



# 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

#### LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday November 20, 2013

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

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**  
Commissioner Milsap called the meeting to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
Steve Grott led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**  
Commissioner Milsap and Commissioner Kora were present. Commissioner Decker was absent.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Commissioner Kora asked that item G in New Business be moved up the list due to a conflict for Mr. Cooley.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. **October 16, 2013**  
Commissioner Kora moves to accept. Commissioner Milsap steps down to second. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
  - A. **Payroll Ending 11/08/13-\$966,814.93**
  - B. **Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,867,695.71**  
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap steps down to second. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

**Nancy Hawkins-** Treasurer-appeared before the Commission to give her opinion of placing a WorkOne office in the Michigan City 8<sup>th</sup> street County owned building. She requested to be included in future discussions regarding changes to the County owned buildings that house her department. She acknowledged that the Commissioners are in charge of all the County owned buildings and that they are responsible for designating office space in those buildings. She indicated that the tax bills will be delayed, they will be out sometime in late January, she estimated.

**Sheriff Mollenhauer-**appeared before the Commission to inform them of the start of video visitation and indicated that it has been working out well. He said this keeps both the jailer and the public safer than the in person visitation. He said it will also help to eliminate overtime issues. He went on to tell the Commission about the book that he and Chief Sosinski have been distributing to the 4<sup>th</sup> graders in LaPorte County regarding self-esteem and making good choices. He indicated that the book is paid for through the commissary fund.

**Mike Yacullo-** County Engineer-appeared before the Commission to give an update on County rd. 950 West and asked for signatures on the plans.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE**  
None  
Commissioner Milsap indicated that correspondence was received from Councilman Earl Cunningham, but was not submitted in time to be read, but he stated that he would share the correspondence with the other Commissioners.
9. **REQUESTS**  
None
10. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. **County Holidays for 2014.**  
Commissioner Kora moves to give the County Employees the Friday after Thanksgiving off, and in lieu of a Christmas party, to give the employees Christmas Eve off. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Kora then made a motion to accept the list of Holidays for 2014, celebrating Lincoln's Birthday on February 14, 2014. The list of Holidays will be posted on the County website.

**C. Update on Infant Mortality Summit held in Indianapolis by Dr. Matt Burden, Executive Director, Swanson Center and potential local initiatives.**

Dr. Matt Burden appeared to give the update on the Infant Mortality Summit in Indianapolis.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Mitch Bishop-County Planner-Approval of OCRA Environmental Exemption/Four-Factor Analysis Test Re: Rolling Prairie Sewer Project.**

Mitch Bishop appeared before the Commission to get a signature from Commissioner Milsap to include in a Grant Application. Atty. Friedman indicates his office is comfortable with the documents and recommends approval. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Engage Marquiss Electric to install generator at 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Michigan City County Offices.**

Mr. Bishop indicates to the Commission that he has requested financial assistance from various departments for the installation of the generators, and to date he has over \$22,000.00 of the \$30,000.00 and asks permission to seek the rest of the money from the Council. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**B. Joyce Leon-Human Resources-Policy Revision.**

Joyce Leon appeared before the Commission and requested this matter be tabled.

**C. Craig Menne-Health Agent of Record-Report/Approval of change to Anthem stop/loss-Expected plan savings report.**

Craig Menne appeared before the Commission to get approval to change to Anthem stop/loss which would save the County one million dollars, with no change to employee benefits. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**D. Consideration of proposed settlement with IDEM in 950 West sewer construction case.**

Mike Yacullo appeared before the Commission and indicated that during the design process the former administration failed to secure an IDEM permit to install a sewer, IDEM stopped the job and allowed the new administration to file the applications for permits, and fined the County for performing the work without a permit, initially the fine would have been \$1300.00 that was reduced to \$1100.00 upon production of certification that the sewer was installed per specifications. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**E. Robert Young-County Highway-Extension of Reith/Riley Asphalt Contract.**

Robert Young appears before the Commission to request the extension of the Reith/Riley asphalt contract. Atty. Friedman indicates that he has reviewed the contract and believes the terms are consistent and recommends approval.

