



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, March 4, 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
All Commissioners present.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kora adds Presentation by the professional team about the toll road finances and the structure. Commissioner Bohacek indicates that it can be incorporated into item D and seconds. Commissioner Bohacek also added update on the Otis Rd. Bridge to Dept. Head comments. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 18, 2015

Approval of the minutes is tabled due to the illness of the secretary.

6. CLAIMS
 - A. Payroll Ending 2/27/15-\$1,059,895.73
 - B. Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,255,962.10

Commissioner Kora moves to approve the claims as presented. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Roger Galloway appeared before the Commission to ask if there has been any talk of a truck route for Severs road. Coral Laun appeared to discuss the placement of the absentee voting during the construction of the second floor of the Courthouse.

Clay Turner appeared to indicate his full support of the toll road venture. He commended the Commission for hiring experts to work on the project.

Earl Cunningham appeared before the Commission to discuss the siding that was taken off of the old barn at the County Home. Attorney Friedman indicated that the County Commission had given permission for the barn to be torn down and awarded the contract to Pavey, he said he received a call from the County Engineer requesting a legal opinion, like he gets all the time, every day. He indicated that the Engineer stated that he missed getting the contract on the agenda for the Council by 10 minutes due to a change in the Commissioners meeting date, He said the

Engineer indicated to him that Bob Kiger, who has worked with friends of the barn, was interested in obtaining salvage from the other barn, he said at that point Pavey is in control of salvage because he's been awarded the demolition contract so a consent would need to come from him and secondly, Mr. Kiger would have to sign a hold harmless agreement that anyone working in the barns is required to sign. Commissioner Bohacek indicated that, in his opinion, the project should be re-bid.

Thor Thordason, President of IU Health, appeared before the Commission to submit a letter in support of the Interlocal agreement. *See attached Letters of Endorsement* Mayor Meier, Horizon Bank, St. Anthony's Hospital, IU Health.

Chris Pate of the United Way appeared to voice her support and the support of the United Way for the Toll Road Project. She further informed the Commission of things that are tracked by the United Way.

Jack Arnett appeared to discuss Toll Road Marketing and the economic impact that the toll road brings. He congratulated the Commission for taking action to acquire the Toll Road.

8. DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

John Jones-Michiana Insurance-Renewal of Nationwide Employee Benefits Term Life/AD&D Policy.

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance- appeared before the Commission to indicate that he is working on finding space for Adult Probation during the construction. He indicated that they have been trying to find a space for quite some time and that if anyone feels left out they can certainly get any necessary information from him.

John Jones-Michiana Insurance-Appared to discuss the merge of Harleysville Life and Nationwide, he indicated that the upcoming renewal will be on Nationwide paper and will require signatures on the proposal. Commissioner Bohacek asked if all that changed was the name of the firm and Mr. Jones said yes. Commissioner Bohacek moves to have Commissioner Decker sign on behalf of the board. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. **Mike Yacullo**-County Engineer-Appared to give an update on the Otis road bridge. He discussed three options that would remedy the situation and requested permission to go to the Council to see which option they would like to choose. Commissioner Bohacek moves to allow Mr. Yacullo to go to the Council. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Robert Young-County Highway-Appared to discuss the bidding of asphalt. He stated that Reith and Riley has offered to extend their bid and they also have the option to bid it out to attempt to get a more competitive bid. He recommended that it be bid out to open it up to other contractors. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. He further indicated that it may be necessary to initiate the frost law soon depending on the weather.

Lynne Spevak-Clerk-Appared to indicate to the Commission that she did not remember receiving the call regarding the re-location of Adult Probation. She wanted to know what is going to happen with absentee voting. Commissioner Bohacek indicated that he has sent out emails discussing the situation and that the Clerk was copied on those emails.

Randy Novak-County Council-Appared to suggest that the News Dispatch building in Michigan City was offered as an option for the re-location of Adult Probation issue.

Barb Mossman- Human Resources-Appared to give an update on the Shared Ethics Advisory Commission. She also introduced Jeremy Solvecki, the new Parks Superintendent. Mr. Solvecki introduced himself and said he is glad to be back in LaPorte.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

None

10. REQUESTS

- A. **Birehfield Memorial Foundation Inc.- \$500 LPCCVB Funds for Annual Event.**
 - B. **Great Lakes Auto Club-Request for LPCCVB funds in the amount of \$500.00 for Labor Dayz Show & Shine.**
 - C. **Mitch Bishop-County Planner-Request to approach County Council for money to make ADA improvements.**
 - D. **Hanna Lions Club-Request for \$500.00 LPCCVB funds for Hanna Fest 2015.**
 - E. **Pioneer Land-Request for \$500.00 LPCCVB funds for Christmas Open House.**
- Commissioner Decker took a motion to approve all the requests for the LPCCVB funds. Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve. Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
- Mitch Bishop appeared to request permission to approach the Council for ADA improvements. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Open Bids for Sheriff Vehicles.**

Attorney Friedman opened the bids for the Sheriff Vehicles and read the bids. Commissioner Kora moves to show the bids as received and refer them to the Sheriff's Department for review. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. **Mike Yacullo-County Engineer-Recommendation for bid award of Superior Court 3 renovation.**

Mike Yacullo appeared and recommended the bid be awarded to Tonn and Blank Construction.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Robert Young-Hwy Superintendent- Request to spend \$126,000.00 from CREDIT to purchase 20 new plows at \$6,300.00 each.**
- Robert Young appeared and requested permission to go to the Council for funding of new snow plows. Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds and recommends that Mr. Young take pictures of the old plows. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. **Consider Ordinance expanding Redevelopment Commission from five to seven members, Ordinance No. 2015-02.**

Attorney Friedman indicated that the Statute has changed and now allows for seven members instead of three and that the County Council can also make appointments. Commissioner Bohacek moves to adopt the ordinance as presented by title and waive the rules and approve on first reading. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

C. **Consider amended engagement of Goldstein & McClintock to reflect county consortium bid.**

Attorney Friedman indicated that in Oct, 2014, the Commission engaged the firm of Goldstein & McClintock to research the viability of making a bid for the Toll Road. He stated that the original contract was written at a rate of 25% contingency and that the typical agreement of this nature would include a bond percentage as well. The amendment is .33% of any bond transaction that is consummated. He recommended acceptance. Commissioner Bohacek asked if that amount came to 3.3 Million per Billion. Attorney Friedman said that is correct and that is what professionals on all sides make in these situations. Commissioner Kora asked if this is the standard and Attorney Friedman indicated that it is. Commissioner Bohacek then indicated that the money coming out of the bond is not

Commissioner Decker thanked Krieg Devault, Goldstein McClintock, and Piper Jaffrays, because we took an idea to them and these people were just amazing. The initial bid was put together in 2 weeks and about 2 days, which is unheard of, and when people say that government doesn't work, I'm gonna tell ya what, under this circumstance, government is working. It's working for the people of Northern Indiana right now, all that this toll road goes through. So I appreciate all of your help, you've been fantastic, I don't know anybody else that could have put all of this together, so thank you.

14. ADJOURN

Commissioner Bohacek moves to adjourn.

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

DATE _____

Decker

Bohacek

MARR

ATTEST: _____

Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA