Board members present: Deputy-Director Chris Smith; DNR, Chairman; Jim Corridan; Beth McCord; J. Scott Keller; Dan Kloc; April Sievert

Staff members present: DHPA Director Mitch Zoll, Paul Diebold, John Carr, Ashley Thomas, David Duvall, Holly Tate of DHPA

Visitors/Speakers present included: Mary Kennedy, Matt Kent, Link Ludington, Vickie Mace, Jeff Koehler, Sean Porter, John Davis, Mark Dollase, Tommy Kleckner, Tom Tuley, Diana Biddle, Robert Hostetler, Mandy Alexander and Naomi Casale (both Luna Language Services Interpreters for the deaf)

Call to Order

Deputy Director Chris Smith convened the meeting at 2:06 P. M.
Deputy Director Smith introduced himself and opened the meeting.
Staff introduced themselves.

The minutes from the April 20, 2016 board meeting were approved. Motion to approve was made by Dan Kloc and seconded by Beth McCord.

Division Director’s Report:

The statewide Preserving Historic Places conference was held April 26th through 29th in Vincennes, Indiana; 279 people attended the conference.

September is Archaeology Month and DHPA has several events lined up. “Early Peoples” will again be available for purchase.

The Indiana State Fair will be August 5th through 21st. DHPA will be leading architectural tours and staff will be on site all day August 11th, including for the National Register certificate presentation ceremony.

Steve Kennedy successfully applied for grants totaling $50,000 for the production of a Multiple Property Documentation Form covering housing in Indiana from 1945-1973.

Jim Corridan made a motion that the Department of Natural Resources establish a cemetery task force for cemetery preservation to review state statutes governing cemeteries and find the grave sites of governors and delegates to the first Constitution of Indiana. Chris Smith indicated that the
board can recommend DNR look into that possibility. J. Scott Keller seconded the motion to make the recommendation. The motion was approved unanimously.

National Register Applications

1. New Goshen District No. 2 School, 9620 Rangeline Place, New Goshen, Vigo County (2426). Paul Diebold gave the staff comments. A motion to approve was made by April Sievert and seconded by Beth McCord. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Forest W. and Jeanette Wales Blanton House, 625 N. Washington St., Danville, Hendricks County (2430). Paul Diebold gave the staff comments. Jim Corridan inquired of staff regarding the low number of nominations on the agenda. Staff indicated that two additional actions that do not require board action will also be sent to the National Register for action. Mr. Corridan was concerned due to the condition of the Blanton House and does not want the DNR/DHPA and Indiana National Register Review Board to appear to be an impediment to preservation due to the amount of time it currently takes to list a property. He recommended to the Board that management look for ways to improve the timeline. Chris Smith indicated that DNR continues to look at being more efficient with what the department has. A motion to approve was made by Jim Corridan and seconded by April Sievert. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Lebanon Courthouse Square Historic District, roughly bounded by North, East, South, Superior, and West streets, Lebanon, Boone County (2431). Paul Diebold gave the staff comments. A motion to approve was made by Dan Kloc and seconded by J. Scott Keller. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. James and Lucinda McDonald House, 500 E. Jackson St., Attica, Fountain County (2445). Paul Diebold gave the staff comments. A motion to approve was made by Jim Corridan and seconded by Beth McCord. The motion was approved unanimously.

Emergency Action

1. Report by the Indiana Department of Transportation, under the Guidelines for Additional Emergency Actions Using State Funds, for emergency repairs to the S.R. 135 bridge over Indian Creek (Bridge # 135-55-01522A) in Morgan County. Mary Kennedy, INDOT, referred the Board to the information in their packets. The bridge was struck by a vehicle in October, 2015. An inspection was conducted, repair work to gusset plates was completed, and the bridge reopened in June, 2016. Chris Smith asked about the timeline for future work. Mary Kennedy indicated that site selection and a consulting parties meeting would be taking place in the next couple of months. No Board action was taken.

State Certificates of Approval

1. Continuance of Certificate of Approval application for the demolition of Simpson Hall, located on the campus of the Indiana School for the Deaf, Indianapolis, Washington Township, Marion County (Continued from January for purposes of providing additional documentation). David Duvall gave the staff comments. Matt Kent from the Department of
Public Works indicated that Indiana Landmarks, Inc., is conducting an engineering study, and once the findings are known the project can move forward. No Board action was taken.

