



LA PORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Connie Gramarossa
President

Steve Holifield
Vice President

Joe Haney
Member

La Porte County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. County Complex Room 3

President Connie Gramarossa called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Roger Galloway.

Auditor Mike Rosenbaum called the roll: **President Connie Gramarossa** - Present; **Vice President Steve Holifield** - Present and **Member Joe Haney** - Present. Quorum present therefore meeting commenced.

Considered the agenda. **Commissioner Holifield** motioned to remove 11 'c' for the Opioid Settlement, that is handled by the State and add Eric Gibson, Highstreet Insurance as 10 'b' under Old Business. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Considered approval of the August 20, 2025 minutes. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Holifield** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Mike Rosenbaum read the Claims with Payroll ending 8/22/2025 - \$1,486,719.49. **Commissioner Holifield** motioned to approve payroll. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Mike Rosenbaum read the Operating Expense Claims - \$2,674,442.17. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve operating claims. **Commissioner Holifield** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment

Leigh Morris, 424 Upper Lake Shore Drive, La Porte, stain glass windows on the La Porte Courthouse, developments that the Commissioners might find a bit easier to consider. Historic La Porte Preservation has indicated they'd like to partner with the County to make inventorying the stain glass happen. We believe we can put together the funding necessary to do the initial inventory and evaluation of the windows so that it is not a burden on the County. It will give us confirmation whether there is actual work that needs to be done, the cost and what the priority ought to be, there are at least 3 different firms that have indicated they'd do the inventory, we'd like to work with the Commissioners and the firms to get a final proposal and then the funding is not a burden. The Council has indicated support once the inventory is done and we know what needs to be done to put the windows in proper condition, a 10-year plan for the windows. Thank you for your consideration.

Roger Galloway, 608 Tecumseh Street, La Porte, adjutant for VFW Post #1130 on McClung Road, La Porte. Supports keeping the National Guard here in La Porte. I remember in '67 and '78 when the snow was so bad you could walk on the drifts to the top of the roof of your home. The National Guard helps in weather emergencies as well as civil unrest. He supports the deal between the County and the City of La Porte.

Jim Arnold, 5698 W. Johnson Road, La Porte, noticed on the agenda that property near the Armory is listed for annexation to the City of La Porte, fully supports the agreement. Told a story about the National Guard, he was fortunate to serve ten years in the Indiana State Senate and during those ten years he was the ranking member in the Veterans Affairs Committee. During that time along with Senator Tom Wyss, they worked with Brigadier General Martin Umbarger, a one-star general, who was Head of the Indiana National Guard. He was approachable as well as receptive. Senator Wyss asked Jim if he would co-author a Resolution for getting General Umbarger his second star and they did, he retired as a Major General in the Indiana National Guard and Jim never forgot that, it has kept his ties with the National Guard and his support for them. Thank you for bringing this before the Public today. There are 64 installations in the state of Indiana, over 14,000 members serve proudly and we need to keep the National Guard right here in La Porte County. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Commission today for his support of the National Guard in La Porte.

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Mayor Tom Dermody, 1658 S. Willow Bend Drive, Mayor of the City of La Porte, thank you to each of you Commissioners and your commitment to Veterans, commitment to the National Guard, without the three Commissioners' support, this agreement would not happen, we would not be able to move the process forward and we would not be here today. The communities can thank you for making sure the National Guard is going to be here for years to come with their investment. Our team is here today to answer any questions regarding water, sewer but most importantly, as you can see with the support that is here today, to mainly say thank you, this is what government should be doing and it'll pay off dividends in our future, thank you.

Drew Buchanan, 2108 Woodlawn Drive, La Porte, City Councilman for La Porte, I've enjoyed interacting with each of you and appreciate your support and consideration for the Armory, it is very important that they're part of our community and it shows a working relationship if we can get this done. Thank you.

Mark Schrieber, 1404 Illinois Avenue, La Porte, Commander of the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 83 in La Porte, we are a Veterans' support organization and he would like to reiterate what has already been said, 100% supports having the Armory/National Guard here in La Porte and any improvements to the Armory for future generations to have the Guard here is appreciated, thank you.

Les Rosenbaum, 707 Center Street, Walkerton, dual roles: President of the Ladies' Auxiliary at the American Legion, Post 83, La Porte, and currently the standing adjutant for the Post as well, very thankful for all the Commissioners do in the community, for veterans and this is important for the future of our city, the passing of this agreement.

Walter Wawok, 4297 N. US Highway 35, La Porte, United States Army Veteran, member of Post 451 in Michigan City and an American Legion rider for Post 83 here in La Porte, supports water and sewage hookup to the Armory, appreciates the agreement between the County and the City of La Porte. As the old saying goes, 'Let's git 'er done.'

President Connie Gramarossa asked for anyone that has served in the military branches to please stand up. Eight veterans were in attendance today for the meeting. On behalf of the Commission and the County, we really do appreciate your service, it is because of fine people like you that we have the right to do what we do today and she greatly appreciates it, thank you.

Department Reports/Comments

Matt Reardon, Office of Economic Development. Reported to the Commission on property currently owed by the County in Michigan City on 8th Street, he has been reviewing the property as a broker and brokerage standpoint, analyzing, rents, pricing, comps in the City of Michigan City. We will return with recommendations but for now a few things, if you are using the structure then building a new structure is going to cost a little bit of money, two: the full use of that structure could be spaces for rent, depending on condition of that building so you have to be sure the building is safe and secure and usable for the purposes of lease, it's 9,000 square feet. This is an odd parcel; it's neighborhood retail next to 250,000 square feet of retail shopping center so it's a tough piece to get the right type of tenancy. The other part is the City of Michigan City has procured over the years several parcels of property like this, they've knocked them down, and have been collecting properties for the purposes of doing a redevelopment process. With the advent of double tracking and the discussions regarding SoLa and proximity and viewshed of this property, if those actually occur then it likely will increase the value potential significantly for that location with the view and access of Lake Michigan. There are a lot of people in and around Michigan City that buy distressed properties at a bargain, don't think you would have a problem with that, offloading it. As the Commissioners are aware, two appraisals are required, there is a limited process to be able to dispose of that following the statute so our group will continue to research this and will come back with ideas. If you are utilizing the building then you ought to hang on to it, the goal is to figure out how to cover your cost which is the electric bill and so on.

