

Scraps and Ramblings..This Blog 11/22/2011

Events over the past couple of days have jelled into the idea of presenting this “blog” to the public for their pleasure.... or aggravations... two events in particular have led to this perhaps reckless decision. The first happened immediately after our commissioner’s meeting on Monday when a constituent whom I knew personally came up to me and rather angrily remarked that he did not appreciate the disparagingly comments I had made about him in the blog in the Martinsville Reporter. I replied that I had not written anything for some time in that paper... in fact said I rarely read the blog (for reasons I will devote an entry here soon). He said ...still not believing I suppose... he asked that wasn’t I a “Moorevillian of the Year” ... and wasn’t I the “Moorevillian” of the Reporter’s blog. I said well, yes, guilty on the first charge... I slipped in there several years ago....and nope not me in the Reporter blog... I rarely write there and have always signed my name when I do...want no guessing. I am not sure he is convinced... some folks think public officials are consummate liars.... but at least it got me thinking about doing this “blog.” I have for sometime thought about having a periodic column in the Reporter where I would discuss and explain some of the things that pass in front me in as a county commissioner. I had indeed discussed this idea with the editor, Bryan Culp, and he was receptive to the idea. However, I think I will just do my discussing and commiserating right here. The editors will no doubt be grateful, particularly because my “style” and sentence structure and even spelling would undoubtedly put their teeth on edge since they are trained in the finer points of writing and journalism. Additionally, for better or worse, what I share will remain here and not be tossed out with the garbage nor be handy kindling for starting those warming fires we will soon require. My posterity also might find these ramblings useful in understanding both me and what I do. My grandfather, Jim Davee, was county auditor back in the 1950’s . I had no idea what he did nor how important an auditor is to good functioning county government.... Wish he would have kept a blog.

The second event was a training workshop I went to yesterday for those interested in what the crowd at the Statehouse has in store for us at this years short session. One likely subject is the “Local Government Reform” one part being the desire by some to move to one county commissioner instead of three. This has come up for the past three sessions... and refuses to say “uncle” ... so likely Senator Connie Lawson will give 'er another whirl. What you and others might gain in understanding how your county government functions might help you and maybe even Senator Lawson have a keener appreciation for "how it works." Then she can decide if it broke and needs fixin'.

You are more than welcome to come to our commissioners meetings..and you can even ask me if I am the Moorevillian blogger in the Reporter. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month. Generally, the meetings are at 9:30 AM on the first and 6:30 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> except for the winter months when we meet at 9:30 for both monthly meetings. The calendar will keep you in line and is on our county website, <http://morgancounty.in.gov>. You can stick around after the meeting or we can go have a cup of coffee if you would like. My cell phone is 317-670-0929... and I am always glad to hear what you have to say or listen to what is on your mind . It is part of the job...

November 22, 2011

Addendum: April 1, 2020

A great deal has happened in the past nine years. I completed that first term. and was elected to the second term in 2012. In 2016 I decided to take leave to spend more time with growing grandkids ..the oldest was 13... a papaw needed to be around more. I was replaced by my friend, Ryan Goodwin. He was

on the council at the time. A bright a capable man ..I truly believe he could be Governor someday. He will for sure move on from the job of County Commissioner. In late 2019, he decided to take a leave of the commissioner office basically for the same reason as I had three years previous... but with the more serious task of tending to his 8 year old son who was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. As the seat was now open, I was encouraged by some good friends to seek a third term. And so I am...and it has been a very interesting campaign. The arrival of the Covid-19 virus has completely disrupted life including the campaign. The Primary election has been moved from May 5 to June 2. It looks nearly certain that even in the coming eight weeks, the situation will require a great many ...maybe all citizens vote by absentee. I suppose the only benefit for me...and maybe for many is the slowing down of living... things that were seemingly important simply are not. We spend our days apart. I am actually sleeping longer in the mornings—going to be earlier as well. I am also afforded more time for working..writing rewriting these “Scraps and Ramblings”. I have a small glimmer of a vision in writing more scraps and adding them to this collection—with the idea maybe down the road of having a small book for future generations to browse through... to know me...and these times a bit more.. I do have a title for the book, “Scraps and Ramblings of a Hoosier County Commissioner...we’ll see...