

**CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Special Meeting October 24, 2007

3:00 p.m.

The special meeting of the Clark County Commissioners was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by County Commissioner President, Ed Meyer.

Roll call showed members present and absent as follows:

Present

Absent

Ed Meyer  
Ralph Guthrie  
Mike Moore

Also present were County Attorney, Dan Moore, County Auditor Barbara Haas and Benefits Coordinator Nancy Shepherd.

President Meyer welcomed everyone for coming to this special meeting honoring Michael L. Becher. President Meyer said that Mike could not make this meeting, but everyone has been touched by Mike. Mike was the type of Sheriff that you could always go in and work with you whether it was evaluating a ticket or other things and seemed to be a peace maker and that is why I chose this passage from Mathew 5 verse 9 that states blessed are the peacemaker's for they will be called the children of God.

Next was Sheriff Dan Rodden who said he looked up Mike's personnel file and that he never had a write up. Sheriff Rodden said that when he was a county councilman he worked with Sheriff Becher on the new jail and when Sheriff Rodden decided to run for Sheriff, Mike was the first person he spoke with about it. Sheriff Rodden said Mike is a great friend and worked hard through two renovations of the jail facilities. The new facility will be called Michael L. Becher Adult Corrections Complex.

Commissioner Mike Moore spoke about Mike Becher being a big, strong and secure person just like the new facility will be.

Superior Court No. 3, Judge Fleece asked the audience who comes to mind when you hear the word "sheriff". Some will think of movie stars or celebrities, like Buford Pusser, but none as powerful as the man we are here to talk about today. Judge Fleece stated that he has known quite a few sheriffs because he grew up right behind the jail. Judge Fleece said that Mike Becher reminds him of a Davey Crockett kind of guy big, strong, friendly, honest and straight forward with a smile that could charm a bear. Judge Fleece said he will never forget the tent city that Sheriff Becher put up. Legally he violated every Jeffersonville City zoning law in the book, but from a practical and political perspective Mike made his point about overcrowding in the jail. Judge Fleece stated that the facility to be named after Michael Becher is very fitting.

Circuit Court Judge Daniel Donahue read a letter from Superior Court No. 2 Judge Cecile Blau expressing her sincere appreciation to Mike for being such a good public servant to the citizens of Clark County and role model for the criminal justice system. Judge Donahue commented knowing Mike and Sara for over twenty years and he is a person of the highest integrity and moral character. As a law enforcement officer Mike was committed to his profession and honest to his peers. Judge Donahue feels that Mike is most deserving to have the facility named after him.

County Attorney Dan Moore presented and read the Citation for Ambassador Extraordinary of Clark County Indiana Michael L. Becher. (see attachment) Commissioner Guthrie moved to approve the citation and award the distinction of Ambassador Extraordinaire of Clark County, Indiana, which was seconded by Commissioner Moore and carried 3-0.

Commissioner Guthrie said it is an honor to recognize such a person like Mike Becher. During Mike's tenure as Clark County Sheriff he was instrumental in the construction of two new jails and was first to hire a woman police officer and woman on the merit board. After talking with Mike, Commissioner Guthrie said one of the points Mike is most proud of is through out his career was the honor of serving the citizens of Clark County in law enforcement. To honor him today for all he has done for Clark County is well deserved. Commissioner Guthrie moved to name the corrections complex the Michael L. Becher Adult Corrections Complex, which was seconded by Commissioner Moore and carried 3-0.

President Meyer unveiled a picture format for signage on the new Becher Corrections Complex.

President Meyer moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

County Commissioner Members

Aye  
*Mr. Edward Meyer*  
*Ralph Guthrie*  
*Mike Moore*

Nay  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_