



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LAPORTE COUNTY

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202

LaPorte, IN 46350-3400

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

Dave Decker,
President

Dr. Vidya Kora,
Vice President

Michael Bohacek,
Member

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

MINUTES LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

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 added appointment of advisory board member for Johnson Township under New Business. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve as amended. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. **October 5, 2016**
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
 - A. **Payroll Ending 10/07/2016-\$1,042,453.15**
Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,053,979.30
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
No public comment.
8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Jack Arnett-Visitor's Bureau- appeared before the Commission to inform them that they have been working on collecting inn keeper's tax and have successfully collected over \$160,000.00 with the help of the Treasurer's office. He recognized Amy Riley from his office and Kelly Wozniak from the Treasurer's office for their efforts in helping to find the parties who owed taxes.

Rick Brown and Mike Polan-MS4-appeared before the Commission to inform them of donor bricks in the Commissioners name at plaza 618. He indicated that MS4 was able to make a donation to the plaza and they arranged for the bricks to be put in for the Commission and for other government entities that they work with.

Darlene Hale-IT-indicated they have been working with several departments to create a new building and Zoning application for the Building and Planning department and will be asking for signature on a contract that will be funded by the other departments. She indicated that it is all web-based and will allow people to get permits on the weekend with no problem. She then indicated that Randy Novak asked if the Commissioners would donate the old microphones from the meeting room to Michigan City. Commissioner Bohacek moves to declare the old microphones surplus property so they can be donated to Michigan City. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

George Watkins-Veterans Services-appeared to inform the Commission of Operation Stand Down which is dentists in the county who are going to do free exams for vets who have no insurance. 362-5205 is the number to call for an appointment, he recommends that you schedule early. He said that in Michigan City at noon the remembering our veteran's parade will be from 10th street to 4th street. He also said that the November 11 th veterans ceremony at the civic begins at 9:30 and the medal presentation will be in the complex meeting room at 10 a.m.

Jeremy Sobecki-County Parks-appeared to commend the Sheriff and Bobby Blair for their help with downed trees in trail creek. He said they also cleared some brush in Red Mill and made it look much better. He then talked about the house in Red Mill that needs to be torn down. He indicated that Bob Young said they could take it down. Commissioner Bohacek moves to demolish the structure with the help of County Highway. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Lyn Spevak-appeared to give the Commission an update on the election.

Sheriff John Boyd-Sheriff-Appeared to inform the Commission of Operation Pill Drop that is taking place throughout the United States, he said in LaPorte County they are accepting unwanted and unused pills between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Oct. 22. He further indicated that they accept unused pills 24 hours a day. He said that last night they teamed with other local police agencies and targeted sex and violent offenders in LaPorte County, they checked on every offender against children to be sure they are registered, and put them on notice that they are checking them. He said they did arrest one violent offender and they identified 5 other non-compliant offenders. Attorney Friedman indicated that the Indianapolis Star recognized Sheriff Boyd and the LaPorte County Sherriff's department in an article regarding the high density drug grant that he is participating in.

Jerry Cooley-Maintenance-Appeared to inform the Commissioners about the tree that was donated by Healthy Communities of LaPorte County. He indicated that there was a ceremony and that he realized at that ceremony how important it is to have ceremonies like that. He also thanked LaPorte Nursery for their great discount and assistance with a not for profit organization. He also said that generators are now being installed and that there is a lot to do with the electrical markings in the buildings. He also said that he will not be turning the heat back on in the County Home and that he knows that people will be touring it.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

10. **REQUESTS**

11. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Surveyor Tony Hendricks-Update on proposed long term plan to resolve flooding/drainage issues at Jongkind Park.**

Tony Hendricks appeared to discuss the plan to resolve flooding in Jonkind Park. Tom Ruda appeared to discuss the issue as well.

B. **Update from county liability agent-of-record on status of reimbursement check from county theft carrier Chubb Insurance in Mary Ray case.**

John Clingemyer from Michiana Insurance appeared to inform the Commissioners that they have worked diligently to close the claim and reimburse the monies that were stolen during employee theft. He presented a check for \$152,002.46. He indicated that they have worked with the Auditor to put proper protection in place to deter this from happening in the future.

Attorney Friedman submitted a report to be placed into the record. (see attachment)

Commissioner Kora moved to place the report into the record. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Attorney Doug Beige-Consideration of stormwater management easement proposed by MS4 to deal with flooding issues at Loeffler Park subdivision.**

Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve and to allow the President to sign. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

B. **Consider settlement in Samm/Kleine v. LaPorte County litigation in the amount of \$7,500 – Attorney Sean Quinn.**

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

C. **Consider approval of 2017 Holidays.**

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

13. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Bohacek indicated that October is Down Syndrome Awareness month. He also said he purchased Billy the Bison, the Bicentennial Bison, he said he is at the Michiana Shores town hall and he will open him to travel and he will eventually land at the museum.

Commissioner Kora thanked Mitch Bishop for taking around the Bicentennial Bison. He also said that he has been asked about Regional Cities. He showed a video that shows the downsides of the Regional Cities.

Commissioner Decker indicated that once you are in an RDA you can't get out.

14. **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Kora moved to adjourn.

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

ATTEST: _____ Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA