

**COMMISSIONERS MINUTES  
APRIL 14, 1997**

THE COMMISSIONERS MET IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 301 S. BRANSON STREET, MARION, INDIANA 46953 ON APRIL 14, 1997 AT 8:30 AM.

IN ATTENDANCE WERE COMMISSIONERS DAVID GLICKFIELD AND WALTER WOOD, COUNTY AUDITOR JUDY CARMICHAEL, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT JOHN WEBSTER, COUNCILMEN PAUL BAKER AND JOE ISAACS, COUNTY ASSESSOR JAY WALTERS, CAPTAIN MIKE BACK OF THE GRANT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT, AREA PLAN DIRECTOR CLAY GILLEY, FORMER COMMISSIONER MILDRED LAWSON, KAREN SHINSKI OF THE CHRONICLE TRIBUNE AND RANDY McPIKE OF WBAT.

DAVID GLICKFIELD CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:47 AM

WALTER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 2, 1997 AND THE APRIL 7, 1997 MEETINGS, AND TO APPROVE THE CURRENT CLAIMS AND THE CURRENT PAYROLL. DAVID GLICKFIELD SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

WALTER WOOD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 1997. DAVID GLICKFIELD SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

JOHN WEBSTER, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, REPORTED THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN BURNING AND CLEARING DITCHES, PATCHING, PUTTING DOWN BERMSTONE, AND CONTINUING THE WORK ON BRIDGE #86 IN BROOKHAVEN ADDITION. MR. WOOD ASKED IF AN EMPLOYEE WAS ALWAYS IN ATTENDANCE WHEN BURNING THE DITCHES. MR. WEBSTER SAID THAT THERE WAS. MR. GLICKFIELD ASKED WHEN THE DEPARTMENT WOULD START PAVING THE ROADS AND HOW MANY WOULD BE PAVED THIS YEAR. MR. WEBSTER ANSWERED THAT THEY WOULD START THE PAVING AROUND THE LAST OF MAY, OR THE FIRST OF JUNE, AND PLANNED TO PAVE 12 MILES OF COUNTY ROADS THIS SEASON.

CAPTAIN MIKE BACK OF THE GRANT COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ASKED THE COMMISSIONERS ABOUT NEW ORDINANCES ON ACCIDENTS AND RECORDS. DAVID GLICKFIELD STATED THE COMMISSIONERS WOULD BE MEETING WITH COUNTY ATTORNEY GENE JOHNSON REGARDING THESE ORDINANCES ON APRIL 23, 1997. MR. BACK STATED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD TO DO SO MANY RECORDS CHECKS THAT THEY BELIEVE THE COUNTY SHOULD BE COMPENSATED IN NE WAY OR ANOTHER. THE COUNTY HAS HAD NO CHARGE PREVIOUSLY. THE CITY CHARGES \$5.00. THE \$5.00 CHARGE IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INDIANA CODE. CAPTAIN BACK ALSO REPORTED THAT A DEPARTMENT STAFF MEETING WAS HELD TO INFORM ALL OFFICERS OF THE NEW ORDINANCES FOR "NO TRUCKS" ON COUNTY ROADS 100 S AND 350 E. CAPTAIN BACK ALSO STATED THAT WEEK-END WORK CREWS COULD ASSIST WITH KEEPING BRUSH AND TRASH AT INTERSECTIONS CLEANED UP AND UNDER CONTROL. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMISSIONERS REQUEST THE JUDGES TO SENTENCE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS TO ASSIST WITH THESE PROJECTS, ALSO. THE WEEK-ENDERS ARE CURRENTLY MOWING AND CLEANING UP AROUND THE COURTHOUSE. HE REPORTED THAT THE INMATE WORK CREW HAD STARTED ON THE DEMOLITION OF THE COMPLEX, AND WERE APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

MR. JOHN MOON, CHAPLAIN FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE MUTUAL AIDE SOCIETY, THANKED COMMISSIONERS DAVID GLICKFIELD AND WALTER WOOD FOR ATTENDING THEIR MEETING ON APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>, AND FOR PRESENTING CERTIFICATES TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS. HE ALSO REQUESTED SOME KIND OF A TRASH BURNING ORDINANCE BE IMPLEMENTED

FOR THE COUNTY, STATING HIS WIFE HAD HEALTH PROBLEMS AND THAT THEIR NEIGHBORS BURNT TRASH MAKING THICK SMOKE, AND MAKING IT HARD FOR HER TO BREATHE. THE COMMISSIONERS AGREED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER.