2. Certificate of approval application for the demolition of the house at 205 North US 27 in Fountain City, Wayne County. Ashley Thomas gave the staff comments. DHPA received a letter from J.P. Hall, Director of the Eastern Regional Office of Indiana Landmarks, Inc., which was distributed to the Board prior to the beginning of the meeting. The house that is proposed to be demolished in a c.1830-1840 house in close proximity to the Levi Coffin House, which is as the Coffin House. Conditions to granting the certificate are minimum documentation standards with additional photographs if additions removed and the standard archaeological caveat. Link Ludington spoke on behalf of Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. The house was inspected and found to be early timber frame, and he believes the house to be 1 of 19 buildings in the district that date to the time of the Coffins' Underground Railroad activities. The Indiana State Museum is amenable to moving the house (in lieu of demolition) in order to clear the site for green space. A timetable of 6 months was put on moving the house. April Sievert indicated that demolishing or moving the house does not make sense due to the fact that it is part of the context of the Coffin House. She questioned the need for green space. She also wanted some clarification regarding the dates of the additions to the house. Mr. Ludington specified that some additions were mid-19th century, while others were mid-20th century. Jim Corridan inquired about the first owners of the house. Subsequent owners had Quaker connections which could indicate involvement with the Underground Railroad. Mr. Corridan has concerns about demolishing the house without further research. Mr. Ludington agreed. Mr. Ludington indicated that the pending district nomination is mitigation for the demolition of another house in the area and that no research was done regarding the subject house. J. Scott Keller asked if it is possible to extend the timetable for moving the house in order to allow more time for research and exploring options. Ms. Sievert asked if leaving only the internal structure of the house for interpretation was considered. Mr. Ludington indicated that option had not been discussed, but he wants to encourage Indiana State Museum to explore all options for keeping the house in situ. Dan Kloc asked if the house is individually eligible for listing in the National Register. Paul Diebold discussed that the house is not individually eligible, but that it does contribute to the district, as indicated in the 1979 survey and in the 2001 updated survey of Wayne County. Chris Smith asked if a study can be done to confirm the age of the building. Mr. Ludington said dendrochronology will be done and results will take 18 weeks. Mr. Smith indicated he is inclined to table the application. Jim Corridan made a motion to table the application with the understanding that Indiana State Museum will follow through with dendrochronology and research and continue to explore alternate uses, seconded by J. Scott Keller. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Certificate of approval application to construct a replacement bridge approximately 20 feet to the south of the existing, two-span, Parker through truss SR 46 bridge over the Eel River (Bridge No. 046-11-01316C), located 2.8 miles east of SR 59, near the community of Bowling Green in Clay County; and either: remove the west approach and rehabilitate and reassemble the spans at their current location; relocate, rehabilitate, and reassemble the both spans, end-to-end across Salt Creek as a proposed trail entrance to Brown County
State Park; or relocate, rehabilitate, and reassemble the spans at two, separate crossings of Salt Creek on a trail being developed in Brown County. John Carr gave the staff comments. This project is a dual review project under recently adopted guidelines, meaning that the review under state law was conducted simultaneously with the Section 106 review. Carr reported that, granted the additional information in their packets, as well as information that will presented at the meeting, INDOT wishes the board to comment on the three main variations of treatment for the bridge:

- Move the bridge to the Salt Creek Trail in Brown County, Indiana. Divide the two spans and use them as trail bridges across two separate sections of Salt Creek, about 7/10ths of mile apart from one another.
- Move the bridge to the Salt Creek Trail in Brown County, Indiana; utilize the two spans together as one trail bridge to span Salt Creek and flood plain land.
- Leave the bridge in place (original/current location) in Clay County, Indiana. Rehabilitate it as a pedestrian/bicycle span-only. This will necessitate removal of approaches from the west end, so that the bridge will be a large “pier” and not a pedestrian crossing.

Carr explained conditions for granting a certificate of approval for any of the above treatments, if approved by the Board. Sievert asked if photogrammetry can be used for recordation of the bridge. Carr replied that it is not a typical request.

The chair recognized Mary Kennedy of INDOT who presented a power point presentation recapping the past discussion of the project.

Next, INDOT’s consultant, Mr. Shawn Porter presented findings and options to the Board with a power point presentation. Courses of actions explored and ruled out included no build (take no action); rehabilitate as-is for ongoing use; rehabilitate bridge for one-way use, providing a new span for the other direction; and by-passing with new span and leaving historic bridge in place. The preferred option is replace bridge on new alignment and offer the bridge for use in Brown County.

The chair recognized Mary Kennedy of INDOT staff and she spoke next. Mary Kennedy offered further explanation and cited a number of examples of similar vintage Parker-through-truss bridges on State Routes that INDOT has rehabilitated and put back into service, including one bridge that was not on the “select” list per the Indiana Bridges MOA (meaning that INDOT was not compelled to save the bridge). She also pointed out that the Bridges MOA allows relocation as a preservation treatment.

The chair next recognized John Davis, Deputy Director, DNR. Mr. Davis expounded on the suitability of the Brown County site, and on the state of completion of the Salt Creek Trail on which the two spans could be located.

The chair called Diana Biddle of Brown County for comments. She presented a power point showing the Salt Creek Trail in use and explained construction phases of the trail.
The chair recognized Robert Hostetler, of Clay County, Indiana. Mr. Hostetler objected to relocating the bridge and presented a large color map of the proposed Eel River Trail in Clay County. He stated that the bridge would be ideal as a crossing for the trail, which is in official planning stages with the county commissioners. The trail idea has generated much support on social media. Additionally, Mr. Hostetler felt that the board had not heard the local story and interest regarding keeping the bridge on its original site.

