



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LAPORTE COUNTY

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202

LaPorte, IN 46350-3400

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Dave Decker,
President

Dr. Vidya Kora,
Vice President

Michael Bohacek,
Member

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

MINUTES

LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 7, 2105

To be held at 10:00 a.m. in the LaPorte County Complex Meeting Room #3

1.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Commissioner Decker called the meeting to order.

2.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.

ROLL CALL

All Commissioners were present.

4.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kora removes item #3 from New Business. Commissioner Kora moves to approve the agenda with the corrections. Commissioner Kora then adds naming Clinton Wade to the advisory board of Johnson Township. Commissioner Kora then moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

5.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 17, 2014

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

6.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dennis Metheny appeared before the Commission to request that the Commissioners have a meeting every week. He further stated that he supports the police department.
Dick Reel appeared before the Commission to give them information regarding a person who would tear down the barns at the County Home for a lesser fee than what is scheduled to be paid.
Mike Sietz appeared before the Commission to welcome the Commissioners and wish them a Happy New Year. He indicated that the chamber is looking forward to another year of working with the Commissioners.
Earl Cunningham appeared before the Commission to discuss the EMA Advisory Board meeting.

(Department Head Comments)

Tony Hendricks appeared before the Commission to discuss the item that was removed from the agenda and request help with funding for a Conference he wishes to attend while representing Purdue. He further requested permission to go to the State Surveyors Convention. He reiterated that we should support Purdue and assist in funding this conference. Commissioner Bohacek moves to replace the Purdue request from Tony Hendricks with the in-state travel request. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Sheriff John Boyd appeared before the Commission to announce the passing of John Roby. He praised him for his service to the Sheriff's department.

Dennis Metheny appeared a second time to inform the public that candidates are using their government phones on their candidate forms to run for office.

Jerry Cooley appeared before the Commission to inform them that the roof on the complex is going to be fixed at no cost to the county soon.

7.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Kora moves to elect Commissioner Decker as President of the Commission. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Commissioner Bohacek moves to elect Commissioner Kora as Vice President of the Commission. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

8.

APPROVE MEETING DATES FOR 2015

Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve meeting dates as presented. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Kora points out that the meeting of January 21, which would usually be a 6:00 p.m. meeting, is going to be a 10:00 a.m. meeting instead.

(Claims)

Miscellaneous Claims- \$669,258.78
Payroll- \$919,541.88

Commissioner Decker moved to pay the claims. Commissioners Kora and Bohacek seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

9.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS-

A. Department Heads.

B. Commission Liaisons.

C. Board and Commissions.

Commissioner Kora moved to appoint Friedman & Associates as county attorney. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Robin Surber as Confidential Executive Secretary. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint General Insurance Services and Michiana Insurance as insurance agents of record. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Dave Christian as County Economic Development advisor. Commissioner Decker seconds. Commissioner Bohacek asked what the compensation is for that position. He asked if it is a contracted position and Commissioner Decker indicated that it will be a contracted position. He indicated that the hiring is pursuant to a contract to be presented by the next meeting. Commissioner Bohacek requested to table the appointment until the next meeting. Commissioner Decker indicated that they can make this appointment an interim until the next meeting. Commissioner Kora changed his motion to interim for Dave Christian. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He appointed Mitch Bishop as County Planner. Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve. Commissioners Decker and Kora seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Mike Yacullo as County Engineer. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Robert Young as County Highway Superintendent. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Commissioner Kora then moved to re-appoint IT Director Darlene Hale. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Carl Cender as the County Financial Planner. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint County Home Administrator Kay Felton. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint George Watkins as Veteran's Service Officer. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Susan Richter as Museum Curator. And Assistant Curator Janet Sikorski. Commissioner Bohacek seconds both.

He moved to re-appoint Andrew McGuire as EMS Administrator. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint John Dudek as E-911 Director. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Jane Bernard as Animal Shelter Director. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Jerry Cooley as Stationery Engineer. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to re-appoint Larry Butcher as EMA Director. Commissioner Bohacek indicated that he would like to appoint him as in interim until the question of the proper Board make up is addressed. The Auditor indicated that the Council attorney stated that as long as there were 4 members there was a quorum at the meeting. The County Attorney concurred with that statement. Commissioner Bohacek withdrew his motion. Commissioner Decker seconds Commissioner Koras motion to re-appoint. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Mike Quinn Director of Weights and Measures. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Utility Inspector Richard Dombrowski. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Right to Know Director Jeff Hamilton. Commissioner Bohacek Seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He then read the Commission Liaison appointments. Commissioner Kora moved to accept the Commission Liaison appointments. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Commissioner Kora moved to appoint Jim Dermody to the LaPorte Public Library Board. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Eugene Shurt to the Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Mike Mollenhauer to the Alcoholic Beverage Board. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Dr. Lisa Polazzi, Dr. Patrick Dorrah, and Patty Shively to the Animal Control Advisory Board. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Jack Blake, John Carr, Jay Fuller, and Ken Wojcick to the Board of Construction Review. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Mike Sandy to the Board of Health. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Duane Hogan to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He then moved to appoint Craig Braje, Steve Eyrick, Paula Nichols, Matt Burden, Bruce Ashley Sr., Marty Corey, Michael Mack, Clayton Jordan, Larry Trueblood, Regina Riddell, Willie Milsap, and Commissioner Decker to the Community Corrections Board. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He then moved to appoint Willie Milsap, John Coulter, and Scott Cooley to the Drainage Board. Commissioner Bohacek nominated Johnny Stimley for District 1. No second. Commissioner Decker and Kora voted in favor of the appointees that were earlier named. Commissioner Bohacek voted against.

He then moved to appoint Commissioner Bohacek, Lois Sosinski, Sheriff John Boyd, Andrew McGuire, Ron Martin, Andy Snyder, Randy Novak, Jeff Hamilton, Larry Butcher, Mayor Milo, Mayor Meert, Chief Marshall Bob Silkowski, Chief of Police Mark Swistek, Chief of Police Adam Klimsak to the E-911 Board. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Doug Waters to the County Park Board. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Pat Harris to the Pioneer Cemetery Board. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He then moved to appoint to the PTBOA Board, Hassan Dabagta, April Van Buren, and Barb Driener. Commissioners Decker and Bohacek second. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Stan Hynek to the Public Defender Board. Commissioners Decker and Bohacek second. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Terry Larson, John Knoll, Joe Coar, Pat Harris and Jeff Johnson. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint Sheriff Boyd, Larry Butcher, Andrew McGuire, Commissioner Bohacek, Bob Young, Andy Snyder, Teresa Wotchkovic, Jeff Hamilton, Duane Miller, Ken Cole, Tony Mancuso, Terry Rhoda, Dave Burke, John Dudek, Roger Wolff, Mike Sickmiller, Brenda Rogers and Jeff Hamilton will be the coordinator. Commissioners Decker and Bohacek second. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moved to appoint, Deanna Cody, Eli Stevens and Dave Connely to the Wills Township Board. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

He moves to appoint Quinten Wade to the Johnson Township Board. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

10.

DESIGNATION OF PUBLICATION—LEGAL NOTICE-COMMISSION MEETINGS—
AGENDA NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Commissioners moved to approve the standard notice that goes out through The News Dispatch, Herald Argus, and Westville Indicator.

11.

REPORT ON 2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS/STATUS UPDATE ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
Commissioner Decker gave a report of accomplishments from 2014.

12.

OLD BUSINESS

Jerry Cooley/Mike Yacullo-Consider approval of Pavey contract to tear down the second barn and garage at County Home.
Commissioner Kora moved to table. Commissioner Bohacek asked Mr. Cooley to contact the contractor that Mr. Reed introduced to get a bid. Commissioner Bohacek seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

13.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Mike Yacullo-County Engineer-Permission to seek bids for Superior Court No. 3 Renovation.**
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - a. **Request approval of contract with CHA Consultants to perform Traffic Impact Analysis for KIP generated traffic in the amount of \$59,500.00.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve Mr. Yacullo going to the Council to seek permission. Commissioner Kora seconds.
 - b. **Request permission to approach County Council for funding approval for the Traffic Impact Analysis Contract with CHA Consultants.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - c. **Permission to approach County Council for local match funding for a new bridge on Otis Rd. over the Little Calumet River in the amount of \$333,000.00.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. **Mitch Bishop-County Planner- Approval of contract with VS Engineering for Sidewalk Improvements in Hanna, Union Mills and Rolling Prairie. Tabled**
 - a. **Request signature of contract for Mary Jane Thomas to assist Economic Development.**

Commissioner Bohacek moves to table the Contract until a revision is made by the vendor. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. **Anthony Hendricks-Surveyor-Request permission to travel to Las Vegas for Purdue North Central Construction Team National Competition. Changed to approve travel in state.**
4. **Consider Resolution establishing Commission Liaisons to State Legislative and Congressional Delegations and urging appointment of LaPorte County residents to state boards and commissions.**
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **Consider appointment of three individuals to fill vacancies on Wills Township Board.**
6. **Announce change of time for January 21, 2015 meeting.**

14.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Bohacek asked the Auditor to send flowers to Mr. Roby's family. Commissioner Kora indicated that he looks forward to working with everyone to continue to address issues and work on the Economic Development. He expressed his condolences regarding Mr. Roby. Commissioner Decker welcomed Commissioner Bohacek back and said it's going to be a good year for LaPorte County. He closed the County offices and noon and announced a two hour delay in the morning.

15.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Kora moved to adjourn. Commissioner Bohacek seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
COUNTY OF LaPorte INDIANA
DATE January 21, 2015
more

Auditor
ATTEST: _____
LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA