

## **Hancock County Board of Commissioner's Minutes**

**August 11, 2011**

Commissioners met in special session. Those present were Commissioner Derek Towle, Vice President, and Commissioner Tom Stevens. Auditor Robin D. Lowder arrived at 3:40pm.

Attorney Ray Richardson arrived at 3:30pm

**Call to Order** - At 3:30pm Commissioner Towle called the meeting of the Hancock County Board of Commissioners to order in the Hancock County Clerk's Office. The meeting was Recessed and reconvened at 3:40pm at the Hancock County Annex, in the Commissioner's Court.

### **Opening Comments**

**Commissioner Stevens** - Thanked the members for attending this meeting and informed the members that they are to encourage Hancock County Tourism.

**Greenfield City Mayor** - Brad DeReamer stated that he was proud of the Commission and feels they can be important to the City and County Economic Development.

### **In The Matter of Tourism Commission**

**Officers** - The Officers for the Tourism Commission will need to be selected at the first meeting.

**Funds** - The Commissioners informed the Tourism Commission that one of the first things that will need to be done is to prepare and submit the 2011 and 2012 budget to be approved by County Council. They are free to set up the budget as they see fit, they can take charge of 100% of the funds or turn the funds over to a 501(c)3 entity or entities. Funds have been held by the Auditor and will be released upon approval of the budget.

**Contact Information** - Addresses and phone numbers were exchanged among the members of the Tourism Commission, Commissioners and Mayor DeReamer.

**Duties of the Tourism Commission** - Periodically or Quarterly an appointed representative of the Tourism Commission will need to report to the Commissioners at a Commissioner's Meeting keeping them informed as to what is being done and future plans.

**Super Bowl** - There is a contract that will need to be addressed for buses during the 2012 Super Bowl.

**Visitor's Bureau** - Commissioner Towle states there will need to be a determination as to what type of relationship the Tourism Commission will maintain with Dave Scott and the Rick's Theater. Commissioner Stevens stated that he feels the lion's share of focus has gone to the Theater and he feels this should not continue.

**Meetings** - A schedule of meetings and location for the meetings of the Tourism Commission will need to be established. All meetings will need to be advertised with a minimum of 48 hours notice.

**Organizational Meeting** - The future Tourism Commission has set their next meeting for Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at 5:00pm at Greenfield City Hall, 10 South Main Street, Greenfield, Indiana 46140.

**Lodging Representative** - Jean Howell appeared before the Commissioner representing herself and six other representatives of Lodging in Greenfield, Indiana. They informed the Commissioners that they are all interested in serving on the Tourism Commission and they are residents of Hancock County. They would like to be taken into consideration for the next appointment. Ms. Howell also stated there are no lodging representatives and that the innkeeper tax over the last several years was 1.7 million dollars. A letter was submitted.

**Swearing In** - Penny Hunt of the Hancock County Clerk's Office did the swearing in of Greg Carwin, Earl Smith, Brigette Cook Jones and Joni Romel-Cox.

**Attorney Ray Richardson** - informed that once sworn in they cannot speak as a group unless it is advertised.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm.

Hancock County Commissioners

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Commissioner Brad Armstrong, President

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Commissioner Derek Towle, Vice President

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Commissioner Tom Stevens

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin D. Lowder  
Hancock Co. Auditor