



**LA PORTE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202**

**La Porte, IN 46350-3400**

**Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 2229**

**Richard Mrozinski  
President**

**Joseph Haney  
Vice President**

**Sheila Matias  
Member**

**LA PORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, February 3, 2020 La Porte County Complex Meeting Room 3 at 10:00 a.m.  
via Zoom/In-Person**

**President Rich Mrozinski** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Auditor Tim Stabosz** called the roll: Commissioner Matias - Present; Commissioner Haney - Present; Commissioner Mrozinski - Present. Quorum present therefore meeting commenced.

**Considered** the agenda. **Commissioner Matias** motioned to accept the agenda. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried.**

**Considered** approval of January 20, 2021 minutes. **Commissioner Matias** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried.**

**Auditor Tim Stabosz** read the Claims with Payroll ending 1/29/2021 - \$1,213,508.87 and Operating Expense Claims - \$477,671.47. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Matias** seconded. **Motion carried.**

**Correspondence**

**Vaughn Galloway** - Larry Levendowski recognition. Commissioner Haney read the correspondence into the record. **\*\*\*Attached to the minutes**

**Public Comment**

**Timothy Stabosz** - 1501 Michigan Avenue La Porte - "As County Auditor I am extremely uncomfortable with what I saw transpire at your last meeting. What I witnessed was Commissioner Matias representing that Commissioner Haney was incorrectly placed on the Redevelopment Commission. At your first meeting in January owing to a so-called Scrivener's error. Let's be clear – a Scrivener's error is a mistakenly written down name – or typed. When I, as Auditor, asked who the Scrivener was, instead of saying it was the secretary to the Commission, the logical person, Commissioner Mrozinski stated, 'I was.' He then went on to explain not how Haney's name was innocuously scribed wrong by Mrozinski himself on a laundry list of appointments but how after discussing it with certain members of the RDC, it was decided that Mrozinski's lengthy experience in RDC matters, argued for *his* being the RDC appointment and that it quote, wasn't about Joe, unquote. But if such is the case why not simply admit that the Haney appointment was a mistake and acknowledge to a fellow Commissioner as such beforehand with regret instead of misrepresenting it as the fault of an errant pen."

**Attorney Shaw Friedman**, "Mr. President, may I interrupt for a second?" **President Mrozinski**, "I was going to ask what is the point here." **Tim Stabosz**, "I'm a little confused as to why I'm being interrupted in Public Comment." **Attorney Friedman**, "Because it violates section 7 of the policy of this Board which is 'Remarks

