

RECEIVED

FEB 27 2003

INDIANA HISTORICAL
BUREAU

Franklin County Cemetery Commission

in care of Franklin County Commissioners
459 Main Street
Brookville, Indiana 47012

February 24, 2003

Indiana Historical Bureau
140 North Senate Avenue, Room 408
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2296

Dear Historical Bureau:

A five member cemetery commission was appointed by the Franklin County Commissioners, October 15, 2001, according to the provisions of IC 23-14-67-2. Since then, one member, John Estridge whose term expired in the year 2002 was reappointed. In addition, a new member, Juanita Baker, was appointed to replace Rob Brack who was unable to serve. The officers of the commission for the year 2002 were as follows: Donald L. Dunaway, president; Patricia Smith, vice-president and John Estridge, secretary. This letter is their report as required by IC 23-14-67-3.5.

The cemetery commission held meetings each month in 2002. Patricia Smith reported that she has identified about 170 cemeteries within Franklin County. During the year, one or more members visited all of the cemeteries in Springfield and Bath Townships, plus numerous cemeteries in Brookville, Whitewater and other townships. Cemetery Registration Survey Forms were completed and submitted to the Department of Natural Resources for each of the cemeteries located in Springfield Township. Information was collected for those in Bath Township, but the forms have not been completed. Two men having an interest in the cemetery in Bath Township attended most of the Cemetery Commission meeting during the year and provided information to the Commission on these cemeteries. The township trustees were invited to attend a Commission meeting, but only one of the thirteen trustees attended a meeting. Several trustees have expressed a willingness to do what they can with the limited funds available in their township budgets for this purpose.

A budget of \$5000 for approved by the County Council for the Cemetery Commission in CY 2003. There were no funds available for CY 2002, the first full year of Commission organization. During the coming year the Cemetery Commission hopes to increase their activity in completing the DNR survey forms for the following townships: Bath, Fairfield, Blooming Grove in the eastern half of the county and Posey, Salt Creek, Laurel and Metamora in the western part. Work will begin on those eligible cemeteries where maintenance and restoration is needed. Fencing and signs to identify the cemetery will be given priority.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Dunaway