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Franklin County Cemetery Commission

1010 Franklin Avenue
Brookville, IN 47012

January 22, 2009

Pamela J. Bennett
Indiana Historical Bureau
140 North Senate Avenue, Room 130
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2296

Dear Ms. Bennett:

The first county cemetery commission consisting of five members was appointed by the Franklin County commissioners, October 15, 2001, according to the provisions of IC 23-14-67-2. The officers of the commission for the year 2008 were as follows: Donald L. Dunaway, president (term expires 2009) and Patricia Smith, vice-president (2013). The other members of the commission are John Estridge, (2012), Juanita Baker (2010) and Ed Baker (2011). All except Juanita Baker have served since October 2001. This letter is the cemetery commission's report as required by IC 23-14-67-3.5.

The cemetery commission held nine regular meetings in 2008, March through November.

Six Department of Natural Resources survey forms were completed in the year 2008 bringing the number of cemeteries visited and surveys prepared to 127. There is estimated to be 150 or more cemeteries within Franklin County. We will continue to work on locating more of the small, isolated cemeteries, make an on-site assessment, complete the survey forms for them and submit them to DNR-DHPA.

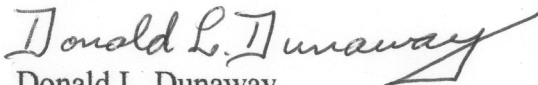
A budget of \$16,300 was approved by the County Council and the State for funding the Cemetery Commission in CY 2008. In addition to the funding by the county, the commission received \$620 in donations for cemetery maintenance. The budget was used for cleaning, fencing and restoring six cemeteries. These were the Ashton Cemetery in Whitewater Township, Conn Cemetery in Springfield Township, Longnecker Cemetery in Metamora Township, Hite Cemetery in Posey Township, Holley Cemetery in Salt Creek Township and the final third of Asbury Cemetery in Springfield Township. The Adams Cemetery in Metamora Township was fenced. A total of seventeen cemeteries were each mowed three times during the growing season. Two cemeteries in Bath Township were mowed on a regular basis with funding by the township trustee and income from an endowment administered by the Franklin County Community Foundation and awarded to the Cemetery Commission for maintenance of the two designated cemeteries.

The commission intends to provide identification signs for all eligible county cemeteries. To-date 75 signs have been purchased by the commission, plus 16 funded by Whitewater Township, but through the commission. As of the end of CY 2008, 89 signs have been erected in Franklin County. No new signs were purchased in 2008.

The Cemetery Commission budget for CY 2009 is the same as 2008, \$16,300. The plans for use of these funds include cleaning, fencing and restoring five small cemeteries and two larger cemeteries over a three year period. In addition, we plan to mow twenty-one cemeteries three times during the growing season.

Rockies Express Pipeline (REX) is constructing a 42-inch natural gas high-pressure transmission pipeline from Colorado to the Ohio eastern state line. This line passes through the breadth of Franklin County. Commission members have been following available route information and visited those cemeteries in the county near the pipeline route. The construction has not affected any existing cemeteries that we are aware of. Three sites south of Brookville were surveyed by archaeologists hired by REX. No burials have been found, but some Indian artifacts were found and are being studied by the companies involved.

Sincerely,



Donald L. Dunaway
President, Franklin County
Cemetery Commission

Copies to:
Franklin County Commissioners
Franklin County Cemetery Commission