The chair recognized Vicki Mace of Clay County Historical Society. She requested that the Keeper of the National Register’s letter concerning the impact on the eligibility of the bridge, if moved and split, be honored. The letter was issued following the board’s January, 2016 decision to forward documentation to the National Register office in Washington, D.C.

Next, the chair recognized Jeff Kahler, Clay County Historian. He stated that Clay County lacks cultural and recreational opportunities, and that maintaining the bridge on-site would assist the county in this regard.

Mr. Kahler, Ms. Mace and Mr. Hostetler had concerns that emails and other correspondence favorable to the bridge remaining in place were being held by INDOT. INDOT responded that they have several such comments items, but, they were being held while minutes of a meeting at which they were submitted are being composed. The consulting parties meeting referred to in this discussion was held the week prior to the July 20th Review Board meeting.

The chair recognized Tommy Kleckner of Indiana Landmarks. Mr. Kleckner stated that the INDOT-preferred alternative of splitting the bridge and moving it to Brown County is not a preservation solution, since the bridge will not exist as it was when listed on the National Register. He expressed that he believes that the PA process was followed, but in a way that was not clear to many involved. He stated that it was only in 2014 that Indiana Landmarks was made aware that INDOT preferred to move the bridge and split the spans into two bridges for the Brown County project. Kleckner believes that local interests were disregarded in the process. He believes that the alternative to keep the bridge in place but remove the approach is most in keeping with the PA for Indiana historic bridges. While many believe the bridge will be an attractive nuisance is speculative. If the bridge must be moved as INDOT prefers, Kleckner believes additional mitigation, including an INDOT-funded rehabilitation of the Feeder Dam Bridge in Clay County, is needed.

The chair recognized Tom Tuley of Brown County, Indiana. Mr. Tuley represents the Brown County Parks Department. He reiterated many points regarding the importance of the Salt Creek Trail, including sections which are complete and in use. He stated that the bridge was promised to them several years ago by INDOT.

The chair asked for questions from the board. Part way through the questions, Mr. Kloc left the meeting, at 4:35 pm. The chair determined that a quorum still existed and the meeting continued.
Corridan asked questions regarding the use of Federal funds if the bridges were to be split into two separate spans and moved.

Keller introduced a motion to grant the certificate of approval to separate the two spans of the S.R. 46 Eel River Bridge (Bridge No. 046-11-01316C), and allow INDOT to move them to Brown County, Indiana, for use on the Salt Creek Trail in two separate locations (option 5-C-S, as outlined in staff comments and INDOT correspondence). McCord seconded the motion. Board discussion followed. Mr. Corridan also indicated that he has concerns about the process and requests for public information to INDOT, such as those indicated by Messrs. Tully and Hostetler. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Properties Listed in, Rejected by, or Removed from the National Register since the last Notification

**Listed**

- JACKSON COUNTY, Shields' Mill Covered Bridge, Shields Rd. across E. Fork of White R., Brownstown vicinity, 16000330, LISTED, 6/07/16
- JASPER COUNTY, Modern Architecture of Rensselaer, Indiana MPS, 64501265, COVER DOCUMENTATION APPROVED. 6/07/16
- JASPER COUNTY, Halleck, Charles, Student Center, Father Gross Rd., Rensselaer vicinity, 16000331, LISTED, 6/07/16 (Modern Architecture of Rensselaer, Indiana MPS)
- JASPER COUNTY, Rank, Hugh and Leona, House, 975 Winding Rd., Rensselaer vicinity, 16000332, LISTED, 6/07/16 (Modern Architecture of Rensselaer, Indiana MPS)
- JASPER COUNTY, Schwietermann Hall, Schuster Rd., Rensselaer vicinity, 16000333, LISTED, 6/07/16 (Modern Architecture of Rensselaer, Indiana MPS)
- JEFFERSON COUNTY, Allen, Lemuel, Farm, 3768 E. Pleasant Ridge Rd., Madison vicinity, 16000334, LISTED, 6/07/16
- JEFFERSON COUNTY, Wolf, Mathias, Farm, 4137 E. Pleasant Ridge Rd., Madison vicinity, 16000335, LISTED, 6/07/16
- MARION COUNTY, Hubbard, Willard and Josephine, House, 1941 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, 16000336, LISTED, 6/07/16
- MARSHALL COUNTY, Norris Farm--Maxinkuckee Orchard, 18799 Peach Rd., Culver vicinity, 16000337, LISTED, 6/07/16

**Rejected**

None

**Removed**
None

**Set date for next meeting:**
Proposed date: July 20, 2016, Indiana Government Center, Conference Room C, 2:00 p.m.
Deadline for receipt of Certificate of Approval applications: June 10, 2016, 4:45 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:01pm.