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by any persons addressing the Board which reflect adversely upon the character and motives of any other person or group are out of order' and I'm simply pointing that out." **Tim Stabosz**, "I'm reporting facts that occurred at the Commissioners meeting." **Attorney Friedman**, "I understand that Mr. Stabosz." **President Mrozinski**, "All of this is in the minutes of the last meeting so ..." **Tim Stabosz**, "I would love to finish my 3 minute statement." **President Mrozinski**, "...it's ancient history, it's done, it's over with so if you would like to read the rules there for Public Comment, ok?" **Tim Stabosz**, "I would like to finish." **President Mrozinski**, "...and you're in violation, we're not going to have it." **Tim Stabosz**, "I would like to finish my statement." **President Mrozinski**, "Not if it's going to continue in the vain, you're not. I'm running the meeting, you're not. We're going to go by the rules. So, if you're going to continue to criticize people for decisions that they've had to make..." **Tim Stabosz**, "I'm asking for my 3 minutes as a citizen and as the Auditor of La Porte County so..." **Attorney Friedman**, "Mr. Stabosz, read the rules..." **Tim Stabosz**, "I'm confused why you're talking *again* Counselor." **Attorney Friedman**, "Because it is a rule of procedure Mr. Stabosz, it's been adopted..." **Tim Stabosz**, "You like to run these meetings, don't you Counselor?" **Attorney Friedman**, "No sir, no sir." **Tim Stabosz**, "Yes, you do." **President Mrozinski**, "Alright, we're done here. Sit down." **Commissioner Matias**, "Point of order." **Commissioner Haney**, "I would..." **President Mrozinski**, "Anybody else from the public have a comment?" **Commissioner Haney**, "I would move to allow Mr. Stabosz to finish his comments." **President Mrozinski**, "Well, I'm running the meeting and I'm saying he's not doing it because he's not going by the rules. He *is* going to go by the rules..." **Tim Stabosz**, "You haven't heard enough of what I said to know if whether I'm going by the rules or not." **President Mrozinski**, "I've heard all I need to hear sir. I'd ask you to sit down..." **Commissioner Haney**, "I move to overrule the chair." **President Mrozinski**, "...or I will call security." **Tim Stabosz**, "I'm waiting to hear from Commissioner Haney." **Commissioner Haney**, "I move to overrule the chair on this to allow Mr. Stabosz to finish his 3 minute public comment." **President Mrozinski**, "And you'd need 3 votes for that and you're not getting it." **Tim Stabosz**, "I'm sorry, what did you say Commissioner?" **President Mrozinski**, "I said you would need 3 votes to make a motion." **Commissioner Haney**, "Not to make the motion, to pass I would need 2, and I made the motion." **President Mrozinski**, "Have a seat." **Commissioner Haney**, "Point of order, there is a motion on the floor." **Attorney Friedman**, "What's your motion?" **Commissioner Haney**, "My motion is to overrule the Chair to allow Mr. Stabosz his 3 minutes of public comment." **Attorney Friedman**, "Then you can take it to a vote." **President Mrozinski**, "Is there a second? Motion dies for lack of a second. Sit down." **Tim Stabosz**, "I think this is a disgusting commentary in this Commission." **President Mrozinski**, "Yeah, whatever you think is right." **Tim Stabosz**, "That you won't allow the Auditor of La Porte County to finish his 3 minute statement. This will be released to the media. Let's hope they publish it and Friedman doesn't keep it from being published." **President Mrozinski**, "Beat the drum all you want, you're not going to change history. If you're unhappy with your station in life, move on. Any other Public comment?" **Tim Stabosz** (from his seat as Auditor), "That's a false characterization."

**Mike Sandy**, "I would like to comment." **President Mrozinski**, "Is that Mike Sandy?" **Mike Sandy**, "Yes." **Commissioner Mrozinski**, "I thought so." **Mike Sandy**, "So my name is Mike Sandy. I'm a member of the Board of Health and I've been there for 30 + years. Our board has always been - tried to be a non-partisan and its set up that way with the equal amount of Democrats and Republicans. I've come here because it upsets me that we had read in the paper about the GOP chairman's statements and the infighting among the Commissioners over our Board liaison. In the past, Dr. Kora acted as an informal liaison and it worked very well. I believe our Board does not care *who* this Commission picks as a liaison as long as that Commission - because it's a Commissioners' choice. All I wanted to say is that all, as a department, we want to do the best for all the people in La Porte County and we ask you to stop the infighting and pick whoever you want, thank you."

**President Mrozinski**, "Couldn't agree more. Anybody else from the public?"

**Rodney McCormick** - 617 Union Street Michigan City, Indiana - "As a member of the public and a person who votes, I just want to say that I believe when politicians make certain promises to the community and to the

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county they should be held accountable if they break those promises. Not here to do a personal attack on anyone or try to violate your rules that already violates my constitutional rights, I just want to say that Mr. Mrozinski or Mr. President, I don't know why you're not keeping your promise that you told everybody that you were going to make sure that you got - if you was elected that you would make sure that you brought in a new county attorney. The people of this county deserve better. We are tired of being lied to and pretend that everything is okay. I don't know what's going on, I don't know what the current county attorney has on you but it's wrong. And I just want to say this in closing, I hope you take time out of your day and look up the musical group, the O'Jays and listen to the song 'Back stabber,' thank you."

