



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LAPORTE COUNTY

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Willie Milsap,
President

Dave Decker,
Vice President

Dr. Vidya Kora,
Member

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MINUTES EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA

Wednesday September 11, 2013

To be held at 6:00 p.m. in the LaPorte County Complex Meeting Room #3

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

John Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Milsap and Decker were present. Commissioner Kora was absent. Commissioner Kora is attending the American Medical Association meeting in Washington D.C.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Decker adds a letter from Chubb Insurance under Correspondence.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 4, 2013

Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

6. CLAIMS

A. Payroll Ending 9/13/13-\$973,044.58

B. Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,463,833.76

Commissioner Decker moves to approve all claims. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

7. DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance Supervisor-Requested a signature on the contract for the roof repair. He indicated that he has informed the company they need a building permit and liability insurance before they proceed. Commissioner Decker moves to approve the execution of the contract. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Earl Cunningham-County Council-Presented the Commission with his report on the General Fund Deficit per his calculations.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Robin Surber-Executive Secretary-Reads Correspondence from the Chubb Group regarding an insurance policy for Employee Theft. Attorney Friedman indicated that he has submitted a claim under the current policy regarding money missing from the Auditor's office. He also stated that recovery will be sought in a civil action to avoid the insurance claim if possible. Commissioner Decker moves to make this correspondence a letter of record. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

9. REQUESTS

A. Robert Szilagyi-Prosecuting Attorney-Request for Travel to Lyle, Illinois.

Robert Szilagyi appears before the Commission and requests permission for his adult supervisor to attend a conference in Lyle Illinois. Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. Jerry Cooley-Maintenance Supervisor-Request for signature on Frontrunner virtual operator contract.

[Handwritten signatures]
ATTEST: *[Signature]*
AUDITOR
LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

Jerry Cooley appears before the Commission and requests signature on Frontrunner virtual operator contract. Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

10. OLD BUSINESS

Second and final reading of proposed Flood Plain Ordinance.

Attorney Friedman indicated that the update to the Flood Plain Ordinance had its first reading at the last Commissioners meeting and that he recommends approval on second reading.

Second and final reading of proposed Responsible Bidder Ordinance.

Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of final design/construction for community sign on Courthouse Lawn-Maintenance dept.

Jerry Cooley appears before the Commission and thanks Friedman & Associates, The Unity Foundation, and The United Way for donating the funds to re-build the sign on the Courthouse lawn. He then requested final approval of the sign design. Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ralph Howes-Proposed Ordinance to change the zoning map for 2.2 acres owned by the Legacy Corporation on Johnson Rd. from R1B to O1.

Ralph Howes appears before the Commission with his client Mr. James Magnuson and requests a zoning change for property owned by the Legacy Corporation. He indicates they have had 2 hearings with the planning commission and they have approved the request to be taken to the Commissioners. Christopher Willoughby appeared to remonstrate on behalf of his client. Commissioner Decker moves to approve the re-zoning from R1B to O1 on first reading. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. Appointment of LaPorte County Pioneer Cemetery Commission Member due to the retirement of Wilma Marsh.

Commissioner Decker moves to appoint Harriet M. Lute. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

C. Report from Auditor Joie Winski regarding discovery/investigation of alleged embezzlement & change in procedures regarding quietus/receipt of funds implemented to prevent re-occurrence.

Joie Winski appears before the Commission and informs them of changes she has made to reduce the chance of embezzlement.

D. Update from county's Liability Insurance Agent of Record, John Jones, on Official Bonds carried on County Officials.

John Jones appeared before the Commission to give them an update on the Official Bonds in place for the County Officials. He indicated that all Elected Officials that are required to be bonded by statute have Bonds in place though they may not all be recorded. Commissioner Decker credited Recorder Barbara Dean for making the Commission aware of the recording requirement and for working diligently to get the bonds recorded. Commissioner Decker moves to enter the LaPorte County Security Bonds Schedule into the record. Commissioner Milsap steps down and seconds.

E. Mike Yacullo County Engineer-Proposed Ordinance to Establish a Three Way Stop Condition at Range Rd. and Co. Rd. 800 North and also at Range Rd. and Co. Rd. 800 South (Tracy Rd.)

Mike Yacullo appeared before the Commission for the first reading of the proposed Ordinance. He then read the second proposed Ordinance for a first reading. Commissioner Decker moves to approve first reading on both proposed Ordinances. Commissioner Milsap stepped down to second. Motion carried by voice vote.

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12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kyle Bailey appeared before the Commission to discuss the alleged theft of \$150,000.00 from the Auditor's office. He brought an Audit from 2009 in which the State Board of Accounts specifically warned in an exit conference that the process of receipts in the Auditor's office could lead to missing monies. He gave an overview of other points in the report. He indicated that three elected officials were present at the exit conference and of those three, only one was still in office, County Councilman Rich Mrozinski. He asked the question of Mr. Mrozinski to show him what, if anything, he did in the way of minutes of the Council, letters, emails, memos anything to stop the practice that was warned could lead to missing money. He indicated that based on that 2009 report, the alleged embezzlement was very preventable.

ATTEST: _____

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Decker stated that he is very happy to see that people donated to bring back the sign on the courthouse lawn. He was glad they thought enough of our citizens to do that for them. Commissioner Milsap also applauded the United Way, the Unity Foundation and Friedman & Associates for making that project possible.

14. ADJOURN

Commissioner Decker moves to adjourn. Commissioner Milsap steps down to second. Motion carried by voice vote.