DAVID GLICKFIELD THEN OPENED THE MEETING UP TO THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND ACCUSATIONS AGAINST DOG WARDEN JOE ISAACS.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY PRESENT WERE: ANGELA DOSS-3414 S. BOOTS, ETHEL DILL-119 JERRY AVENUE, JULIE REC-1815 RIGA DRIVE, JACKI BONFITTO-2600 TULIP DR, JUDY COX-1405 HAWKSVIEW DR, NIC RODMAKER-204 CURLESS ST, SWAYZEE, TARA DAVIDSON-1328 W. 2<sup>ND</sup> ST, JOE NELSON-6967 S. WHEELING PK, JONESBORO, SUE HUPP-920 E. N.E. STREET, GAS CITY, DOROTHY CLANIN-705 W. 9<sup>TH</sup> ST, JONESBORO, DONALD GRENIER-6104 S. JAY ST, MARIE STURM-1810 HAWTHORNE RD, SUSAN LIDDICK-803 N QUARRY RD, AND TWO CONCERNED ANIMAL LOVERS AND TAXPAYERS THAT WOULDN'T GIVE THEIR NAMES.

TARA DAVIDSON PRESENTED A PLAN TO THE COMMISSIONERS ON "REVENUE GENERATING IDEAS FOR GRANT COUNTY". THIS PLAN SUGGESTED ORDINANCES THAT ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP, MANDATORY LICENSING, RECLAIM FEES, BITE CASES AND FINES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE. THE PLAN ALSO CALLED FOR A FACILITY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC AND UNSCHEDULED INSPECTIONS.

DAVID GLICKFIELD STATED THE COUNTY DOES NOT HAVE THE MONEY TO ENFORCE THESE ORDINANCES.

MILDRED LAWSON SPOKE STATING SHE DID NOT APPRECIATE THE NEWSPAPER QUOTING A COMMISSIONER STATING "THEY INHERITED THIS MESS". SHE SAID "YOU INHERITED SOMETHING AND MADE A MESS OF IT". SHE FURTHER STATED THAT SHE HAD NEVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH JOE ISAACS AND THAT SHE THINKS HE DOES A FINE JOB.

DOROTHY CLANIN STATED SHE HAD A COUPLE DEALINGS WITH MR. ISAACS AND NEVER GOT RESULTS. SHE HAD CALLED HIM ONCE ABOUT A HORSE AND ONCE ABOUT A RABBIT. MR. ISAACS EXPLAINED TO HER THAT HE WAS THE "DOG WARDEN AND WAS NOT HIRED TO TAKE CARE OF HORSES OR RABBITS. SHE SAID "NOT CATS EITHER – THAT'S A PUD JOB – YOU'RE NOT TAKING CARE OF THE COUNTIES NEEDS."

ETHEL DILL ASKED IF THERE WAS AN ORDINANCE PLACING A LIMIT ON HOW MANY DOGS A PERSON COULD HAVE. SHE STATED "MR. LOVE" HAD 25 DOGS. MR. ISAACS AND MR. GILLEY EXPLAINED THAT DOG TAG ARE PURCHASED FROM THE TOWNSHIP ASSESSORS AND TRUSTEES BUT THAT THERE IS NO ORDINANCE ON HOW MANY CAN BE OWNED.

DAVID GLICKFIELD STATED THE COMMISSIONERS WANT TO GET A NUISANCE ABATEMENT OFFICER IN THEIR BUDGET FOR 1998.

DONALD GRENIER, A NEIGHBOR OF MR. ISAACS, SPOKE WITH A CONCERN ON THE ANIMALS STAYING IN THE BASEMENT OF THE BARN. HE STATED THE BARN HAD BROKEN WINDOWS AND POOR LIGHTING AND WAS NOT ADEQUATE FOR USE BY THE DOG WARDEN. DAVID GLICKFIELD REPLIED THAT JOE HAD BEEN MADE AWARE OF FEDERAL STATUTES REGARDING LIGHT AND WARMTH OF DOGS. MR. GRENIER ALSO COMMENTED ON THE OVERSIZED RABBIT CAGES AND ON KEEPING DEAD DOGS IN THE FREEZER. MR. ISAACS ANSWERED THAT IF MR. GRENIER WOULD STOP BY, HE WOULD GLADLY SHOW HIM THE CAGES. HE ALSO EXPLAINED THAT THE COMMISSIONERS HAD PURCHASED THE FREEZER FOR HIM TO KEEP THE DOGS IN TO KEEP FROM HAVING TO BURY THEM. MR. GRENIER ALSO OFFERED TO REPAIR THE STAIRS TO THE BASEMENT OF MR. ISAACS BARN. MR. ISAACS SAID HE COULD NOT ALLOW THAT. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE CARRIED

DOGS UP AND DOWN THE STAIRS OF TEN AND HAD NO PROBLEMS, BUT BECAUSE OF LIABILITY HE DOES NOT FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH A LOT OF TRAFFIC ON THEM. HE DOES ALLOW ANYONE TO GO DOWN THE STAIRS WHEN HE IS THERE TO ACCOMPANY THEM.

