

TAX MATTERS

**APRIL 2, 2009, Issue #09-13, by Bernard Ridens, Executive Director
Taxpayers Association of Vigo County, Inc.**

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- 1. A MAJOR CONCERN**
- 2. TAX AND GOVERNMENT COMPETITION 2009**
- 3. SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS WANTED**
- 4. PUBLIC MEETINGS**

REVIEW OF PAST TAX MATTERS

MARCH 26, 2009 (#09-12)

- **UNION HOSPITAL TOUR**
 - There will be a tour for Taxpayers Association members of the new Union Hospital building on Tuesday, April 14th from 3:30-4:30 pm. RSVP by April 13th so Tom Woodason will know how many hardhats and safety glasses to provide.
- **TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING – APRIL 21, 2009 AT 12:00 NOON**
 - RSVP by Friday, April 17th
- **VCSC FACILITY MASTER PLAN**
 - Several downloaded Adobe PDF documents dealing with the Vigo County School Corporation Facility Master Plan can be found at <http://www.schmidt-arch.com/owners/VigoCounty.html>.
- **LET'S GO FOR THE GOOD MONEY**
 - The differences among “good money,” “neutral money” and “bad money”

MARCH 19, 2009 (#09-11)

- **ANNUAL MEETING DATE CHANGE**
 - The date for the Taxpayers Association Annual Meeting has been changed. It will now be Tuesday, April 21, 12:00 noon, at the Idle Creek Banquet Center.
- **FLOOD NOTES AND TAXES**
 - Originally published August 7, 2008. We are publishing this again due to the recent increased interest in flood planning and logjam clean-up
- **DUMP TRUCKS**
 - Summary report on the purchase of two dump trucks for the city of Terre Haute by way of an internet reverse auction bid which took place March 12, 2009 at 2:00 PM

The Taxpayers Association is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues. Any citizen or group of citizens in Vigo County may be a member. Current members are encouraged to promote membership in the organization by giving the attached application to a potential member. [See the TA application and dues structure.](#)
This is NOT an invoice for your dues.

1. A MAJOR CONCERN

Your input is important. Please be assured that your name will not be given or attached to my future report on this matter. It appears that we have serious problems with state-level offices.

Example 1: In January 2007, a \$4,155,745 distribution was made to correct errors made in the 2006 allocation of CAGIT/EDIT taxes returned to Vigo County.

Example 2: The current address of the Taxpayers Association is now 46 months old. During this period of time (nineteen quarters), I have made approximately 25 attempts in getting the state of Indiana to correct our address, which has remained the same since June 2004. Some state agencies have it correct, and some apparently refuse to correct it, even when we use their "change of address" form. This leads to serious problems not always receiving important government mail.

Example 3: This negative is a personal experience, but it could be you in the near future. I completed my Form 1040 electronically last week and proceeded to do my Indiana IT40 last night. Using the eFile address found in the state's publications, the site could not be accessed. After many tries over several days, I finally got a connection on April 1st on 8:30 PM. After working about an hour through the various line items on the form and nearly finishing, a message popped up (paraphrasing), "We're sorry. A technical error has occurred and the system is overloaded." I was cut off without completing the task, and upon trying to return, the message given was "Site cannot be found."

Apparently, too many people were trying to do their Indiana tax return. Now we have thirteen days to file without penalty.

There are other examples of problems I have with the state, but for now, please let me know if you have a similar story on a state agency.

2. TAX AND GOVERNMENT COMPETITION 2009

In athletics, local schools compete for a traveling trophy ("The Bell" for football and "The Shoe" in basketball). There are also several academic competitions, but these competitions do not have a traveling trophy of significance for the winning school to display. In keeping with the educational mission of the Taxpayers Association, an annual competition on taxation and government will be held each spring. The winning school will be presented with a beautiful trophy to be known as "**The Eagle**." It is a 24-inch ceramic eagle perched on an American flag standard. This traveling trophy is being sponsored by Indiana State, Ivy Tech, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, and Rose-Hulman. The 2009 competition will be held Saturday, April 18th at 10:00 AM. "The Eagle" will be presented to the winning school at the Taxpayers Association Annual Meeting on April 21st. Cash rewards will also be given to the winning students and school. Special contributions have been made and more are welcome.

