



# 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

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the La Porte County Complex Meeting Room #3 at 6:00 p.m.

#### CALL TO ORDER

President Mrozinski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mrozinski asked Terry Ritter to lead the group with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ROLL CALL

Auditor Joie Winski called the roll: Commissioner Gonder - Present; Commissioner Kora - Present, Commissioner Mrozinski - Present. Quorum therefore meeting commenced.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kora moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Commissioners' appointment to the Job Evaluation Committee under New Business. Commissioner Gonder seconded with adding Commissioners' appointment to the Community Corrections Advisory Board under New Business. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### APPROVAL OF THE JULY 5, 2017 MINUTES

Commissioner Kora motioned to approve the minutes from the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

#### CLAIMS

Auditor Joie Winski read the claims with Payroll ending 7-14-2017 - \$1,117,616.10 and then Miscellaneous - \$575,312.57. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve the claims as read. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Kobos - Questioned the 20 page draft document that was sent to the Plan Commission. President Mrozinski stated the draft was a dead issue.

Terry Ritter - Stated he wanted to make the Commissioners aware of county highway employees carrying handguns on the job. He stated he was threatened. President Mrozinski asked if he reported it to the Sheriff's department which Terry replied yes.

Dennis Metheny - 6757 W. 450 N. MC - Questioned the machine still sitting on Johnson Rd. County Attorney Doug Biege replied machine caught fire, he was contacted by the attorney from the insurance company requesting the machine stay in place until adjusters could investigate the incident. Attorney Biege has been notified the adjusters are done so he has drafted a letter to the owner of said machine to remove it - Dennis publicly requested a copy of that letter - he was instructed to request it in writing.

#### DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Jay Sullivan - County Engineer - Reported on the Franklin Street Bridge at the request of Commissioner Kora. Stated the bridge is operational. Jay has spoken to both the engineer who has inspected the bridge and the electrician from Marquiss Electric and there are no more options if any electrical issue come up. Conduit has collapsed and wiring is not in good shape. Jay stated the electrician recommended 3 lines go under the water to the other side of the creek - power, communications and emergency communication lines. Currently emergency uses walkie-talkies. Jay said 2 lines were necessary. Jay stated this was information only for this meeting to bring Commissioners up to date on the bridge.

**COPY**

Lynne Spevak - County Treasurer - Vendor Service Agreement with American Financial Credit Services that provide demand notices for the collection of personal and mobile home taxes. Commissioner Kora moved to approve the agreement for signatures. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried. Treasurer Spevak stated County Tax Sales are scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>. She would like this to be on our county website. She also announced next year Mobile Homes will be added to the Tax Sale list as per Senate Bill 455 for unpaid taxes.

Darlene Hale - IT - Announced the county website is up and events are being added by different departments.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**REQUESTS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

President Mrozinski read a statement from Veterans Service Officer George Watkins:

Northern Indiana Health Care System - Enrollment and Eligibility

3 August 2017 - 10:00am to 2:30pm - La Porte County Complex meeting room #2

"Veterans Administration employees will be on hand to help determine eligibility and assist any veterans with the enrollment process. They will also be available to answer any questions veterans may have in regards to the VA and its component parts. Please bring a copy of your DD form 214."

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner's appointment to the Shared Ethics Advisory Board will be Connie Gramarossa who replaces Karen Biernacki who resigned. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve the appointment. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

Attorney Shaw Friedman - Consideration of proposed settlement in the matter of *Michael Jones v. La Porte County Sheriff's Department et al.* Commissioner Kora moved to approve the settlement. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

Darlene Hale and Jeff Wlatrowski - Consider the contract for Emergency Notification System - RAVE. EMA Director Larry Butcher, Jeff and Darlene proposed the notification system RAVE for our county for the next five years. Money is in the budget under Telephones account. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried. Contract requires one signature from the Commissioners and Commissioner Kora motioned for President Mrozinski to sign. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried, President Mrozinski proceeded with his signature. Commissioner Kora motioned for Commissioners' appointment of Richard Mrozinski to the Job Evaluation Committee under La Porte County Council Ordinance 2017-5. Commissioner Gonder seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gonder motioned for Commissioners' appointment of Jackie Dermody to the La Porte County Community Corrections Advisory Board replacing Dennis Metheny. Commissioner Mrozinski stepped down and seconded.

Commissioner Kora abstained. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

President Mrozinski stated it is paving season. Everyone needs to slow down. Reported accident today on Hwy 20 and 300 East in Kankakee Township.

**ADJOURN**

President Mrozinski motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

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

DATE 8-2-2017

Richard Mrozinski  
Michael W Gonder

ATTEST: V. Kora  
Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA