



**LA PORTE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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**Sheila Matias
President**

**Dr. Vidya Kora
Vice President**

**Richard Mrozinski
Member**

Special Commissioners' Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 La Porte County Complex Room 3 at 5:00 p.m.

President Sheila Matias called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.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.

Considered the agenda. Commissioner Kora motioned to accept the agenda. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered adoption of amended La Porte County COVID-19 Employee and Operations Policy. Barb Mossman, Human Resources, read into the minutes this Policy which is attached. Commissioner Kora motioned to accept the amended policy. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried. Attorney Shaw Friedman stated previously adopted policy has been modified in consistent with federal guidelines.

Considered adoption of FMLA Leave Expansion and Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy. Barb Mossman, Human Resources, read into the minutes this Policy which is attached here. Commissioner Kora motioned to accept the agenda. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried. Attorney Shaw Friedman clarified the new act does not cover law enforcement, correctional officers, public health and EMS. It does not mandate coverage so it is discretionary with the governmental units about providing paid sick leave if an issue should arise in a particular department. Commissioner Kora suggested a 4x4 card to simplify the information. President Matias stated creating scenarios might be a good idea as well.

Considered setting date for joint workshop with County Council to discuss unified request for additional appropriation to pay for non-budgeted personal protection equipment (PPE), supplies, material, extra hire, and any overtime required to assist La Porte County government personnel during Covid-19 emergency. Date set for Wednesday, April 15 at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Rich Mrozinski said he was good with the meeting on the 15th. Everybody hang in there and continue doing what they are doing. We are all in this together and we will get through it.

Commissioner Vidya Kora echoed Commissioner Mrozinski. Dr. Kora stated currently La Porte County has 29 confirmed cases and 3 deaths. COVID-19 is a vicious disease and should be taken seriously. Although people can have minor symptoms, like the flu, those few that do experience severe symptoms can be brutal. Basically the lungs get whiteout, the person cannot breathe and may be put on a ventilator. Once on a ventilator the chances of coming off the ventilator is 1 out of 2 or even less. A very serious disease not to be taken lightly.

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Commissioner Sheila Matias stated how lucky we are to have Dr. Kora as a Commissioner with his experience and knowledge. Social media has been followed showing possible 'hoax' and taking people's rights away. Simply not true. Continue social distancing and let that be your contribution to your community.

Commissioner Kora reminded us this is spread from person to person by droplets. Washing your hands and wearing a mask helps to reduce the spread of this disease. If you are in a public place you may not be aware of this disease on items so please sanitize your hands. Remember M.E.N. Mouth, Eyes and Nose. Avoid touching these on your face because this is the source for the disease to enter your body.

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

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

DATE 5-16-2020

Sheila Matias
Richard M. [Signature] V. [Signature]

ATTEST: _____ Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

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