

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

June 26, 2012

Commissioners met in regular session. Those present were Commissioner Tom Stevens, President, Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President and Commissioner Derek Towle. Auditor Robin D. Lowder and Attorney Ray Richardson were also present.

Hancock County Board of Commissioner's meeting began at 8:00a.m.

In The Matter of Executive Order State of Emergency Burn Ban

Greenfield Fire Chief James Roberts, Buck Creek Fire Chief David Sutherlin and Sugar Creek Fire Chief Gerald Morganthall proposed an Executive Order to the Commissioners for a Burn Ban, due to the lack of rainfall and prolonged period of drought. Commissioner Towle made a motion to approve the Executive Order Burn Ban. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 3/0

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The Fire Chiefs requested that County Law Enforcement, enforce the Order, since it is a class B misdemeanor.

Commissioner Stevens commented, he encouraged law enforcement to enforce the illegal littering laws, in regards to stopping people from throwing lit cigarette butts out their vehicle windows. This can be a very dangerous fire hazard.

The Commissioners encouraged people to use common sense when using any kind of fireworks in the near future. Greenfield Fire Chief Roberts had stated, State Statute does not allow local governments to prohibit fireworks between the dates of June 29 and July 9.

The Fire Chiefs stated they would revisit lifting of the Burn Ban after substantial rain.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11am.

Hancock County Commissioners

Commissioner Tom Stevens, President

Commissioner Brad Armstrong, Vice President

Commissioner Derek Towle

Attest: _____

Robin D. Lowder
Hancock County Auditor

Executive Order

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners (hereinafter "Board") of Hancock County (hereinafter "County") find that the County is in a prolonged period of drought; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the lack of rainfall has dried vegetation to the point it may easily combust and has thus become a fire hazard: and

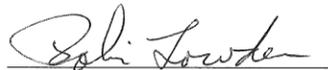
WHEREAS, due to the lack of rainfall, the fire departments of the County have responded to an increasing number of brush fires and wildfires which are endangering lives and destroying property within the County,

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Hancock County, Indiana, declares pursuant to Indiana Code 10-14-3-29 et. Seq., that a state of emergency exists in Hancock County, Indiana, and that we hereby invoke and declare those portions of Indiana Code which are applicable to the conditions and cause the issuance of this order to be in full force and effect in Hancock County, Indiana, for the full exercise of all necessary authority for the protection of the lives and property of the people of Hancock County, Indiana.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Hancock County, Indiana, also declares that effective immediately, the following activities are prohibited in Hancock County, Indiana. Open Burning of any kind using conventional fuel such as wood or any other combustible material, with the exception of grills fueled by charcoal briquettes or propane that are enclosed in a grill container with a lid.

This Executive Order issued this **26th** day of **June, 2012**, and shall continue until rescinded by the Board, but shall be reviewed every thirty (30) days.

Attested:


Robin Lowder, Auditor

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HANCOCK COUNTY, INDIANA


Tom Stevens, President


Brad Armstrong


Derek Towle