

LA PORTE COUNTY **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Sheila Matias, **President**

Dr. Vidya Kora, **Vice President**

Richard Mrozinski, Member

LA PORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, January 8, 2020 La Porte County Complex Meeting Room #3 at 10:00 a.m.

Auditor Joie Winski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Assistant Diane Gonzales called the roll: Commissioner Kora - Present; Commissioner Matias - Present; Commissioner Mrozinski - Present. Quorum present therefore meeting commenced.

Auditor Joie Winski stated the first order of business will be Election of Officers. Commissioner Vidya Kora nominated Commissioner Sheila Matias for President. Commissioner Rich Mrozinski seconded the nomination. Motion carried. Auditor Winski congratulated President Sheila Matias then handed the gavel to her. Commissioner Matias nominated Commissioner Kora for Vice President. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried. Officers for the 2020 Year are as follows: President Sheila Matias; Vice President Vidya Kora and Member Richard Mrozinski.

Considered the agenda. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to amend the agenda by adding:

- 1. "Consider Commissioners' meeting dates for 2020 year"
- 2. "Set minimum bids for the Commissioners' deed sale" and
- 3. "Approve signature on renewed DCS grant for Juvenile Service Center." Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to accept the agenda with the additional items. Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried.

Considered approval of December 16, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner

Auditor Joie Winski read the claims with Payroll ending 12/20/2019 - \$1,230,472.73 and 1/3/2020 -\$1,176,023.09 and Miscellaneous claims of \$1,448,145.43. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kora read titles and names then motioned to appoint the following Department Heads and Professional

Insurance Agencies of Record - Michiana Insurance and General Insurance Services

County Financial Advisor - Cender and Company

County Attorney - Friedman and Associates

Commissioners' Executive Assistant - Diane Gonzales

Animal Shelter Director - Jane Bernard

Community Corrections Director - Robert Neary

Assistant Community Corrections Director - Sojourner Atwater

County Engineer "Acting" - Jerry "Jay" Sullivan

County Highway Superintendent - Bob Young Jan 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2020 then Duane Werner July 1, 2020 thru Dec 31, 2020.

Director of Planning and Regulatory Affairs - Mitch Bishop

Director of Office of Community & Economic Development - Tony Rodriguez

EMA Director/Planning - Larry Butcher



EMS Director - Andrew McGuire

E-911 Director - Steve Alt

IT Director - Darlene Hale

Museum Curator - Keri Teller Jakubowski

Parks & Recreation Director - Jeremy Sobecki

Building Commissioner - Annemarie Polan

Right to Know/Hazmat - Jeff Hamilton

Maintenance Director - Larry Levendowski

Veterans' Service Officer - Joe Golec

Inspector of Weights & Measures - Mike Quinn

Commissioner Mrozinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kora read titles and names then motioned to appoint the following people to Boards and Commissions:

La Porte County Public Library Board - Dava Buell

La Porte County Alcohol & Beverage Board – John McDaniel

Animal Control - LuAnn Troxel, Lisa Polazzi, DVM and Dr. Patrick Dorroh

County Board of Health - Monique Thomas and Dr. Patrick Dorroh

Drainage Board - District 1 Steve Mrozinski, District 2 John Coulter and At-Large Sarah Haefner

Pioneer Cemetery Commission - Patricia Harris

Plan Commission - Glen Minich, Harold Parker and John Carr

Redevelopment Commission – Joe Coar, Terry Larson and Scott Cooley. A non-voting member will be appointed at a later date. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kora read into the record and motioned to appoint the following liaison positions:

County Highway - Commissioner Matias

Regional Bus Authority - Commissioner Mrozinski

County Home - Commissioner Mrozinski

Plan Commission - Commissioner Mrozinski

Right to Know/Hazmat - Commissioner Matias

NIRPC - Commissioner Matias

Animal Control - Commissioner Mrozinski

Workforce Development - Commissioner Kora

Redevelopment Commission - Commissioner Kora

Drainage Board - Commissioner Mrozinski

E-911 – Commissioner Matias

Juvenile Services - Commissioner Matias

Solid Waste - Commissioners Matias, Kora, and Mrozinski

Kankakee River Basin Commission - Commissioner Matias

Local Planning Council - Commissioner Kora

La Porte County Fair Board - Commissioner Mrozinski

Fairgrounds Events & Management Corporation - Commissioner Matias

Community Corrections - Commissioner Kora

Weights & Measures - Commissioner Matias

Commissioner Mrozinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Considered Designation of Publication: Legal Notice/Commission Meetings Agenda/Public Notice. Commissioner Kora motioned to accept the designated newspapers for publications – La Porte Herald-Argus; Michigan City News Dispatch and Westville Indicator. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment

None



Department Head Comments

Darlene Hale – Information Technology Director – Updated Commissioners on migrating email addresses on the server. New email address of **lpco.in.gov** will start soon. Commissioner Kora asked if there will be a dual authentication for safety. There will be additional cost for the dual authentication.

Larry Levendowski – Director of Facilities – Reported the building of the new EMS facility is right on schedule. Bob Young – Highway Superintendent – Informed the Commissioners that an accident that occurred with a highway dump truck at Wilhelm Road and Highway 20 is a loss of \$45,000 for the 2006 truck. Approximately \$20,000 could be salvaged in parts that would go towards a new truck. Bob requested permission to approach the County Council for a new truck. Attorney Shaw Friedman suggested Bob wait until the 15th of January's meeting. Commissioner Kora stated he attended a County Council meeting and said Bob should be specific on the request.

President Sheila Matias stated all Department Heads need to schedule a report with the Executive Assistant to be given at each Commissioners meeting. Elected Officials are welcome to participate.

Old Business

Considered opening Sheriff Fuel Bids – John Boyd, Sheriff. Sheriff John Boyd stated no bids came in therefore he would like to advertise again.

President Sheila Matias stated the added items to the agenda would be discussed now. Considered Commissioners' meeting dates for the 2020 year. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Kora seconded. Motion carried.

Considered setting minimum bids for the Commissioners' deed sale. Commissioner Kora read the minimums bids then motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered approval for signature on renewing DCS grant for Juvenile Service Center. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

Considered opening Bituminous Material and Hot Asphalt Concrete bids – Bob Young, Highway Superintendent. County Attorney Shaw Friedman opened the sealed bids and read them into the record.

Class 11 – Bituminous Materials: Two Bidders: Bit-Mat Products of Indiana Asphalt Materials

Class 12 - Hot Asphalt Concrete

Two Bidders:

Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.

Walsh & Kelly, Inc.

Commissioner Kora motioned to accept the timely received bids and give them to Bob Young for review. Bob said he would take the 4 bids next door in Room 2 for review. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered renewal of contract with Tony Rodriguez, Director of Office of Community Affairs and Economic Development. Attorney Friedman stated no changes were in the current contract from last year. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered granting permission to Planner Mitch Bishop to proceed with advertising for paving work bids for Community Crossings grant. Commissioner Kora motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.



Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Rich Mrozinski stated the Commissioners accomplished a lot in the 2019 year. On the national level Pray for our Troops.

Commissioner Kora also said Pray for our Troops; work on Infrastructure; TIF districts; KIP switch; continue Broadband and work with the other local government entities.

Commissioner Matias reminded everyone to sign up for RAVE; reported on the website; Economic Development; Transparency and Thanked the other Commissioners for electing her President.

Adjournment

President Matias adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

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