**President Mrozinski**, "Anybody else from the public?" **Auditor Tim Stabosz**, "Point of order. Why did you cut me off but you didn't cut him off?" **President Mrozinski**, "He's done. Mr. Cunningham, did you have Public Comment?" **Earl Cunningham** – 6311 W. Shiva Drive La Porte, Indiana – "Commissioners, Auditor Stabosz and staff, Attorney Friedman, Mrs. Gonzales and those at home. I want to start by saying Mr. Mrozinski, at the last meeting you gave a very impassioned 10 minute closing statement and I was very pleased to hear you say, 'I'm willing to listen to those that disagree.' I'm not going to get into some of the stuff I had written down because you've disallowed that with Mr. Stabosz which I think is erroneous because if you say you allow people that disagree then you should allow him to disagree, that's what public comment is. In your closing comments you referred to your 18 trips to Washington, D.C. and that Senator Todd Young was your favorite marine. I was sitting at home when I heard that and I was quite shocked because I know how often you've played golf with Doug Biege but I guess that all changed on November 4<sup>th</sup>. You see, this notebook stuff with a lot of paperwork (placed his hand on a notebook on the podium), certainly I'm not going to use this today but that's your notebook, I'm going to lay it on the table over here so you can take it home after the meeting. And you delivered that to me for campaign purposes on Mr. Mollenhauer. And if you remember an attorney was present at the time you delivered that. After quick review of those materials I opted not to use any of it. And I'm certainly glad that I didn't use any of it because right now I trust Mr. Mollenhauer more than I trust you. I remember when you and I together, helped bring an ethics pledge to La Porte County. It's still here. Ultimately, what could be more politically unethical than campaigning on a position and changing that position 180 degrees after the election? The way you are treating Mr. Haney, Commissioner Haney, is exactly the way you said that you were treated for the last two years. And *his win* actually puts you in the position you're in today. In closing, you refer to some people, I think you were talking about the Washington, D.C. situation and you said, 'we've come to a point where if you disagree then I hate your guts.' I certainly don't hate you or anyone else, I just feel sorry for you. Thank you."

**President Mrozinski**, "Anybody else from the public? Public comment? One more time. Public comment is closed."

"I had my hand up." **Al Stevens** - 5277 W. 1475 S. Hanna – "I've got a little different topic than what public comments have gone this morning. Mine is about our beautiful courthouse. You google La Porte, you google La Porte County and the first thing that comes up generally is a picture of our courthouse. It's synonymous with La Porte, La Porte County and if the 3 Commissioners look behind them it's even on the new logo. But here's where I have a problem, it's the *crows* that have come back to roost every night and have covered this beautiful building in feces that - the sidewalk is coated in feces and it's a travesty that something's not being done to run the crows out. About 20 years ago we had the crows, they were roosting at the courthouse and I think the Sheriff's department at that time had come out regularly and shot blank ammunition off and that ran the crows off, they went to the Oak Forest where the new Beacon Franciscan Hospital's at and they were there for years. And then when that hospital was built and the forest was tore down the crows came back. I just wonder if you guys would consider doing something to clean up the grounds and the dead crows and do something to get the crows headed on their way 'cuz it's, it's horrible to see our beautiful courthouse in this kind of condition. Thank you." **President Mrozinski**, "Thanks for your comments on that, that's something we need to look into for sure. I think I did see them out there one night after a meeting, it was pretty crazy."

**Attorney Friedman**, “Mr. President, you may recall it was maybe 20 years ago, I think, when horns were installed up in the bell tower to assist in terms of trying to reduce the crow population so we may want to look at reviving the horns again.” **President Mrozinski**, “I’ll talk with Larry about that.”

**Commissioner Haney**, “Mr. President, before we move on this Resolution here from the Plan Commission if you would like to handle that real quick.” **President Mrozinski**, “Do you want to read that?” **Commissioner Haney**, “Sure, I’d be happy to.” \*\*\***Plan Commission Resolution honoring Annemarie Polan who retired as Building Commissioner were read into the minutes and attached here.**

