

**MEMORANDUM**  
**LA PORTE COUNTY COUNCIL AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOINT**  
**COOLING OF THE COMPLEX BUILDING, SMALL ANIMAL CLINIC**  
**DAMAGE, COURTHOUSE WATER HEATER AND JSC GENERATOR**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

A La Porte County Council & Commissioners Joint Workshop was held on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. (central time) in the Assembly Room of the La Porte County Government Complex, 809 State Street, La Porte, IN 46350.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Randy Novak.

**ROLL CALL**

While no formal roll call was taken, it was observed that Councilman Cunningham, Councilman Yagelski, Councilman Rosenbaum, Councilman Novak, Councilman Koronka, Councilman Kiel, and Councilman Yagelski were all physical present for the meeting, while Councilman Mollenhauer was not present. Commissioner Connie Gramarossa, Commissioner Rich Mrozinski, and Commissioner Joe Haney were all physically present for the meeting.

**PRESENTATION**

**The Cooling of the Complex Building**

Following an HVAC investigation by La Porte County Project Management that resulted in the discovery of an inefficient cooling system in the county's Complex building, the Council and Board of Commissioners discussed the current and sub-par conditions of the building, what potentially caused these inefficiencies and state of disrepair, and what some of the short-term solutions would be while the county investigated a possible long-term solution. With the risk of humidity damaging the newly constructed renovations in the building and a lead-time of roughly 30-46 weeks for a brand-new full cooling system, it was discussed if humidifiers should be utilized on the affected floors to reduce potential damage, in addition to whether replacing windows in the building might assist in maintaining the building's temperature. Andy Skwiat of La Porte County Project Management noted that, in the long run, the full replacement of the cooling system could take as long as 1.5 to 2 years. Mr. Novak stated that he would like to see the establishment of a committee to oversee the development of a long-term solution to the cooling concerns, as well as a long-term analysis of the overall condition of the Complex building.

### **Small Animal Clinic Damage**

Regarding water damage at the Small Animal Clinic that resulted in the death of one cat, Mr. DiMartino reported that litigation for the damage with the insurance adjuster was completed, and informed the room that the adjuster had requested a scope and estimate of what would be needed to repair said damage. He recommended contracting La Porte County Project Management for the project and then the county could proceed with how they would like to address the repair as needed.

### **La Porte County Courthouse Water Heater**

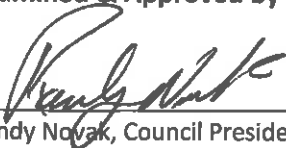
Regarding the recent damage to the water heater in the La Porte County Courthouse, Mrs. Gramarossa explained that a hot water tank would be purchased, however the current Building Maintenance Department was not equipped to handle the repair of the numerous rusted pipes and equipment, and urged the need to hire a qualified external contractor to oversee projects like this.

### **The Juvenile Service Center Generator**

Mr. DiMartino noted that he had taken measures to ensure that the recently purchased generator for the Juvenile Services Center, discovered through the BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative, complied with Indiana State statute, which would supersede the need to bid out the generator project.

Examined & Approved by the La Porte County Council this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2024.

Examined & Approved by the La Porte County Board of Commissioners this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

  
Randy Novak, Council President

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Connie Gramarossa, Board President

  
Adam Koronka, Council Vice President

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Richard Mrozinski, Board Vice President

  
Earl Cunningham, Councilman

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Joe Haney, Board Member

  
Mark Yagelski, Councilman

Editor's Note:  
Commission President  
Gramarossa refused  
to put approval of  
these minutes on the  
Commission agenda  
despite repeated requests  
of the county Auditor.  
L.J.S.

  
Justin Kiel, Councilman

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Mike Rosenbaum, Councilman

  
Mike Mollenhauer, Councilman

ATTEST   
Timothy Stabosz, Auditor