



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## LA PORTE COUNTY

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**Richard Mrozinski,**  
President

**Michael Gonder,**  
Vice President

**Dr. Vidya Kora,**  
Member

### Minutes

La Porte County Commissioners meeting held on April 5, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

La Porte County Complex Meeting Room #3

#### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Richard Mrozinski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mrozinski asked that all non-essential personnel please turn off cell phones. Attorney Doug Biege led us in the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

#### ROLL CALL

Chief Deputy Auditor Andrea Smith took Roll Call. Commissioner Mrozinski - present. Commissioner Gonder - present. Commissioner Kora - present. A quorum was present and the meeting commenced.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Kora made a motion to amend the agenda by correcting the second item under New Business from Johnson Road/400 W to Johnson Rd/400 N. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gonder made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried.

#### CLAIMS

Chief Deputy Auditor Andrea Smith read the Claims of: Payroll ending 3-24-2017 - \$1,114,694.23 and miscellaneous \$854,842.97. Commissioner Kora made a motion to accept the claims. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

*Bob Young - Highway Dept* - Requested permission to hire two full time employees. One temporary for the La Porte District and one permanent for the Hanna District. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*George Watkins - Veterans Service Officer* - Commented on his trip to West Lafayette for Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Program held at the Indiana Veterans Home. Blue Chip is hosting a Job Fair today 1-4pm.

*Lynne Spevak - Treasurer* - For Public information Stated Tax Bills were currently being printed. Should be in the mail within 7-10 days.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

None

#### REQUESTS

*LPCCVB - Hanna Fest and Pioneer Land* each requested \$500 for their events. Commissioner Kora moved to approve. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*Northwest Athletic Club* requested road closures for Annual Dyngus Day Dash on April 17, 2017. Commissioner Gonder moved to approve. Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried.

*Leigh Morris and Jim Jessup - Better Government Study Group - Requested permission to approach County Council for joint funding of a LPCO Strategic Plan.* Commissioner Kora stated county does have a Planner and Economic Development Director, suggested a meeting should be set up for all members to discuss the plan. Commissioner Kora moved to approve the meeting with County Planner. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

*Consider the final Property Sale Agreement between La Porte County and CSX Transportation for signatures.* Commissioner Kora moved to approve. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*Consider the approval of a Consulting Contract for improving the intersection of Johnson Rd and 400 N.* Commissioner Kora moved to approve. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*Jody Melton - NIRPC - Consider resigning Resolution 2014-04 for NWIEDD.* Commissioner Kora moved to approve and RENAME Resolution 2017-4. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*Consider the Commissioners' appointment for the Community Corrections Board of Trustees for Jim Arnold to replace Larry Trueblood who resigned.* Commissioner Kora moved to approve Mr. Arnold. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*Jerry Sullivan - County Engineer - Consider funding for Bridge Projects.* Commissioner Kora moved to approve. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

*Paul Spite - AFD Consulting - Discussion on future of the County Home - local architect.* Mr. Spite gave a brief Bio of himself. Stated County Home would be good for a Drug Rehab but security is one issue he saw when he drove past the facility. Commissioner Mrozinski responded he'd be more than welcome to allow Mr. Spite to tour the home. Commissioner Kora stated Funding is the main concern right now. Two options for the empty building has been either a Treatment Center or Senior Housing. Cost has been estimated at 8-10 million dollars to repair the building.

#### COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioners Kora and Gonder commented on Commissioner Mrozinski's vacation to Florida. President Mrozinski commented on Veterans Service Office will be opening an office in the Michigan City courthouse. Several projects that the county is working on. Road projects will be picking up. President Mrozinski also stated Building Maintenance Supervisor Rich Gramarossa is doing a great job.

#### ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.