



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 August 20, 2014

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**
Coral Laun led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**
All Commissioners were present.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Commissioner Decker added Mr. Gerometta under requests. Under Old Business he added consent to enter on County Property from a Fish Lake Homeowner and a Homeowner on 400 W. Commissioner Kora moves to approve the agenda with the changes. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. **August 6, 2014**
Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
 - A. **Payroll Ending 08/15/14-\$1,000,198.25**
 - B. **Miscellaneous Claims-\$627,126.35**Commissioner Kora moves to accept the claims as presented. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance-appeared before the Commission to inform them that his elevators were not as bad as they thought and they were able to get it up and running. He stated the roof on the jail has been inspected by the people who installed it, and they stated that the roof is damaged because of the glue that was used. He indicated that he is concerned about the fact that the roof was open, and that without the proper complete repair, the roof may be shot when the warranty is expired.

Lynne Spevak-Clerk-Appeared before the Commission to inform them that we are in need of school board candidates.

Earl Cunningham-County Council-Appeared before the Commission to discuss the Waterford Storage area signage. He stated that the Planning Commission is enforcing an Ordinance there, but not enforcing an Ordinance against a dilapidated house in that same area. He said the signage should be allowed to stay and the house should be torn down. He went on to give his interpretation of the balance of the General Fund. He further discussed the issues regarding the PTBOA Board.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE**
None
9. **REQUESTS**

Darlene Hale-IT/Joie Winski-Auditor-Request for travel to Denver, Colorado.
Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Bob Gerometta-Request permission to advertise for bids for the EMS building.
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
10. **OLD BUSINESS**

Mike Yacullo-Appeared before the Commission to inform them about the two requests for permission to enter county property in Fish Lake and on 400 W. He stated that the Fish Lake resident was requesting permission to trim weeds on Helen Drive to access his pier. He stated there were no vacations on record and that right of way still belongs to the county and the resident has signed a hold harmless agreement to waive any liability to the county when he clears the

walk way. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Mr. Yacullo stated he has also discussed the matter with the army corps.

He stated that the second request was on Schultz road and it was an alley way that provides access to two homes. The homeowner has requested permission to pave the alley at his own expense. He indicated that the homeowner has signed the right of entry agreement. Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Tim Morgan-Parks-Discuss storm damage and permission to appear before the Council to request funds. Consider contract proposal for tree sale.

Tim Morgan appeared before the Commission to request permission to request funds from the Council. He gave the Commissioners an update on the storm damage at Luhr Park. He then explained the proposal for the tree sale.

Commissioner Kora moves to give permission to approach the Council. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Kora moves to approve the contract for the tree sale. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. Joie Winski-Auditor-Consideration of RFP for tax software.

Auditor Winski indicated that she had asked to soon for approval of a new software vendor and has submitted an RFP to Attorney Friedman so the process can be handled correctly. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Milsap appointed Commissioner Decker to be on the Tax Software Committee. Commissioner Kora moved to appoint Commissioner Decker. Commissioner Milsap stepped down to second. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Purze appeared before the Commission to discuss the PTBOA Board.

Marv Bohacheck appeared before the Commission and indicated that he does not understand the PTBOA Board. He requested completion of his open records request.

13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Kora asked the Counsel if the Constitution permits waiving the political balance so if that were to happen we would all be upholding the Constitution. Atty. Friedman stated that it absolutely permits the waiver and that he would not have recommended doing so if it were against the Constitution. He stated that this is why he recommended this resolution to all parties to avoid any tax issues. Commissioner Kora indicated that he would like to get PTBOA up and going again.

Commissioner Decker indicated that he just got back from Iowa for the PGI Conference and stated that everything is still on track for the fireworks show to return to LaPorte in 2016. He stated that there were a couple of glitches that were straightened out and everything is ready to go.

Commissioner Kora indicated that they had a very successful meeting of the Neo-Natal Task Force. He said that one thing that has come of that is that awareness has been raised to the issue of low birth weight babies.

Commissioner Milsap stated that Councilman Cunningham made reference to the sign on the Courthouse lawn, he stated that it is a good addition to their landscape and it will be lit within the next week or so.

14. ADJOURN

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