



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## LAPORTE COUNTY

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202

LaPorte, IN 46350-3400

Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 2229 – FAX: (219) 326-9103

Willie Milsap,  
President

Dave Decker,  
Vice President

Dr. Vidya Kora,  
Member

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**

### Amended AGENDA MINUTES

### LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

To be held at 10:00 a.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**  
Mr. Clay Patton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**  
All Commissioners present.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Commissioner Kora adds KIP update to the agenda. Commissioner Decker adds request for Auditor to review multiple exemptions on homesteads. Commissioner Decker removed Lynne Spevak from requests. Commissioner Kora moves to accept the agenda. Commissioner Decker seconds.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. **September 17, 2014**  
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
  - A. **Payroll Ending 09/26/14-\$1,010,247.04**
  - B. **Miscellaneous Claims-\$10,340,916.04**  
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

George Watkins-LaPorte County Veterans Service Director- Appeared and indicated that Oct. 8 from 10-11:30 there will be a job fair at work one. He further indicated that they will be awarding the LaPorte County Patriotic Service Medal for any veteran living in LaPorte County. He stated that Nov. 8 there will be a dental service for veterans. He also indicated that Nov. 11 at the Civic there will be a Veteran's Day service.

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance-Appeared to remind the Commission that they are at the season where heating and cooling the buildings will be difficult due to the changing temperatures outside. He said that once the boiler is off it takes a long time to get warm again.

Sheriff Mollenhauer- Appeared to compliment Michigan City Police Department for their actions relating to the shooting in LaPorte County. He indicated that the first call he got was Chief Swistek offering any assistance. He said they took some of their calls in the Michigan City Area to free up the County officers for the investigation. He said his K9 Officers did a great job on the investigation.

Anne Marie Polan-Plan Commission- Appeared to give the Commission an update on the condemnations in the County.

Barb Mossman-Human Resources-Appeared and indicated that an employment application can now be completed online and submitted electronically. She then awarded the Employee of the Month award to Nancy Jablonski in the Maintenance department.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE**  
None
9. **REQUESTS**

**Bob Gerometta-Architect-Request to open bids for construction of new EMS base.**

Attorney Friedman opened the sealed bids and turned them over to Bob Gerometta for review. There were 10 submissions. Commissioner Kora moved to receive the bids and forward them to Mr. Gerometta. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Tony Mancuso-Health Department-Request for travel to New Orleans, LA.**

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

**Lynne Spevak-Clerk-Request to utilize former Congressional Office in Courthouse for scanning project.**

**10. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Robert Young-County Hwy-Recommendation for truck bids.**

Robert Young appeared before the Commission to make a recommendation for trucks to be purchased from the high bidder, Truck City, with a difference of \$34,000.00 as their equipment is better and will last longer. Commissioner Kora moved to take it under advisement and await a written recommendation from Mr. Young. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**B. Consideration of recommendation of tax software committee for bid award.**

The Auditor appeared before the Commission and indicated that there were three bidders for the tax software proposal. She indicated that one bidder did not follow the specifications and were eliminated. She indicated that she is not happy with Thomson Reuters, the current software. She then recommended Loww with a 3 to 1 vote from the committee. The total cost is \$349,350.00 and \$62,292.00 annual maintenance cost. There were two changes recommended by DLGF. Commissioner Decker inquired if there are any non-performance clauses in the contract. The attorney indicated that the County would have the right to terminate if there is non-performance. Commissioner Kora moves to approve with the changes recommended by DLGF with the funding coming from the River Boat. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**A Robert Young-County Hwy-Request permission to receive annual material bids.**

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

**Request 2.75 Million Dollars from CEDIT funds to pay for paving projects, the Frontage Road and Connector Road Project in Michigan City, and the Hupp Road Project.**

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

**B. Andrew McGuire-EMS-Request approval on agreement with New Prairie High School for service at their cross country events.**

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

**C. Consideration of small claims settlement for Michael Natt.**

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

**D. Elizabeth Flynn-Attorney BN&J-Consideration of settlement in the matter of Scurlock v. County.**

Miss Flynn summarized the case. She indicated that the current request is for \$30,000.00 to complete the total settlement of approximately \$100,000.00. Commissioner Kora moves. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**E. Ameresco-Consideration of Contract for Construction Manager for Superior Court 3 renovations.**

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

**F. Mike Yacullo-County Engineer-Request approval of bid award of rehabilitation of Franklin Street Lift Bridge to Superior Construction.**

Mike Yacullo appeared and indicated there was only one bidder on this project. He recommended approval of that bid. Commissioner Decker moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Request Approval of bid award of County Roof Repair Contract to E.C. Babilla Roofing pending funding approval by County Council.**

Mr. Yacullo indicated the low bid came from E.C. Babilla, and recommended that the Commissioners approve that contract. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Decker moved to give Mr. Yacullo permission to go to the Council for funding. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Closure of CR 100 West at U.S. 30 due to an INDOT small structure replacement on U.S. 30.**

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

**G. Consideration of Bid award in EMS base construction-Bob Gerometta/Mike Yacullo**

Bob Gerometta appeared and read the base bids of all the bidders. He indicated that they had the proper forms and the bid data was good. He said the lowest bidder was JJ White, then Larson Danielson, and Garriot was third. Mike Yacullo appeared to inform the Commission that pursuant to the Responsible Bidder Ordinance they awarded 5% bid credit to Larson Danielson because they are a local contractor, which made them the low bidder on this project. They recommended that the Commissioners award this job to Larson Danielson. Commissioner Kora moves to proceed with Larson Danielson. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**H. Consideration of Gerometta and Kinel agreement for Superior Court 3 Renovation project.**

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

**I. Lynne Spevak/Clay Patton-Consideration of Formal Order establishing newly designated precincts within LaPorte County, Indiana.**

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

**J. Lynne Spevak-Approval of Polling Places and Absentee hours for the 2014 General Election.**

Commissioner Decker moves to approve the Polling Places. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Milsap requested that Ms. Spevak add another Saturday to the absentee voting. Commissioner Milsap moved for an additional Saturday. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**K. John Dudek-911-Request permission to send out for RFP to upgrade 911 phone systems.**

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

**L. Consideration of Resolution regarding Indiana Toll Road Bankruptcy.**

Attorney Friedman gave information regarding the Toll Road Bankruptcy and read the proposed Resolution into the record. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**M. KIP Update.**

At the request of Commissioner Kora, Attorney Friedman gave an update on the KIP proceedings. Commissioner Kora indicated that the Commission will take whatever measures necessary to make sure that this keeps moving forward. Commissioner Decker indicated that the County did their job, they built a railroad, now the other partners in this will do what they are supposed to do.

**N. Request to have the Auditor check homestead exemptions.**

Commissioner Decker indicated that a citizen has brought him paperwork that indicates Ken Purze has more than one homestead exemption on his properties. Commissioner Decker moves to have the Auditor investigate. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Phyllis Marks appeared before the Commission to inform them that they have a pending grant for the barn at the county home and she asked for re assurance that the barn will stay safe. She indicated that the grant people would like it in writing that the barn will stay. Commissioner Decker moved that no matter what happens with the county home that the barn will be kept and preserved. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Earl Cunningham appeared to discuss Mr. Purze.

**13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Decker indicated they are going to start bringing in equipment for the work on the Courthouse so the circle will be closed to accommodate that equipment. Commissioner Milsap said thank you to the legal counsel for putting together the Resolution for the toll road.

**14. ADJOURN**

Commissioner Milsap adjourned the meeting.