

Franklin County Cemetery Commission

1010 Franklin Avenue
Brookville, IN 47012

January 15, 2016

Indiana Historical Bureau
140 North Senate Avenue, Room 130
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2296

Dear Director:

This letter is the Cemetery Commission's report as required by IC 23-14-67-3.5.

The Franklin County Cemetery Commission was formed in 2001. Five members were appointed by the Franklin County Commissioners, October 15, 2001, according to the provisions of IC 23-14-67-2. The current members of the commission are as follows: R. Edward Baker, who serves as vice-president, (term expires 2016), Donald L. Dunaway who serves as president, (term expires 2019), John Estridge (term expires 2017), James Trumbull (term expires 2018) and Julie Schlesselman (term expires 2020).

The cemetery commission held eight meetings in 2015 – March through November except July

A total of 127 Department of Natural Resources survey forms have been completed and submitted to DNR to-date.

A total of 151 cemeteries have been found within Franklin County; 129 of these are considered pioneer cemeteries according to the requirements of IC 23-14-67-1 of Chapter 67, "Care of Cemeteries by Counties." There are 36 rumored or lost cemeteries which have not been found. We know that several of these have been destroyed.

Since we first received funding in 2004, a total of 66 cemeteries have been restored in the county by the Cemetery Commission, several of these were done over a period of two or three years. In addition 14 were restored by a township trustee and others, e.g. cemetery associations and volunteers.

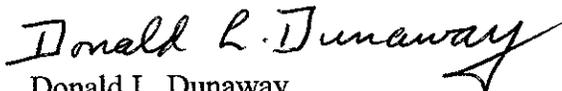
A budget of \$11,100 was approved by the County Council for funding the Cemetery Commission in CY 2015. Two cemeteries were restored, Chapel Cemetery in Posey Township and Utsler Cemetery in Brookville Township. Thirty cemeteries were mowed monthly from March through October. A new fence was installed at the Collett Cemetery in Brookville Township.

Maintenance at Bethlehem and Harmony in Bath Township were partially funded by a specified Franklin County Community Foundation endowment. The grants from the endowment are administered by the Cemetery Commission. This money from this grant supplemented the cost of mowing paid by the Bath Township trustee.

Cecil Bruns, Springfield Township Trustee gave \$1000 to the Cemetery Commission for mowing and maintenance in his township. Delbert Spurlock, Laurel Township Trustee donated \$2000 for restoration and mowing Laurel Township cemeteries.

The Cemetery Commission budget for CY 2016 is \$11,100. We plan to mow 30 cemeteries on a monthly basis during the growing season. Because of funding, some cemeteries which had been mowed previously will no longer be mowed. There are two cemeteries planned for restoration.

Sincerely,



Donald L. Dunaway
President, Franklin County
Cemetery Commission

Copies to:
Franklin County Commissioners
Franklin County Cemetery Commission Members