

# Like a Thief in the Night

A Guest Editorial by Dennis Powers

Our Republic is being stolen. It is being done systematically in the cover of darkness – bills that give more power to Washington and special interests and less to “we the people.”

It is being done with radicals in Congress and the White House setting up a shadow government using czars to usurp the authority of Cabinet members and Congress. Even Hillary has complained.

It is being done with the state-run media, which ignores over a million tea party protestors in Washington, ignores the corruption of radical groups like ACORN, ignores the czars with extremist ties and ignores the corruption and out-of-control spending in Congress.

It is being done by taking our tax dollars and giving them to others through bailouts, special favors and entitlements.

Thomas Jefferson said, “I predict future happiness for

Americans if they can prevent the Government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.”

Would you mind if someone robbed you, spent your money and took the credit for everything they did with it? Politicians call it “investments.” The Bible calls it stealing.

As the New Hampshire flag states, “Live Free or

*“I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the Government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.”*

*-Thomas Jefferson*

Die.” We have to stand up and say, “too much is too much.”

Our federal deficit grows at a rate of \$20 billion per week! Politicians love to talk about “doing it for the children.” Leaving them riddled with our debt is “doing it to the children.”

Jefferson also said, “It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes.” We’re passing ours on to future generations.

We can’t sustain this type of spending. One has to wonder if that is the plan. “You never want a good crisis to go to waste” is part of the Cloward-Piven strategy as is “making a weak economy even worse.”

The Cloward-Piven Strategy is named after Columbia University sociologists Richard Cloward and Frances Piven.

Their goal was to overthrow capitalism by overwhelming the government bureaucracy with entitlement demands. The created crisis would provide the impetus to bring about radical political change. Ring a bell?

Is this the change that 53% of the people voted

for? Do we actually want Socialism? Is this the change that Obama was talking about when he said he was going to “fundamentally transform America?”

By definition, Socialism is a political and economic theory of social organization that advocates that the means of production, distribution and exchange should be owned and regulated by the community as a whole. Think “collective.”

In Marxist theory, Socialism is a transitional social state between the overthrow of Capitalism and the realization of Communism. Remember the Cloward-Piven strategy?

Liberals and big government proponents want the same government that has bankrupted Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security to spend over a trillion dollars on a government HealthCare takeover that may bankrupt our country.

Conservatives know that a government big enough to

give you everything you want is big enough to take away everything you have.

We have to be Constitutionalists and stand up for the principles and beliefs upon which this country was founded. Our founders were willing to put their lives on the line for our country – are we?

In 1943, four chaplains aboard the USAT Dorchester representing four religions were seen holding hands, praying and singing as their ship sank in the Northern Atlantic. They had just assisted in evacuating the ship, calming down the soldiers and loading them on the lifeboats after giving away their life jackets.

These were men of the “greatest generation.” Now, it’s our turn.

Are we willing to get off the couch and call or write our Congressmen? Are we willing to get on our knees and pray for our country? Are we willing as the Revolutionary Flag stated,

“Appeal to Heaven?”

If not, we are going to lose our Liberty. We are going to lose our country. This is a time in history that we will look back on one day and wish that we had done more. We will wish that we had made that call to our Congressman, went to that town hall meeting or contacted the White House.

The Tea Party March on Washington was a wake-up call. Stop the out-of-control spending of our money. Stop the corruption. Stop the madness.

Our democratic republic may be in its final hour. If our voices are not heard now, they may be silenced forever.

*- Dennis Powers is a conservative columnist and his columns can be found in TheLaFollettePress.com, OnTheRightTrackOnline.blogspot.com, BackyardPolitics.org and BackPorchPundits.com. Send your comments to: DennisHPowers@comcast.net or mail them to POB 179, Jacksboro, TN 37757.*

## Airport Phase I Bids Received

by Ashley Murphy

The Cleveland Municipal Airport Authority (CMAA) held their monthly meeting on Friday, September 18, 2009 in the Cleveland City Council Room. Chairwoman Lynn DeVault and Vice Chair Mike McCoy, were absent for this meeting. Lou Patten acted as Chairman for the meeting.

Mark Paslick of PDC Consultants was in attendance to give updates on the status of the airport. The public hearing for the Storm Water Prevention Plan (SWPP) drew several public comments, which the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is currently reviewing. It is expected to have the SWPP by the end of the month and the approval of all other permits. This will still enable an October start for construction of the airport.

The Airport Authority also took bids for Phase 1 of the construction process. This will include the relocation of the creek, waterline, power line, and Old Tasso Road, all of which are currently located on the airport site. Wright Brothers Construction of Charleston, TN was the low bidder, with a submitted bid of \$5,729,782. Wright Brothers was one of four bidders.

Paslick also informed the CMAA that \$310,000 has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the purchase of property. Property that will be purchased is from the former Rolling Hills Golf Course and it will be used for wetland mitigation. However, the land cannot be purchased until TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely signs off on the letter of approval.

Erin Fuller, a standing opponent of the airport, was

also present. She gave a short presentation and questioned the distance of the Rolling Hills mitigation site from the airport site. She stated that based on her research, the mitigation sites must be more than five miles away from the airport. This started a short debate with Mark Paslick. Fuller continued with her questions, one of which revolved around a Wildlife Management biologist. She asked if the Airport Authority or PDC Consultants had consulted with such a person. At this point, Mark Paslick refused to answer any of Fuller's remaining questions.

Cleveland Municipal Airport Authority Meetings are held once a month in the Cleveland Municipal Building. The next meeting will be held on October 16, 2009 at 9am. The meetings are open to the public.

## Charleston, Cleveland, Bradley County Growth Policy Coordinating Committee reconvenes

by Tonya Brantley

After a three-year moratorium, the Charleston, Cleveland, Bradley County Growth Policy Coordinating Committee reconvened and held its organizational meeting at the Museum Center at Five Points Sept. 10, 2009. Cleveland Mayor Tom Rowland asked County Mayor D. Gary Davis to reconvene the Growth Policy Coordinating Committee to begin consideration of new proposed urban growth amendments.

The members of the Coordinating Committee are Chairman Craig Mullinax, Vice Chairman Bruce Renner, Johnny McDaniel, John Moore, Corey Divel, Mickey Torbett, Marystewart Lewis, Larry Anderson, Tom Cate, George McCoin, Mel Griffith, Jim Barger, Jim Richmond, Gary Hayes and Stacey Morrison.

When the Coordinating Committee considers pro-

posed amendments, it must conduct two public hearings. After those hearings are held and the committee has had adequate time for deliberation, it should vote on whether the proposed amendments to the growth plan should be adopted. Once the committee makes its determination, it should submit its decision and any recommended amendments to the growth plan to the county and cities in the county for consideration and ratification.

According to the University of Tennessee's Center for Business and Economic Research, the population projection for Bradley County shows a 23 percent population growth from 2000-2030 compared to a 7 percent growth in population in Hamilton County for the same period, due to the availability of land for development. Being able to accommodate the growth is the ra-

ationale for the expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary. The proposed areas that the city plans to annex total about 7.5 sq. miles and contain about 296 houses with an estimated population of about 740 people. With the construction of the Volkswagen plant in Hamilton County, industrial opportunities have been presented. In order to accommodate industrial development, additions to the Urban Growth Boundary include the area south of APD-40 around Exit 20 near Interstate 75, south along I-75 to White Oak Mountain and an area on the north side of the city at Tasso Lane where the new airport is planned.

The Charleston, Cleveland, Bradley County Growth Policy Coordinating Committee meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 5:30pm, upstairs at the United Community Bank on Keith St. Meetings are open to the public.