**Update from INDOT** District Commissioner Matt Deitchley and INDOT Public Affairs representative Adam Parkhouse on plans/projects affecting La Porte County. Power Point presentation given by Matt Deitchley, Deputy Commissioner of the La Porte District of INDOT, Northwest District. Adam Parkhouse, Communications Director, was present as well. **Mission statement:** INDOT will plan, build, maintain and operate a superior transportation system enhancing safety mobility and economic growth. INDOT Values: Respect; Teamwork; Accountability and Excellence. Indiana is divided into six districts: La Porte County is in the Northwest District. Thirteen counties make up the Northwest District: Lake, Porter, La Porte, St. Joseph, Marshall, Starke, Fulton, Pulaski, Newton, Jasper, White, Carroll and Cass. 55,000 lane miles. District has: 824 state bridges; 892 large culverts; 618 traffic signals; 234 flashers; 58,600 road signs and 170 snow routes. INDOT Projects: Approximately \$6 billion in total investment for years 2022-2025. La Porte County is expected to see \$128 million in investment over that period. The U.S. 35 Bridge project during 2019 cost \$8 million bridge deck replacement and painted orange for La Porte Slicers. On U.S. 20 extensive work completed/planned to improve safety and mobility between 2017- 2024, INDOT will have invested \$66 million on this corridor alone. Roads completely resurfaced from Porter County line to State Road 2; Center turn lane added between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road in Michigan City; Center turn lane added at County Road N. 400 W.; Center and Edgeline rumble strips installed through corridor; Dogbone interchange at intersection of U.S. 20 and SR 2; \$9 million project started/completed in 2019; Eliminated signal at unique intersection with one of the highest crash rates in the state; the future will have center turn lanes added at U.S. 35 and CR N. 400 W.; three separate projects will install center turn lanes on SR 39 to CR 500 E. in 2023-2024; Resurfacing on SR 2 from SR 39 to Boyd Blvd; Roundabout at SR 2 and U.S. 6 in 2022; Should project on SR 39 between U.S. 20 and Michigan state line in 2022; I-94 bridge replacement over Norris Ditch – just east of Johnson Road in 2022; SR 212 resurfacing from U.S. 20 to U.S. 12 in 2023; and U.S. 35 resurfacing from SR 39 south to the bridge in La Porte in 2023. Matt stated a strong partnership has always been maintained between the County and INDOT with a history of working together. La Porte County is the Northwest District’s home with two sub-units in Michigan City and La Porte. INDOT provides an interactive map at NextLevelRoads.com. INDOT Cars 511 is a site that shows current restrictions such as accidents and road conditions. For alerts go to [in.gov/indot/3564.htm](http://in.gov/indot/3564.htm) for godelivery. Call 855-INDOT4U or go to [INDOT4U.com](http://INDOT4U.com). Twitter and Facebook are available too for information. **President Mrozinski** thanked Matt and Adam for the presentation. **Commissioner Matias** requested a copy of the power point for our website. **Commissioner Haney** asked about a possible proposed J turn at SR 39 and U.S. 30. Matt replied the Governor currently put a hold on anything that is a preservation project overall which U.S. 30 and U.S. 31 are included. A PEL study will be done which is an in-depth study with stake holders.

### Department Reports/Department Head Comments

**Amanda Lahners** – Health Department – Reported on the vaccine clinic at the fairgrounds. Doses have been increased at the clinic by 1,000 allowing the staff to vaccinate up to 1,700 people per week. Clinic hours are currently Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Vaccines are by appointment only with proof of residency or that you work in Indiana is required. Individuals eligible are 65 years and older; health care worker, any clinical or hospital setting giving face to face patient care, doctors, nurses, or working in

a lab with infectious material. Also included are first responders, fire fighters, police officers, EMTs, or volunteers who are regularly called out to scenes for an emergency to give medical aide. Franciscan Health, Walmart, Meijer and HealthLinc in Michigan City are vaccine sites and HealthLinc in La Porte. Approximately 6-7% of the County's population have been vaccinated. Commissioner Haney said verification of eligibility will take place at the door prior to entering the building for the vaccination.

**Heather Stevens** - Clerk of the Circuit Court - Reported on her first month in office as Clerk, staff has been amazing, clean up has begun and records retention will be taking place for destruction in the upcoming months. Heather stated the room currently used for Absentee Voting in the La Porte Courthouse will have a wall put in between the room so one side will be used for full time scanning of documents. Election machines will still stay secured in the room they are in and 4 scanning stations will be set up on the other side of the wall. Larry Levendowski's office has begun work this morning.

**Tony Rodriguez** - Office of Community & Economic Development - Stated a meeting with the Broadband Task Force will take place on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The Countywide Housing Market Analysis contractor will be putting together a meeting schedule for prospects, companies looking for a new home in La Porte County. February 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. will have a meeting on tax abatement statute.

**Tony Hendricks** - Surveyor and President of the Plan Commission - After the Plan Commission meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> there were concerns by some Plan Commission members on the election of the Building Commissioner, after discussion with Plan Commission attorney Doug Biege it has been decided to hold a special meeting on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to bring the members together to decide on how to achieve or rectify any concerns the members may have going forward, whether it will be a re-discovery or a republic of the item for the La Porte County Building Commissioner election. Another issue Tony reported on was about 4 years ago the legislatures in Indiana and Michigan got together and passed a role to create a State Line Commission - **Indiana/Michigan State Line**. In 1827, a federal surveyor named Kendrick, set the Indiana/Michigan state line 110 miles starting at the shores of Lake Michigan and going east to Ohio. If you look at a map of Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, it's not one point, it's off by about 3 miles. But after 1827, it wasn't followed up on so about 4 years ago the states got together and since it is a 2 state issue, to reestablish that line. The line *will not be moved* just put back in line where it was originally in 1827. The courts and police especially need this done. St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties are divided by a road which makes it hard at times to determine jurisdiction. Four years ago time ran out and funding stopped. Two years ago Senators Doriot and Bohacek and Representative Pressel plus others started this back up for funding. Three months ago the Commission was organized with 5 members appointed by the Governor, 5 surveyors from each county that is along the state line (La Porte, St. Joseph, Elkhart, LaGrange and Steuben). Michigan has not re-upped their legislation yet but Indiana now has funding. Tony Hendricks was elected Chairman of the 5 county Commission of surveyors. Two weeks ago the State Line Commission awarded the contract to start the process to DLZ, a local firm out of South Bend, a union firm. Mile post zero will be the starting point which is in La Porte County at the beach. La Porte, some or all of St. Joe and some of Elkhart will be done with the first funding. Tony encouraged the Commissioners to reach out to the State Senators and Representatives to please finish the funding to complete this project. Once this is done, DLZ has set the points, signs will be out but are only preliminary with contact information displayed. The State Line Commission will then review to determine if it is acceptable for the whole 110 miles. This will then be forwarded to the 2 legislatures to decide if it is good retracement. This will be sent to the Governor next for final recommendation. It will be a long process however the project has started. Notices will go out to the property owners that DLZ crews will be onsite, working on both sides of the line. Should end up being less than an inch once completed on the original line drawn by Kendrick in the year 1827. **President Mrozinski** said he saw this issue on WSBT. **Tony** stressed the line will not move or be changed just set to the original line. Elkhart County will be the most effected. Volunteers spent 7 years documenting all information needed for this project. The documentation was accepted by our county surveyor and it is on a Google Drive to share with those that want it.

**Mike Polan** - Building Commissioner – Reported on his first week as Building Commissioner. Multiple extensions were granted to citations that were issued by the prior Building Commissioner so Mike could review the files. New citations have been issued, complaints have been handled. First BZA run was done with properties reviewed for variances that have been filed. Staff has been great welcoming Mike to his new position. MS4 has had to absorb some of his prior duties in the surveyor's office.