JOE NELSON ASKED IF ANYONE HAD JURISDICTION OVER HORSES. TARA DAVIDSON STATED THAT THE HUMANE SOCIETY, ON A VOLUNTEER BASIS, WILL ASSIST WITH HORSES, AND THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO ASSIST, BUT THERE IS REALLY NOT A LAW TO PROTECT THEM. MR. NELSON STATED THERE WAS A HORSE AT 4910 LINCOLN BLVD, BELONGING TO JOHN DERTH, THAT WAS TIED TO A POST DURING ALL KIND OF WEATHER AND ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT. HE HAD CALLED THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT AND COULD NOT GET ANY HELP. CAPTAIN BACK STATED HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT NO ONE AT THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT WOULD HELP. MR. NELSON STATED HE HAD TALKED WITH KAREN BISHOP. CAPTAIN BACK ANSWERED THAT KAREN IS A JAILER AND COULD NOT DO ANYTHING. CAPTAIN BACK STATED THAT MR. NELSON NEEDED TO LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR A PATROL OFFICER. HE FURTHER STATED THAT BILL NORTON AND JIM MARLEY ARE BOTH INVOLVED WITH HORSES, AND KNOW HOW THEY SHOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF. JOE ALSO ASKED DAVID GLICKFIELD, HOW HE COULD PROMISE TO MAKE PERIODIC CHECKS ON THE DOG WARDEN, WHEN HE HAD REFUSED TO GO TO THE BASEMENT ON THE DAY OF THE SURPRISE INSPECTION. DAVID ANSWERED THAT HE HAD BEEN IN A CAR ACCIDENT AND HAD A SERIOUS KNEE INJURY, AND THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO FURTHER INJURE HIS KNEE AT THAT TIME. HE CAN, HOWEVER, IN THE FUTURE GO DOWN THOSE STEPS.

JUDY COX ASKED IF WE HAD A SYSTEM SET UP TO CHECK ON MR. ISAAC'S BARN TO SEE IF HE IS FOLLOWING GUIDELINES AND IF PEOPLE CAN GO DOWNSTAIRS WITH HIM. AGAIN, MR. ISAACS STATED HE WAS HESITANT BECAUSE OF INSURANCE CONSTRAINTS, BUT DID ALLOW PEOPLE TO GO DOWNSTAIRS WITH HIM. DAVID GLICKFIELD SAID THAT SPOT CHECKS WOULD BE MADE.

DAVID GLICKFIELD SAID THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE ASKED TO KEEP MORE RECORDS, ATTACH A LOG, COPIES OF RECEIPTS AND THAT THEY PLAN, AS PART OF THE ORDINANCE, TO GIVE HIM FEES COLLECTED.

WALT WOOD SAID THEY HAVE A MEETING SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS ALL THESE MATTERS WITH MR. ISAACS.

JOE ISAACS SAID HE HAD A CALL IN TO DR. KIRSTEN, USDA, BUT HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO TALK WITH HIM, STATING HE WOULD APPRECIATE HIS EXPERTISE ON THE SITUATION.

SUE HUPP STATED IN HER PERSONAL OPINION, "YOU THINK WE'RE GOING TO GO AWAY AND FORGET ABOUT THIS, AND WE ARE NOT GOING AWAY". SHE ALSO SAID "YOU SIT UP THERE LIKE YOU DON'T REALLY CARE, DO ANY OF YOU HAVE DOGS?" SHE STATED DOGS HAVE FEELINGS AND NEED TO BE CLEAN. SHE ASKED IF THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT COULD BE DONE UNTIL JOE CAN CLEAN UP HIS BARN.

TARA DAVIDSON SAID SHE HAD SPENT THREE HOURS WITH A FEDERAL AGENT AND BECAUSE THE DOG WARDEN HOUSES HIS DOGS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY THERE ARE MINIMUM STANDARDS.

ANGELA DOSS STATED THAT SHE HAS HAD A LOCAL KENNEL VOLUNTEER SPACE TO KEEP DOGS FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME UNTIL THIS PROBLEM IS SOLVED.

TARA DAVIDSON SUGGESTION WE HAVE A FUNDRAISER TO GET A BETTER FACILITY. PAUL BAKER SAID A FUNDRAISER WOULD TAKE THE POWER AWAY FROM THE COMMISSIONERS. HE STATED THE HUMANE SOCIETY WANTED TO TAKE ANIMALS AWAY FROM THEIR NATURAL HABITAT.

MR. GRENIER ACCUSED THE COMMISSIONERS OF GIVING “FAIR WARNING” TO MR. ISAACS ON THE INSPECTION AND ASKED IF HE WOULD ALSO BE “FOREWARNED” OF THE “SPOT CHECKS” DAVID GLICKFIELD SAID HE DID NOT FOREWARN JOE OF THE INSPECTION.

SUSAN LIDDICK STATED DOGS WERE LIKE FOSTER CHILDREN AND THE COMMISSIONERS SHOULD LOOK AFTER THE WELFARE OF THE ANIMALS

SUE HUPP ASKED THE COMMISSIONERS WHEN COUNTY ROAD 400 E, A DIRECT ROUTE FOR GAS CITY, WOULD BE FIXED. SHE STATED THE SEMI’S ARE DEMOLISHING IT.

WALT WOOD SAID THERE IS CURRENTLY A JOINT VENTURE WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR THAT ROAD.

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 9:58 AM.