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Gibson County Board of Commissioners

Special Session

June 29, 2012

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The Gibson County Board of Commissioners met on June 29, 2012, at 6:00 PM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: Gerald Bledsoe, President, Alan Douglas, VP, Bob Townsend, Commissioner, Kay Vore, Administrative Assistant and C.T. Montgomery, County Auditor. Jim McDonald was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited and led by Gerald Bledsoe.

Commissioner Gerald Bledsoe explained that this emergency session has only one item of business. That is to consider declaring an emergency due to drought and banning the use of fireworks in Gibson County.

EMA Director Terry Hedges addressed the commissioners and informed them that all but three Indiana counties have declared a burn ban in their counties. Within the burn ban there are certain stipulations concerning fireworks. With the extremely dry conditions and excessive heat he has asked all the county fire chiefs in to express their concerns to the commissioners.

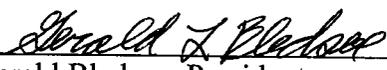
Fire Chief President Jim Deffendall asked the fire chiefs to address their concerns to the commissioners. All the fire chiefs in attendance, except Mike Pflug, asked commissioners to permit the planned Princeton and Oakland City fireworks, but prohibit private individuals from lighting fireworks. All were concerned with public safety because of the extremely dry conditions in the county. Mike Pflug believed that if we asked the public to be more responsible during the holiday season, the public would respond.

Sheriff Ballard and other police officials asked the commissioners about what the penalty would be if the Declaration of banning fireworks was ignored.

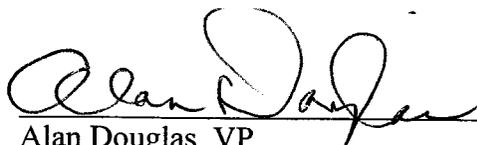
Alan Douglas made a motion to declare an Emergency Declaration to state that only public fireworks scheduled in Oakland City and Princeton, be allowed and ban all private fireworks in the interest of public safety. Penalties will not be enforced until the county attorney returns and consul can deliberate. Information will be communicated as soon as possible via newspapers, radio and telephone. Bob Townsend seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

The Emergency Declaration is to be enforced for a period of one week, at which time an extension will be considered.

Alan Douglas made a motion to adjourn and Bob Townsend seconded and motion passed 3-0.



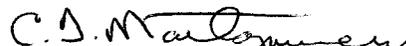
Gerald Bledsoe, President



Alan Douglas, VP



Bob Townsend, Commissioner



ATTEST: C.T. Montgomery, Auditor