**F. Consideration of Study of Bicycles on South Shore.**

Commissioner Kora indicates that Commissioner Decker has informed him of a study regarding bicycles on the train for transport between LaPorte County and Chicago. He stated that several counties have donated money for the study. Commissioner Kora moves to approve \$5000.00 for the study. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**G. Jerry Cooley-Maintenance-Request approval for Repair and Replacement of the deteriorated sealant joints on the north and east elevation of the County Complex building for \$34,500.00 from Larson Danielson.**

Jerry Cooley appeared before the Commission and requested approval for the proposal from Larson Danielson. Atty. Friedman states that his office has seen the terms and they are consistent with the work needed to be done and recommends approval. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Approval for Labor and materials to install wiring for two sets of make-up air dampers for \$6,829.00 from Marquiss Electric, Inc.**

Attorney Friedman indicates that he is comfortable with the terms as proposed. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Approval to install double-wall condensing boiler flue, etc. for \$13,340.00 from Dirig Sheet Metal.**

Commissioner Kora moves to approve, Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Approval to furnish and install six control dampers etc. for \$6,560.00 from Dirig Sheet Metal.**

Commissioner Kora moves to approve, Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Open proposals for telephone maintenance, vending machines, trash removal, pest control, preventative maintenance, snow removal, and generator service for the year 2014.**

Attorney Friedman opened the proposal for trash pickup from Republic Services, which was taken under advisement by the Commission, and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Atty. Friedman opened the bid for snow removal from JK3 lawn care and snow removal, which was taken under advisement by the Commission, and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Atty. Friedman opened the bids for telephone from Frontrunner Network Systems and Frontier, which were taken under advisement and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Atty. Friedman opened the bids for vending machines from Neal Vending Service, Crown Vending, and CL Vending, which were taken under advisement and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Atty. Friedman opened the bids for Generators from Herman and Goetz, Cummins Crosspoint of Mishawaka, Herman and Goetz has a second proposal for the two Navy Generators, Evapar from Fort Wayne, McCallister Power Systems Fort Wayne, Cummins Crosspoint of Mishawaka has provided a proposal on the Navy Generators, and Buckeye Power Sales of Indianapolis, which were taken under advisement and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Atty. Friedman opened the bids for pest control from Franklin Pest Solutions, Aero Pest Control Plymouth, Anderson Pest Solutions Merrillville, and Hatfield Pest Control, which were taken under advisement and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Atty. Friedman opened the bids for preventative maintenance on the boilers from Delco Inc., Pritchard Mechanical Contractors of South Bend In, D.A. Dodd of Rolling Prairie, and Herman and Goetz of South Bend, which were taken under advisement and given to Mr. Cooley for evaluation. Commissioner Kora moves to refer the proposals to the Maintenance Department for evaluation and recommendation.

**G. Commissioner Milsap-Discussion/consideration of co-locating WorkOne office in vacant 8th street County Offices.**

Commissioner Milsap indicates that Workone has approached the County needing contributions in an effort to fulfil the request of the Commission to re-open a WorkOne office in Michigan City. He indicated that LaPorte County will provide rent-free office space with maintenance and utilities included, in return WorkOne will staff that office in the heart of Michigan City making it accessible to all residents of Michigan City. He thanked the Director of Information Technology, Darlene Hale, for graciously donating a portion of her workspace to accommodate this move.

Commissioner Kora thanks everyone involved in making this happen for their hard work and moves to approve.

Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Steve Hollifield-** appeared before the Commission to ask them to consider applying for an OCRA Grant to do a preliminary engineering study leading to the possibility of sewers for Fish Lake. He asked what information the Commission would need to be able to apply for it. Atty. Friedman referred him to the County Planner and the Health Department.

**Thomas Ruda-** Jonkind Park Homeowners Association-appeared before the Commission to discuss the drainage problems in their area and request guidance as to where to start to get it resolved. Barbara Harrik, a resident, appeared to discuss the issues she has had with drainage. Steve Jurors, a resident, appeared to discuss the issues he has had with drainage. Atty. Friedman gave Mr. Ruda information regarding the process necessary to get this issue researched.

**Mike Seitz-**LaPorte Chamber of Commerce-appeared to request a banner be hung on the courthouse lawn regarding Small Business Saturday. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Milsap paid respect to the Veteran's and asked people to be sure to thank any veteran's that they come into contact with. He further expressed his excitement regarding the many projects that are coming together in LaPorte County.

**14. ADJOURN**

Commissioner Kora moves to adjourn. Commissioner Milsap seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.