



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LAPORTE COUNTY

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Dave Decker,
President

Dr. Vidya Kora,
Vice President

Michael Bohacek,
Member

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MINUTES

LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, September 2, 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 were present.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Commissioner Kora adds one item to New Business, to formally ratify the committee to discuss the Proposed Well Ordinance. Commissioner Bohacek seconds as amended. Commissioner Kora moved to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. **August 19, 2015**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
 - A. **Payroll Ending 8/28/15-\$1,039,931.74**
 - B. **Miscellaneous Claims-\$772,703.82**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
There was no public comment.
8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Bob Young-County Hwy- Appeared before the Commission to inform them that he was contacted by the South Bend National Guard, he indicated that they need a place to practice night vision driving and he has secured permission for them to do it at the Fair Grounds. He stated that he will let the Commissioners know more about what the dates for the practice are.

John Boyd-Sheriff-Appeared to give the Commission a progress report on the installation of the grinders in his detective bureau. He indicated that the grinders have been installed and they are pleased with the quality of the work associated with the installation. He said the next project will be to paint and to install carpet. He stated that he was pleased that the contractors who did the work are local, and he expressed a great appreciation for the relationship between his department and building maintenance.

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance- Appeared to discuss the ADA bathrooms. He distributed a copy of the revised estimate for the bathrooms to the Commissioners. He stated that for the first floor bathroom in the complex the estimate is around \$25,000.00. He said the upstairs bathroom is more extensive and would be around \$50,000.00 to upgrade. He asked the Commission how they would like him to proceed. He asked if they wanted to do it in phases over the course of the remainder of this year into next year. Commissioner Kora indicated that this is a very important project and advised Mr. Cooley to approach the Council for funding and indicated that the Council can decide if it's necessary to do the job in phases. Commissioner Bohacek recommended that he get a proposal for the whole project and move forward to get it resolved. Mr. Cooley then indicated that construction in the Courthouse is moving along well, he said they are starting to paint. He stated that Tonn and Blank has a goal to be finished by the end of September.

Mike Yacullo-County Engineer-Appeared to inform the Commission that the road connecting to the Frontage Road by Culvers is complete. He thanked the Council and Commission for making that happen. Commissioner Bohacek asked Mr. Yacullo to contact a trustee that had inquired about a road, Mr. Yacullo indicated that he would do so.

Andrew McGuire- Appeared to inform the Commission that LaPorte County EMS was named the ALS Provider of the Year. He said it is the 5th time they have won this award. He stated that he is very proud of the hard work and dedication shown by his employees as they provide care to the community.

Jeff Hamilton-Hazmat-Appeared to inform the Commissioners that on October 10, 2015 his office, in conjunction with others, will be conducting a very large mock disaster.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**
None

10. **REQUESTS**

- A. **John Espar-Prosecutor-Request to travel to Washington for training-Catherine Breitweiser-Hurst to appear.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. **John Espar-Prosecutor-Request to lease vehicle-Christine Harlow to appear.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to have the Prosecutor's Office forward a copy of the lease to the county attorney for review. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Bohacek indicated that his motion would be to approve the request pending the attorney review.
- C. **Larry Butcher-EMA-Request to travel to Georgia for training.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote. Mr. Butcher asked for permission to attend a conference in Texas. Commissioner Kora moved to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconded with the condition that Mr. Butcher forward a written request to the Commissioners. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. **Jeff Hamilton-Hazmat-Request permission to purchase new vehicle for \$65,000.00.**
Commissioner Bohacek asked Mr. Hamilton to forward the specs of the vehicle to him so he can investigate the possibility of leasing a vehicle. Commissioner Kora made a motion for Mr. Hamilton to approach the Council for funding based on the findings of Commissioner Bohacek. Commissioner Bohacek seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. **Joie Winski-Auditor-Request to pay family of Lisa Parrett-Hock balance of sick days accrued.**
Commissioner Bohacek moved to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Mike Yacullo-Engineer-Bid opening for Michigan City Superior Courthouse roof repairs.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to close the bids. Commissioner Kora seconds. Bid turned over to Mr. Yacullo for review. Motion made by Commissioner Bohacek and seconded by Commissioner Kora. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Bohacek moved to give Mr. Yacullo permission to approach the Council for funding. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. **Consider renewed request to County Council to address County Planner salary issue/comparison with other comparably situated Planners.**
The Commissioners discussed the various reasons to increase Mr. Bishops wages. Commissioner Kora moves to forward the request to the Council. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Consider approval of Settlement with Detleve and Colleen Nickerson for damages from snow plow in the amount of \$2,584.04.**
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
- B. **Larry Butcher-EMS- Recognition by EMA Director of EMS personnel involved in life saving rescue at recent Grand Prix event**
Larry Butcher presented awards to the EMS personnel.

13. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Bohacek thanked Lisa Parrett's family for giving us the opportunity to work with her, he offered his deepest condolences to her family and her children.
Commissioner Kora commended and thanked the emergency services for the wonderful service they provide to our community.
Commissioner Decker echoed the statements of the other Commissioners and stated that we have the best employees and best trained employees of any county around, and he said that we have, unfortunately, had many instances that proved the quality of our employees.

14. **ADJOURN**

The Commissioners moved to adjourn.

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

Signature

msjrc

ATTEST: _____ Auditor

COUNTY, INDIANA