



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## LAPORTE COUNTY

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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

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

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**  
Commissioners Decker and Bohacek present. Commissioner Kora absent.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. **January 7, 2015**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve as presented. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
  - A. **Payroll Ending 1/16/15-\$1,067,195.08**
  - B. **Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,854,391.06**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Earl Cunningham appeared before the Commission with questions regarding the meeting process and Economic Development. He further asked about the use of cell phones in politics.

Dennis Metheny appeared before the Commission to discuss the Kingsbury Ordinance Plant. He further discussed the ADA complaint. He then requested information regarding the bag from the Treasurer's Office that was found in a Library drop box.

Ray Dolmberson appeared to discuss the Michiana Shores 911 calls.

Willie Milsap appeared before the Commission to thank them for appointing him to Boards so he can continue to serve the community. He also informed them that the City County Resource Center is still in operation on 601 E. Michigan Blvd. in Michigan City. The number 219-214-6478. He also encouraged the Board to continue to stand up and fight for issues that matter. He further urged the Commission to keep an eye on Legislative matters especially the riverboat taxes so that LaPorte County will receive all the funds they were promised.

Jim Kimmel appeared to thank the Commissioners for hiring the Cender firm to review the County finances. He stated that the County is now 2.4 million in the black and that was good news. He further stated that the year started just as Cender said it would, in the black. He asked that the Commission continue with Cender so they can continue to provide the tax payers with legitimate figures.
8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance-Paid respects to his former teacher Ken Moral, who recently passed. He stated he is waiting for the bids to come in regarding the flood. He said it's time that it is fixed properly because it happens every two years. He indicated that the damage was estimated at around \$100,000.00. He indicated that the circle will be closed for the work on the Courthouse. He stated there will be additional accommodations made for those who are handicapped. He stated the Michigan City Courthouse will also be worked on and their parking will be limited by the gazebo. He thanked the LaPorte Fire Department for assisting them with their flag.

Andrew McGuire-EMS-Appeared to give an update on the new Ambulance base project. He indicated they have been having bi-weekly progress meetings with Larson Danielson. He stated the site is clear and the underground tanks and utility have been installed and the footings are poured. He stated the estimated projection is mid-June. He requested permission to approach the Council for a re-imbursement grant. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

10. **REQUESTS**

- A. **Nicole Caylor-Request to close roads for Dyngus Day Dash.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. **Fish Lake Festival-Request for LPCCVB funds in the amount of \$500.00.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. **Steve Eyrick-Request to pay Sue Shuttleworth sick days-Request is in compliance with HR policies.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve upon clarification of the amount. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. **Ericka Stallworth-Request for travel for Joseph Bunch to Washington DC.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. **Larry Butcher-Request for travel for Michelle Stelmack to Anniston Alabama.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. **Ted & Donna McCleery-Request to move their property at 135 West McClung Road to the jurisdiction of LaPorte County.**  
Ted & Donna McCleery appeared. Attorney Friedman indicated that there needs to be approval from the Board of Works. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve contingent upon the approval from the City Board of Works. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Consider appointment of MS4 Liaison.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to make an appointment for MS4 liaison. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Decker appoints Commissioner Bohacek as MS4 Liaison.
- B. **Update on Barn demolition at County Home Property.**  
Mike Yacullo appears before the Commission to update them on the demolition of the Barn at the County Home. He indicated they received a quote to remove that and a small garage there that needs to be taken down. He stated they met with the other contractor that was recommended by Dick Reel and his quote, after a discount from the other company if the county performs some of the work, is more than what they would pay Pavey to do the work. Commissioner Bohacek asked him to get a quick quote on what it will cost to knock down the other building and remove the slab. He said he would like to see the materials be re-claimed. Jerry Cooley indicated that there is only about 40% of the barn left. He indicated that he did talk to Pavey and they said they can salvage some of the wood if there is anything someone wants. They would have to make the request through Pavey to limit liability. Mr. Cooley said he would rather use a local company. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve using Pavey. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Consider using former Community Corrections building for storage of County Documents.**  
Commissioner Bohacek indicated that the Recorder, Barbara Dean, approached him about setting up a filing system in the old Community Corrections Building. She would like to take the records from the basement of the Courthouse to be stored in that building. Mr. Cooley indicated that St. Joe County does this and Ms. Dean has offered to take a trip with whoever would like to go to see how they run it. They have a system in place that allows for access to the records once they are stored. Commissioner Bohacek moves to start the process. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. **Consider Contract for Office of Economic Development consultant Mary Jane Thomas.**  
Attorney Friedman indicates he has reviewed the contract, there were two options, and his office is comfortable with either option. Commissioner Bohacek indicated that he would be more comfortable with an hourly rate not to exceed a certain amount. He stated that one of her duties would be to do the meeting minutes and the agenda for Redevelopment, but he can find someone who will do them for less. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve an hourly rate contract with a not to exceed amount. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- C. **Consider Contract for Office of Economic Development advisor Dave Christian.**  
Attorney Friedman indicated that his office has reviewed the contract and recommended approval. Commissioner Bohacek asked if a fixed number could be set for travel, or have him get permission from the Commissioners before he can travel overnight. Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve provided the travel requirement is met. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. **Consider authorization to Horizon Bank to initiate a single credit card account with individual cards provided to department heads per SBOA recommendation.**  
Attorney Friedman indicated that his office has worked with the Auditor's office to bring the County into compliance with the State Board of Accounts requirements. He indicated that Horizon Bank has offered to do a credit card account that allows several credit cards to be distributed to the County Departments at the discretion of the Commissioners. Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. **Consider contract for Industrial Appraisal to perform a new appraisal of the assets associated with LaPorte County in the amount of \$22,900.00.**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- F. **Consideration of contract to hire lobbyists at Lewis & Kappes to represent the county's interests opposing any reduction in WIN tax and riverboat admissions tax in the 2015 session of the Indiana Legislature.**

Attorney Friedman indicated that WIN tax and riverboat money is dropping since 2011. He recommended that the County hire Lewis & Kappes to represent the County down state and help maintain the same amount of Riverboat taxes. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**G. Mike Yacullo-Enginner-**

**a. Request permission to approach Council for approval of local match funding of Transit Triangle Bus Service in the amount of \$7,222.25.**

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

**b. Request approval of contract with Palm & Associates to perform Route Survey of Hupp Rd. in the amount of \$15,000.00 plus \$600.00 per parcel to generate parcel plats and legal descriptions.**

**c. Request permission to approach Redevelopment commission for approval of use of KIP TIF funding for contract with Palm & Associates.**

Commissioner Bohacek moves that Mr. Yacullo approach re-development to fulfill the contract. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**d. Request approval of contract with CHA Consultants to perform design services of Bridge #18 (CR 875 W over Trail Creek) in the amount of \$146,020.00.**

Commissioner Bohacek indicates he would like to see the work stay local. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**H. Request for sick pay for Lana Buckles.**

Barbara Mossman indicated that the employee is not entitled to sick pay under the current Laporte County Government policies as she has not been employed long enough. Commissioner Bohacek moves to reject. Commissioner Decker seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

**13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Decker indicated that they hate to tear down the old barn but it's just to the point where if it's only 40% you can't keep it. He indicated that the property is gorgeous and if we clean it up it will be great.

**14. ADJOURN**

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

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA