



**LA PORTE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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**Sheila Matias
President**

**Richard Mrozinski
Vice President**

**Joseph Haney
Member**

**La Porte County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. County Complex Room 3 & via Zoom**

President Sheila Matias called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. **Commissioner Mrozinski** asked for a moment of silence remembering those at Pearl Harbor.

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

Considered the agenda. **Commissioner Mrozinski** motioned to add 2 items to the agenda: **Considered** a request from Mericka Beaty, Community Corrections Director and **Considered** a request from Erica Stallworth, Juvenile Service Center. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered approval of the November 16, 2022 minutes. **Commissioner Mrozinski** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Auditor Tim Stabosz read the Claims with Payroll ending 11/18/2022 - \$1,303,113.21 and ending 12/2/2022 - \$1,303,932.63 and Operating Expense Claims - \$1,979,111.08. **Auditor Stabosz** included 2 amounts to be paid to Attorney Friedman - \$6,195 and \$20,085.00. **Commissioner Mrozinski** motioned to approve including the additional amounts. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Public Comment

Rodney McCormick, 617 Union Street, Michigan City, thanked public servants.

Connie Gramarossa, Councilwoman, Commissioner Elect, contracts should not have been signed at the last meeting.

Spencer England, La Porte, remembering Pearl Harbor. Agreed with Mr. McCormick. Commented on the item on the agenda pertaining to the Lobbyist.

Randy Veatch, 4177 W. Schultz Road, La Porte, Mike Polan's comments about him on social media.

Department Reports/Department Head Comments

Larry Levendowski, Director of Facilities, thanked Marquiss Electric and the Building Maintenance staff for the wonderful job of decorating the Courthouses and County Buildings for the holidays.

Mericka Beaty, Community Corrections Director, thanked the Commission, Auditor, and County Attorney for the grace shown to her and her office. **Considered** the request for Residential Coordinator John Wilcher. **Commissioner Mrozinski** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

ORIGINAL

Ericka Stallworth, JSC Director, **requested** the Juvenile Center be permitted to pay out accrued holiday time over 5 days to employees due to certain circumstances. No additional funds are needed. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered 1st reading for MS4 Permit and Construction Stormwater General Permit - Nicole Messacar, MS4. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve with an amendment added for area '2' in the Ordinance stating 'the MS4 Director is authorized to negotiate various agreements subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners.'** **Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Jeremy Sobecki, Parks Department, reported on the new playgrounds installed at both Creek Ridge Park and Red Mill Park. Grand opening will be sometime in the spring of 2023.

Mike Polan, Building Commissioner, began to respond to the previous comment about social media under Public Comment however **Commissioner Haney** stated he would respond instead of Mike. Questions were posted on social media and the Building Commissioner was in the process of answering them. Commissioner Haney requested the Director to 'disengage' in responding to the questions on social media.

Requests

Considered possible engagement of Washington, D.C. governmental advocacy firm of Ervin Graves to advocate for appropriation for a V.A. Outpatient clinic for La Porte and other projects, Allison Feikes, Sr. Vice President.

Commissioner Mrozinski introduced **Allison Feikes** who explained, via Zoom, the company she works for and what they have to offer the county. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. No second was heard therefore motion died. President Matias stepped down and motioned to table this item. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion tabled 3-0. ***Tabled**

Old Business

Considered update on insurance policies and **Considered** policy for Underground Storage Units -John Jones, Michiana Insurance. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

New Business

Considered invoice from Barnes & Thornburg for now-cancelled energy savings bond refinancing - Phil Faccenda, Barnes & Thornburg. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered NICTD Petition to pro-rate property taxes, interest, fees, fines, and penalties - Chuck Parkinson, Harris Welsh & Lukmann. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered settlement with Frontier for damage to pole in the amount of \$2,760.16. **Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Comments

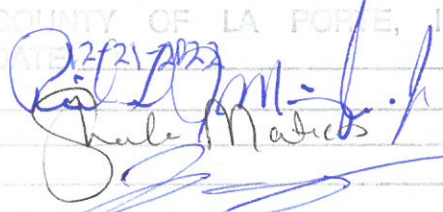
Commissioner Haney, 81st year for the cowardly attacks on Pearl Harbor. Attended the La Porte City Santa Parade, AIC Conference, Leadership La Porte County, Grand Re-Opening of the Barker mansion after renovations, Pioneer Land, Parks Department offering discount to employees and veterans, Cookie Tin Walk in La Porte, Museum - National Guard Founding Day, England and Winston Churchill, 'You ask what is our aim, I can answer in one word...it is victory, victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory. How ever long and hard the road may be, for without victory there is no survival.'

Commissioner Mrozinski, Governor Holcomb sent a letter indicating the County will receive a matching grant for one million dollars to be used on roads next year. Thanks to Mitch Bishop, County Planner. Attorney General Todd Rokita issued a statement on the e-cigarette manufacturer Jewel. Met with Multi-Hazard Mitigation Committee, more information later. Twenty-five veterans received county medals for their service. Attended graduation with the Problem-Solving Court. Bethany Church hosted Kris Kringle Market at the fairgrounds.

ORIGINAL

Commissioner Matias, La Porte County Works! **Eureka Chemical Labs, Inc.** is a small family owned, chemical company that specializes in Industrial and Janitorial based cleaning products. Eureka is in the Kingsbury Industrial Park, on Hupp Rd. Eureka Chemical Labs have become one of the largest industrial, institutional, and janitorial maintenance cleaning supply manufacturers in the Chicago land area, not in size, but in market share. Eureka's products are primarily sold in 1-gallon industrial containers, 5-gallon pails, and 275-gallon tote quantities in large volumes to chemical distributors and wholesalers. However, Eureka does offer some contract packing options as well for retailers. Eureka offers on-site product research and development. Packing capabilities include quart, gallon, pail, drum, tote, and tanker. They understand that time is a critically important part of every business, therefore, they offer 24hr emergency delivery services as-well-as eight interior loading docks for timely loading and unloading of trucks. Eureka primarily sells fully formulated industrial cleaners under its own, house-label, as-well-as private label options. Products include but are not limited to, hard surface cleaners, window cleaners, dish soap, hand soap, laundry soaps, degreasers, floor cleaners, tile cleaners, and just about anything a restaurant or janitorial cleaning service would use to clean with. As well as superior products, Eureka Chemical Labs provides education to customers about their line of cleaning products, ensuring the highest quality for each customer. Eureka provides full-time and part-time employment opportunities in a wide range of fields from forklift operators to line operators and chemical blenders. Pay scale ranges from \$15.50 - \$30.00. **Congratulations** to Michigan City Area Schools IT Team for winning the Society of Innovators Award. The Hesston Steam Museum with their Santa Claus Express was a great experience for the family.

President Sheila Matias adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA
DATE: 02/21/2022


Auditor
LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

ORIGINAL