using septic tanks.

16 DeVENTER: That's correct, 33%.

17 ROUSSEAU: If I remember correctly, I think the Board  
18 of Health figures that have given us up to now, from  
19 time to time and, again, if my memory's correct, it  
20 was something like maybe 80% of those septic tanks  
21 out in the rural area are malfunctioning, and there  
22 could be a number of reasons behind that, but one of  
23 the reasons that we blame of course is the type of  
24 soil that we have that's pretty much all over the  
25 county of Allen. There's--of course, with-

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1 thousands--which involves probably thousands of homes  
2 with septic tanks. And the Regional Water and Sewer  
3 District is going to have to come up with a policy  
4 now of their own. In other words, it's kind of moved  
5 away from our direct involvement to the more--to a  
6 situation as to where the Regional Water and Sewer  
7 District must take responsibility for these things,  
8 and we don't have the money here that we had back  
9 when we shared some of these projects with them. And  
10 so we're going to have to count on our Regional Water  
11 and Sewer District to come up with some programs that  
12 will fit for your situation. I think it's a very  
13 deserving thing and these other projects for the most  
14 part that we had--the catholic school, for instance,  
15 where they threatened to go totally out of business  
16 there. But that's--the main problem is no money on  
17 our part and our organization with--that we've had  
18 which has been somewhat passive in the past, as far  
19 as the Regional Water and Sewer District, now has to  
20 come forward with a more aggressive program because  
21 we're being pressured to put our thousands of septic  
22 tanks on sewer systems, and that's going to be  
23 virtually impossible on a lot of the cases because of  
24 the distance between--  
25 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative).

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1 ROUSSEAU: --farms, for instance--that kind of thing.  
2 So basically they'll be dealing with the  
3 subdivisions. And the older subdivisions, of course  
4 are generally the ones that--the age that you're

5 talking about was a primary time when they were using  
6 septic tanks quite freely, and there was very few  
7 sanitary services. Matter of fact, I don't think--I  
8 think it was Diversified Utilities at the time, was  
9 getting into the business back then, but was not very  
10 prevalent, so I think at this time, anyhow, until the  
11 Regional Water and Sewer District can get their act  
12 together how they're going to do it, I'm not real  
13 sure how we can help at this point, but you certainly  
14 have done a good job about researching the situation.

15 BLOOM: Absolutely.

16 DeVENTER: Well, yeah, I'm a strong believer that,  
17 you know, not one--you know, one person can't, you  
18 know, take care of all the problems in the world. I  
19 mena, it has to be a combined effort of many areas,  
20 many groups.

21 IRVING: Teamwork.

22 DeVENTER: You know, the development that has gone on  
23 around our homes over the last six, seven, eight  
24 years--you know, planning back then could have helped  
25 eliminate my being here today. I think, you know, new

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1 subdivisions going in now, I think have a little more  
2 stricter guidelines on accommodating existing homes.  
3 You know, the failing septic system issue, the  
4 glacial moraine soil in Allen County, you know, these  
5 have all been known factors, you know, in our  
6 government for many, many years, and right now we're  
7 at a position, you know, in time where, you know,  
8 things are changing. We're having to reprioritize,  
9 you know, where we need to direct our efforts and  
10 those types of things. You know, I--you know, like I  
11 said, I have a responsibility to my neighbors to find  
12 what area I can to help offset some of these costs.  
13 The Regional Sewer District--the day I made a  
14 presentation to them, I believe I was the only  
15 project that they approved that day. The other  
16 projects were tabled. They do have limited funds.  
17 The contractor engineer for our project has agreed to  
18 wait to bill his fees until our project is complete.  
19 We do have, you know, people, you know trying--

20 BLOOM: That's good.

21 DeVENTER: --trying to help.

22 BLOOM: Uh-huh (affirmative).

23 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative).

24 DeVENTER: But, you know, but, like I said, you know,  
25 we're going to be paying 100% of this cost, and by

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1 coming here today requesting CEDIT dollars or COIT--  
2 you know, some type of COIT dollars to help offset,  
3 you know, some of our costs--you know, even if it's  
4 \$50,000.00 you could give us to, you know, offset,  
5 you know, \$200,00.00. I mean, spread that over 31  
6 homes. Instead of paying \$10,000.00, we only have to  
7 pay \$9,000.00. If I win the lottery tonight, I'm  
8 paying for it all. I mean, that's the kind of person  
9 I am.

10 IRVING: Good luck. Let me stand behind you when you  
11 buy your lottery ticket.

12 DeVENTER: I've already bought it.



13 ROUSSEAU: Well, at this point, we just have to kinda  
14 take it under advisement, I think--  
15 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative).  
16 ROUSSEAU: --and see where--you may or may not be  
17 reading the newspaper and so forth, but we're in  
18 desperate financial condition and--but, again, the  
19 Regional Water and Sewer District is now taking over  
20 the main drive on this thing. They're still in the  
21 formation part of their--they're trying to figure out  
22 how to really handle all this--this huge job that  
23 they got ahead of them. We'll keep this under  
24 advisement and work toward trying to help resolve the  
25 problems, but at this moment we don't have any clear

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1 cut answers for you.  
2 IRVING: And also, Sandra has been extremely active  
3 and she's the one that's been our eyes and ears on  
4 these situations, too. You know, and she's down in  
5 Indianapolis seeing what's going on in Legislations'.  
6 Keep in close contact with her.  
7 DeVENTER: Okay, thank you, Commissioner.  
8 IRVING: Unfortunately, your story is not one that  
9 stands by itself--  
10 DeVENTER: Right.  
11 IRVING: --and we have many areas within Allen  
12 County--even within the city limits, too that have--  
13 BLOOM: Uh-huh (affirmative).  
14 IRVING: --severe problems, and if I can help with my  
15 magic wand in any way, we will try, but right now I  
16 think the best thing is to keep in close contact with  
17 Sandra, to keep in tune the Regional Sewer Board,  
18 which is making a lot of strides and is changing  
19 monthly. And we will keep your position on Bethel  
20 Road in mind as it has been over the last several  
21 months.  
22 DeVENTER: Okay.  
23 IRVING: Thank you--  
24 BLOOM: Thank you.  
25 IRVING: --for coming.

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1 DeVENTER: Thank you.  
2 IRVING: Have a nice 4th and good luck tonight. Do  
3 we have anyone else that would like to address the  
4 Commission. (No response.) If not, I would like to  
5 wish everyone a Happy Fourth of July and we'll see  
6 you next Wednesday.

7  
8 (Adjourned 10:40 a.m.)  
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1 1 STATE OF INDIANA )  
 ) SS:  
2 2 COUNTY OF ALLEN )

3 3 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

4 4 I, Alan R. Bunn, a Notary Public in and for  
5 5 the State of Indiana, County of Allen, do hereby  
6 6 certify that the above and foregoing is a true and  
7 7 accurate transcript of the Board of Commissioners of  
8 8 the County of Allen, Legislative Session, held before  
9 9 me on July 2, 2003 in the Allen County Commissioners'  
10 10 Courtroom, Room 200, City-County Building, 1 East  
11 11 Main Street, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana; that  
12 12 I am not related to, employed by or interested in any  
13 13 of the parties to this cause of action.

14 14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my  
15 15 hand and seal this 7th day of July, 2003.

16 16  
17 17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
18 18 Alan R. Bunn, Notary Public  
19 19 Residing in Wells County, Indiana

My Commission Expires:  
20 20 October 23, 2010

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