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editor

Just the facts

Susan Comstock
ad manager

Friday, Jan. 28, 1993

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
(217) 283-9348 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

HIC board gets new president, member

A former long-term member of the Hoopeston Industrial Corporation board was re-elected to the group.

Ora J. Baer, a 22-year member and past president of the organization, re-elected himself to the board at Wednesday night's HIC annual meeting, based on the number of corporation shares he holds.

Baer held 1,134 votes, based on nine votes for each share he owns. Another 90 votes from other shareholders were cast for Baer, bringing his total to 1,224.

Baer was second in votes only to another long-term member, Harold Cox. Cox received 2,842 votes, of which 2,187 were his own.

Baer will replace John White, who, received 554 votes.

Other directors elected were: Joe Moore, 1,075; Dick Read, 986; Roger Ball, 985; Glen Sinn, 983; Byron "Barney" Hedgecock and Bill Orr, each with 981; and Gary Trimmell with 980.

Read was named HIC president for 1994. Ball and Orr will continue as vice president and secretary, respectively, and Glen Sinn was named treasurer, replacing Read.

Shareholder Jean Minick questioned the board on some of its decisions, including selling one acre of the group's industrial site to Casey's General Store, and the cash rent price for HIC land farmed by Scott Leemon. Minick also requested the board communicate more often with shareholders.

Read defended the board's actions with Casey's saying early publicity might have hurt the sale. "This was not a slam-dunk thing with Casey's," he said, adding negotiations with the company took six to nine months.

Also, Read said the board voted to raise Leemon's cash rent from \$75 to \$85 per acre, effective this year. The corporation had received \$110 per acre until 1987, when it was lowered to \$75. "I think if we get it back up there, we'll have to do it in incremental stages," Read said. "It's not the world's best farm ground."

On the communication issue, the board discussed publishing a quarterly newsletter, but took no action on the matter.

See "HIC" on other side

Howard Industries expected to announce lay-offs today

Employees at Howard Industries in Milford are expected to learn today how many and for how long some of them will be out of work.

Plant officials are expected to tell at least some of the plant's 243 employees that they will not report for work next week.

Plant manager Cliff Coperski could not be

reached for comment at press time.

The lay-off follows similar action at the plant last September and October, when some employees were out of work for between one week and one month. Employees are members of the United Paperworkers National Union.

More *Just the Facts* on the other side

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HIC continued from other side

In other action, the board:

♦ voted to withhold selling shares pending an audit by Russell Leigh & Associates and further board action.

Shares are worth more than the original \$25 price, directors said. Leigh will determine what the new value is and will present that figure to the board for its approval.

♦ approved a \$200 donation to the Chamber of Commerce economic development committee. The money will be used for expenses of architecture students expected to visit the city today. In

return, the board asked that students make suggestions for signage at HIC land.

♦ discussed 1993 expenses, including \$1,581.62 as reimbursement to Moore for the fight against the landfill expansion. Moore said approximately half the money went to a pre-law student hired for the cause.

♦ discussed 1993 income, which included \$59,000 for land sold to Casey's.

The land is appraised at \$1,375 per acre for farm ground and and industrial ground at \$2,100 per acre.

Police news

Two Hoopeston men were arrested at Pamida Wednesday. William D. Mitchell, 22, of 726 S. Second Ave., and Billy Buss, 20, 526 S. Second, were arrested at 5:41 p.m. Wednesday, charged with shoplifting.

No tickets or injuries were reported in a one-vehicle accident Tuesday. Charles W. Johnson, 725 S. Second Ave, was westbound on Route 9

Briefly...

Civic Center open on Saturdays

Mayor Bob Ault announced Thursday that the Civic Center will be open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays for walkers until further notice.

Sweetheart sign-up ends

Today is the last day to sign up for the annual Sweetheart Dinner, which will be 12:30 p.m., Feb. 14 at Hoopeston Area High School. Make reservations at 283-6668.

Obituaries

NEWTON, James W., 60, of Rankin, died at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Saturday at the Wolfe Funeral Home in Rankin. Burial will be in Rankin Union Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. today at the funeral home with a Cissna Park American Legion military service. Memorials may be made to the March of Dimes.

RAUCH, Basil O., 88, of Colfax and formerly of Hoopeston, died at 6 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 27, 1994 at Community Health Care Center in Plant City, Fla. Graveside services will be 11 a.m. Monday at Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 10 to 10:50 a.m. Monday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the Colfax United Methodist Church in Colfax.

In the hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Jan. 26, 1994

Admitted: None.

Discharged: Virgie Maxwell, Hoopeston.

Weather

Partly cloudy today with a chance of flurries. High in the upper 20s or lower 30s, low in the upper teens to low 20s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High, 28, low 16. Sunday, mostly cloudy. High 26, low 17.

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