



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## LAPORTE COUNTY

Circuit Courthouse  
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LaPorte, IN 46350-3400  
Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 229 – FAX: (219) 326-9103

Marlow Harmon, President

Barbara Huston

William Hager

### AGENDA LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY APRIL 4, 2006

The LaPorte County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session Tuesday, April 4, 2006 at the LaPorte County Annex & Security Complex at 6:00 p.m...

Present at the meeting were Commission President Marlow Harmon and Commission Member William Hager. Commission Vice President Barbara Huston was absent. Also present were LaPorte County Auditor Teresa Shuter, LaPorte County Attorney Robert Szilagyi and Executive Secretary Linda Arnett.

Commissioner Hager led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried 2-0.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the minutes of March 7, 2006 as presented, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.

#### WEEKLY REPORTS

The Commissioners review and sign weekly reports during the meeting.

#### CLAIMS

#### PAYROLL

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve Payroll Ending April 7, 2006, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.

#### MISCELLANEOUS CLAIMS

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve Miscellaneous Claims in the amount of \$495,271.57, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Shaw R. Friedman, LaPorte County Attorney/ Up-date Nipsco-Whiting Power Case

Mr. Friedman explains where this case stands Mr. Friedman reads his statement on the contract with Whiting Clean Energy- Cause No. 4284. I am delighted to report another win for LaPorte County in our continuing effort to fight for lower rates and better service from Northern Indiana Public Service Company. This three year contract was nothing but a backdoor way for NiSource to bail out its troubled Whiting subsidiary which has been consistently losing the corporation \$30 million a year.

**LaPorte County has been a leader in this effort to try to bring some sense and accountability to a utility whose exorbitant rates and poorly-rated service affect ever business and resident located here.**

**Mr. Harmon, thank you Mr. Friedman for all your efforts. I understand now that we are getting the attention of a couple of the Lake County Commissioners and I think that we are going to get more help, this is an ongoing battle that we have to continue to do to continue to protect our people. We have had a very successful campaign these last few years and we thank you and thank the Board of Commissioners Mr. Hager and Mrs. Huston for the support.**

**Mr. Friedman, all three of you commission you all have been consistent in your support in this effort when it comes to attempting to make Nipsco accountable for its rates and service as you have indicated.**

**Mr. Harmon, and also what speaks in our favor is the Utility Trust organization has given us back to LaPorte County \$80,000.00 of the monies we have spent and we have applied for another \$20,000.00.**

**Mr. Friedman, the Rate Payer Trust is a non-for-profit fund that has supported LaPorte County, as our Auditor will attest we have gotten significant checks over time helping reimburse the county for its efforts.**

**Mr. Hager, I think we are doing the right thing for our people and this is something that has got to be done because it's getting out of control.**

#### **REQUESTS**

##### **Dick Reel, Chairman Log Cabin Committee/ Request for Tourism Funds \$500.00**

**Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve \$500.00 to the Log Cabin Committee, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Robert Szilagyi, LaPorte County Attorney/ LaPorte County Highway Department Addendum, LaPorte County E-911 Addendum, LaPorte County EMS Addendum**

**Attorney Szilagyi, the EMS Addendum and the LaPorte County Highway Department are good but I have not reviewed the E-911 Addendum.**

**Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the EMS and the LaPorte County Highway Addendums but table the E-911 Addendum until Attorney Szilagyi has time to review, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Resolution TIF District**

**Mr. Harmon, as you know we have been in the process of setting up a TIF District in the I-94/U.S. Route 421 area and it now comes before the Board of Commissioners, we need to adopt a resolution initiating the TIF District. We have a resolution before us by title only if there is no objection.**

Mr. Hager, made a motion to adopt by title only.

Mr. Harmon, reads the resolution by title only, A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of LaPorte County, Indiana Approving Certain Matters in Connection with the I-94/U.S. Route 421 Economic Development Area.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to adopt by title only, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0. This Resolution will be known as Resolution 2006-07.

Pat Pease, LaPorte County EMS Director/ Request to Advertise Bids on Ambulance & EMS Support Vehicles

Ms. Pease, in attempt to keep in the rotation schedule for vehicles that was created last year. I am requesting to advertise for and ambulance and for two support vehicles.

Mr. Harmon, one ambulance and what are the two support vehicles.

Mrs. Pease, it would be for the administrator and the training van we are looking at a four wheel drive for the administrator and a van for the training.

Mr. Hager, I had talked to her before, the only thing had I would request that you get a quote with trade in and without trade in.

Mr. Harmon, we have a motion on the floor to allow Ms. Pease to advertise for bids for one ambulance and two support vehicles four wheel drive and one van.

Ms. Pease, I don't need bids on the vehicles I just need quotes.

Mr. Harmon, you need the quotes on the vehicles and advertise for bids on the ambulance, second by Mr. Harmon. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.

Appointment to LaPorte County Redevelopment

Mr. Harmon, on the Redevelopment Commission we have one member that has not shown up seven out of eight times so he has been removed and we need to appoint a new person in that place. Mr. Hager, do you have any one you would like to suggest?

Mr. Hager, no I don't.

Mr. Harmon, I would like to suggest that we put Don Przybylinski in that position. Mr. Hager do you have any objection?

Mr. Hager, no I don't.

Mr. Harmon, made a motion to appoint Don Przybylinski, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Bohacek, Commissioner Harmon at the last county commission meeting, you made a statement that there was a plan the commission had for finding a permanent home of the Extension Office I was wondering if you had firmed up that plan yet.

Mr. Harmon, when the fair board submits that plan to us then it will be brought forward.

Mr. Bohacek, what is the time frame on that?

Mr. Harmon, I don't know when the Fair Board submits their request then it will be brought before us and they will bring the plans before us.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

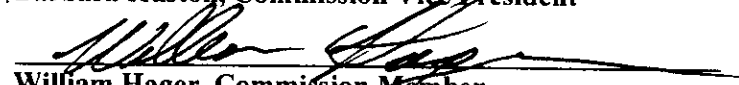
None

Commission President Marlow Harmon adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m...

**LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marlow Harmon, Commission President

  
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Barbara Huston, Commission Vice President

  
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William Hager, Commission Member

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Shuter, LaPorte County Auditor

(Approximately 10 people in attendance)