### Requests

**Considered** permission to advertise Bituminous Materials and Paving for 2021 year - Duane Werner, Highway Superintendent. Liquid asphalt for chip seal program. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Matias seconded. Motion carried.**

**Considered** permission to approach the Council for additional appropriation for funding to repair/remodel the Clerk's office - Heather Stevens, Clerk of the Circuit Court. The cost for repairs are approximately \$30,800.00 which the IV-D account may be able to pay for some of the cost then the rest will be requested from the Council. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Matias seconded. Motion carried.**

**Considered** Park Department application to Health Care Foundation for Grant for improvements to Bluhm County Park - Jeremy Sobecki, Park Superintendent. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Matias seconded. Motion carried.**

**Considered** 56 unused sick days for Sheriff's employee Mark Lachmund who is retiring - John Boyd, Sheriff. **Commissioner Matias motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried.**

### Old Business

**Discussed** potential re-opening of county buildings. **President Mrozinski** stated the Commissioners have talked to all department heads. Our county is still in the red color. Some departments do not want to open and others do especially those located in the County Complex building that must come down the elevator to meet with the public since the elevators are locked to the public. Offices have Plexiglas and hand sanitizer but have to leave that area when they go downstairs to conduct business with the public. Currently a mix bag of offices wanting to open or stay closed. Courts will still go by the rules set for them. **Commissioner Matias motioned to approve appointments only but doors are unlocked with a screener at the door. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried.**

### New Business

**Considered** settlement for claim of \$9,270.52 involving Highway vehicle and a 2012 Toyota Camry which was deemed a total loss. Accident date September 29, 2020, happened at State Road 2 near Frontage Road in La Porte. **Commissioner Matias motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried.**

**Considered** favorable recommendation to vacate unimproved public way in Hanna - Anthony Novak, Attorney. Petitioners are Glenn A. Wallace, Rita A. Wallace, Antony Wallace and Michelle Magley. **Commissioner Matias motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried. Rules were suspended and passed on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - \*\*\* Ordinance 2021-1**

### Commissioner Comments

**Commissioner Haney said**, "A couple of things that I would like to see on my wish list moving forward here for us to address and we'll be - kinda come up with these and table these for another thing. I'd like to see a resolution for preventing lame duck hiring or firing in the future. So that if, after an election, if the outgoing elected official would not be able to hire or fire without unanimous consent of the Commission and HR and Council just to prevent some issues moving forward – this is a non-election year and I think it'd be a great year to take that up as well I'm looking forward to working with the insurance committee and possibly getting

another option added, there's 3 for our county employees here. Currently I'd like to see a 4<sup>th</sup> one – voluntary option added for those who are over 65 who may be eligible for Medicare if they want to use Medicare but then use the county insurance as a supplement and get some extra incentive to do that could save about \$10,000 per employee, that would be great a thing, similar to our FSA. There's an option right now for county employees to do a health savings account, if you will, so they select one of those tiers, they get an extra allotment into their health savings account from the county and it helps with some of the deductibles and things like that so this would be another option to save us money and it would be completely voluntary for any of our employees who are aged 65 or older. And that's something that private companies do all the time such as Nipsco, they offer kind of these stipends and it saves everybody, both the employees and the county money so that would be nice. One of the things I would like to see is that - public comment is an important part of our guaranteed right so we have a right to redress in government and things that this commission would do by public should never be prohibited to being spoken on during public comment. You know, this free speech is designed to protect unpopular speech or disagreement and again, redress the government is one of those guaranteed rights. Unity is something that's important, at the same time when things transpire, you know, integrity, honesty, being forthright with the community and transparency is key in any government and having that transparency and even if it's sometimes is an uncomfortable airing of the grievance in public there needs to be transparency. We can't have things occurring behind the scenes and when these things occur it's appropriate for them to be aired in public, that is why we have public meetings is so that the public is aware of what's going on. The idea that things that concern the public that are of public record should be taken offline or other things that's disturbing to me and I don't think it's appropriate. In short, this is - it's been an interesting first, you know, about 33 days in office here. I'm learning a lot, I really - the political side is something that's brand new to me, I can't stand it, I hate it. The rest of it though, the work that I'm doing with the various departments, the positive impacts we've had, the absolutely amazing staff that I've engaged in, that's been more rewarding and more, just so much better than I could have imagined. The staff we have, we've heard a lot from some folks today about the hard work Larry Levendowski and his facilities are doing. There's a lot of good people here in this county that are working really hard and getting them kind of together and focused towards these same goals has been amazing and I really can't say enough for the staff here and for the employees and the department heads that I've had a chance to work this first month, it's been phenomenal so a huge thank you to them.”