If you can support this endeavor, please send a special contribution to:
Taxpayers Association of Vigo County
7 S Meadows Shopping Center
Terre Haute, IN 47803

3. SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Taxpayers web site is very close to going public. Prior to doing so, we would like a few people to test the site and let us know what does and does not work. If you can give us a few minutes of your time reviewing our site, please email us and I will give you the specific address.

4. PUBLIC MEETINGS

The purpose of this calendar is to encourage taxpayers to attend public meetings. Taxpaying persons working at your business or living in your neighborhood should be encouraged to attend a meeting of their choice at least once per year. The date and time for the meetings listed below are always subject to change. **Organizations that are underlined have a web page that can be accessed by clicking on their respective hyperlinks.** The contact person is also listed. You should call the appropriate office and confirm the date and time if you plan to attend.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Public Meeting</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
Thur. Apr. 2	7:00 pm	<u>City Council – Sunshine Meeting</u>	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375
Mon. Apr. 6	4:00 pm	<u>Vigo County Drainage Board</u>	County Annex	David 898-2685
Mon. Apr. 6	6:30 pm	Riley Town Board	Riley Town Hall	Wanda 894-2410
Tue. Apr. 7	9:00 am	<u>County Commissioners</u>	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Apr. 7	4:30 pm	Honey Creek Conservancy District	3241 S. 3 rd Place	Craig 232-4311
Tue. Apr. 7	7:00 pm	<u>City Council – Regular Meeting</u>	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375
Wed. Apr. 8	2:00 pm	<u>E-911 Advisory Board</u>	County Jail – Sheriff's Training Room	Greg 462-3226 ext. 320
Wed. Apr. 8	4:30 pm	<u>City Park Board – General Meeting</u>	Deming Park	Eddie 232-2727
Wed. Apr. 8	7:00 pm	<u>Airport Authority</u>	Airport	Kara 877-2524
Mon. Apr. 13	2:00 pm	<u>Board of Public Works and Safety</u>	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Robin 232-4767
Mon. Apr. 13	6:00 pm	West Terre Haute Town Board	500 W. Nat'l, WTH	Melody 533-2034
Mon. Apr. 13	7:00 pm	<u>Vigo County School Board</u>	VCSC Board Room	Judy 462-4216
Tue. Apr. 14	9:00 am	<u>County Commissioners</u>	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Apr. 14	10:00 am	<u>City Board of Sanitary Commissioners</u>	City Hall – 3 rd Floor	Sally 235-5458
Tue. Apr. 14	4:15 pm	<u>Vigo County Redevelopment Commission</u>	County Annex	Amanda 234-2524
Tue. Apr. 14	7:00 pm	Seelyville Town Board	Seelyville Water Office	Tamara 877-2665
Wed. Apr. 15	9:30 am	Clay-Owen-Vigo Solid Waste District	109 E. Nat'l, Brazil IN	Janet 800-387-3380
Wed. Apr. 15	10:00 am	<u>County Board of Zoning Appeals</u>	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Wed. Apr. 15	4:00 pm	<u>City Redevelopment Commission</u>	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Phenny 232-0018
Wed. Apr. 15	5:00 pm	<u>Vigo County Board of Health</u>	County Annex	Louise 462-3428
Thur. Apr. 16	2:00 pm	Tree Advisory Board	City Hall Mayor's Conf. Room	Jennifer 232-4028
Mon. Apr. 20	5:30 pm	<u>Human Relations Commission</u>	Booker T. Washington Center	Jeff 232-0110
Mon. Apr. 20	7:00 pm	<u>Vigo County Public Library</u>	Library – Main Branch	Nancy 232-1113

Tue. Apr. 21	9:00 am	<u>County Commissioners</u>	County Annex	Judy	462-3367
Tue. Apr. 21	10:00 am	<u>City Board of Sanitary Commissioners</u>	City Hall – 3 rd Floor	Sally	235-5458
Tue. Apr. 21	12:00 pm	TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING	Idle Creek Banquet Center	Bernard	235-1361
Wed. Apr. 22	4:30 pm	<u>City Park Board – Business Meeting</u>	Deming Park	Eddie	232-2727
Wed. Apr. 22	5:30 pm	<u>Information Technology Advisory Board</u>	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Brad	244-2316
Wed. Apr. 22	7:00 pm	<u>Airport Authority</u>	Airport	Kara	877-2524

END

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