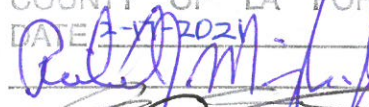
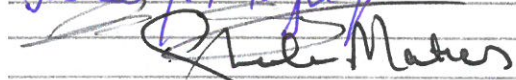
**Commissioner Matias** agreed with Commissioner Haney that the county staff is exceptional. “Without exception everyone is willing to help and has a good attitude so that's one of the ‘a-ha's as you get into the internal workings of the county, you find that there is a lot of talented people with really good intent and they are very resourceful. As a Commission I think we want to welcome Amanda Lahners as the new county Health Administrator so Amanda is a good success story, someone who has risen through the ranks and is now taking over the reins of the Health Department. The Board just made that announcement a week ago and so Amanda, I don't know if you're still on but congratulations, the 3 of us are here to help you be successful and to support you so and I know the County Council, I'm sure, I see Mike Rosenbaum is on the line and Connie, a few others are on the line and I'm sure they would agree that we wish you every success and you, of course, are taking over in a really, really tough time. The county health department has been unbelievable over the last year in guiding this county forward in protecting public health. We have been meeting since March, multiple times a week, and so Amanda you've got a big task, your plate is very full but see us as a resource, we wish you the very best.” A request to Tony Rodriguez about the Broadband Task Force meeting that will take place Friday, calls come in asking about the updates of Broadband in the county. Requested an update on the Volunteer Broadband task Force who have been working the last 18 months. Encouraged everyone to join in the Economic Development workshop on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Jobs are the backbone of our county.

**Commissioner Rich Mrozinski** stated a meeting took place the day before with Lochmueller Group to discuss the North/South Connector. Rich said before he was on the Council when Mayor Gonzales was in office this subject was brought up as a by-pass around downtown La Porte. Mayor Kathy Chroback and Leigh Morris had meetings too. Information is available at [www.laportecorridor.com](http://www.laportecorridor.com). A presentation is available. Another zoom

meeting took place pertaining to the Franklin Street Bridge in Michigan City with five engineers from USI, Andy Skwiat, and Councilman Mark Yagelski. A half of a million dollars of work is currently being done on the bridge just to have it opened by March 15th. It must be able to open and close by that date. The historic bridge was built in 1930. Parts have to be made if any of them go bad. It can take up to 6 months to get some of these parts. A built grant will be applied for as a historic bridge alternative analysis.

**President Mrozinski adjourned at 11:27 a.m.**

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA  
DATE 3-11-2021

ATTEST:  Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1**

**A RESOLUTION SHOWING APPRECIATION  
FOR ANNE MARIE POLAN'S SERVICE**

WHEREAS, Anne Marie Polan has announced her retirement as Building Commissioner.

WHEREAS, Anne Marie Polan has served as LaPorte County Building Commissioner for nearly a decade.

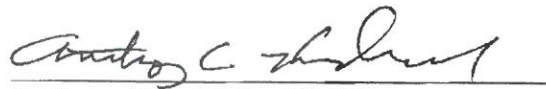
WHEREAS, Anne Marie Polan has served the citizens of La Porte County for decades in multiple roles in County government or behalf of La Porte County residents with a steadfast loyalty.

WHEREAS, La Porte County Plan Commission and La Porte County owe a debt of gratitude to Anne Marie Polan for her service.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLAN COMMISSION THAT WE:

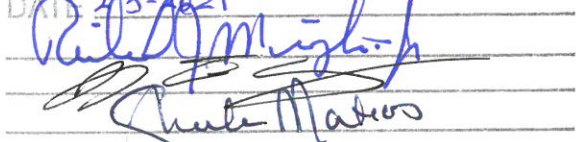
We Thank you, Anne Marie Polan, for your meritorious service to our Community as we wish you well in your much earned retirement.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESOLVED THIS 26th day of January, 2021.



Anthony Hendricks IN PS  
President La Porte County Plan Commission

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA  
DATE 1/23-2021



ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

**ORIGINAL**