Requests

Considered Petition for Voluntary Annexation of County owned property to the City of La Porte for utilities to the Indiana National Guard Armory. **La Porte City Attorney Nicholas Otis**, met with each Commissioner individually on this project, he is here to explain the process. James Mahern, Facilities Director, Adjutant Generals Office, Indianapolis, is here to explain the project specifically. In 2016 the City Council in La Porte passed an Ordinance, similar to others in the state, basically says if you're not in the City and you want to have City utilities going forward, you're either annexed in to the City or sign an annexation waiver. He became the City Attorney in 2017, the La Porte City Council has consistently taken that position on any properties outside city limits, over the past nine years there have been several annexations because of that 2016 Ordinance. Before you today is a petition for voluntary annexation for a non-residential utility project for the Indiana National Guard which currently has an Armory on State Road 2, often it is thought to be inside city limits but it is not, it is in the County, the most efficient way to get them annexed into the City is to annex what is being proposed today, a portion of the La Porte County Fairgrounds property which sits behind the Armory, east of the Fairgrounds on Zigler Road, north of State Road 2. The City of La Porte has worked with a surveyor to separate the parcel owned by the County to get the Armory closer to utility hookup. The National Guard has a significant investment that includes upgrades to the facility. City of La Porte has their utility team here at the meeting and they've been working with County staff to figure out the best position for the future in that area for potential development, for future plans. The petition in front of you right now is the first step to the annexation process, if approved, the new parcel along with a small parcel owned by City of La Porte but is *not* in the City limits, and the National Guard parcel will all be on the City Council meeting agenda September 16th, this will be filing the petitions with the

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Council. The following day the City will file a notice of a Public Hearing that will be published in the newspaper and October 20th will be the Public Hearing on the annexation petition, most likely the fiscal plan will be presented as well, that's required by statute. The fiscal plan is prepared to show any potential costs associated with this that will be borne on the taxpayers. The final public meeting, as long as everything stays on the timeline, will be November 3rd. Officially completed on December 5th. The only thing to be done on your end is to approve this petition for voluntary annexation. **Commissioner Holifield**, on behalf of FMEC Board, asked Attorney Otis if the City still planned on running a tap for water/sewage to the parking lot that was cleared last year for the Fairgrounds on the east side of Zigler Road for the County, anticipating for future use of a campground if needed. **Attorney Nick Otis**, yes. **Commissioner Holifield**, if you just bring it to us, we can always tap in later. **Attorney Nick Otis** introduced James Mahern from the Indiana National Guard. **Jim Mahern**, Adjutant General's Office, Indianapolis, Director of State Facilities the last ten years, thanked each Commissioner for the time spent with him on the project, going over the details, and the impact it will have for the National Guard. This project is to modernize the La Porte Armory facility, female latrines will be installed, training technologies and weapon storage capability will all be modernized, the project would not be possible without the utility investment due to modern fire standards and modern drinking water standards, that is the reason we are asking for the utilities to be installed from the City of La Porte. The dual project of utilities hookup and modernization of the Armory is about \$11 million dollars, this will include new space added to the front of the facility along State Road 2, appearance will be of a new building and then completely restore the inside of the Armory as well. Information flyers will be left for the public, if interested, containing a photo of what the front of the Armory may look like as well as a 'walk through' of all details of the project. The project would not be possible without the annexation, the Commission's time/effort, as well as the City of La Porte, thanked Mayor Tom Dermody, his team and the three Commissioners for considering this annexation. **Commissioner Holifield** would like to see the Armory stay in La Porte, he remembered in 1978 when he missed 11 days of school due to the snowstorm. Humored all by saying while Mayor Dermody was in the City at that time, 1978, attending school, playing hopscotch inside classrooms. If it had not been for the bulldozers at the Armory, the roads would not have been plowed out. Supports the annexation and the Armory Project. **Jim Mahern**, with the amount of investment that will be put into the La Porte facility, the National Guard plans on staying in this community, there are some Federal regulations that require the National Guard to stay in the community for up to 25 years unless the State and local government can buy back out of that investment so it means that the National Guard will be in La Porte for the foreseeable future. **Commissioner Haney** thanked Mayor Dermody for his time and diligence while meeting the Commissioners individually to explain the project, he also pointed out it wasn't just extending the water/sewage to the Armory but the State really wanted to have the property annexed into the City to receive the 15% discount off the utilities as well, that was part of the financial incentive that was considered and how we actually got here today. **Jim Mahern**, yes, sir, when we started planning this project over five years ago, when we looked at the conditions of the facility, we discovered we were outside City limits, while investigating with the City they told us of the discount for being within city limits, we are a taxpayer supported entity and we want to make sure we're reducing the cost as much as we can, that is one of the factors considered for extending utilities and annexing into the City of La Porte. **Attorney Guy DiMartino**, for the public record please give us an idea of the capital contribution into the project. **Jim Mahern**, the La Porte Armory Project is over \$9,000,000, the sewer utility will be over \$2,000,000, the utilities are solely supported by the State of Indiana, based on the way the National Guard requires us to - the National Guard is not allowed - the Federal Government is not allowed to purchase property or extend utilities, the State or local government is on the hook to do that, in this case the State came to the table and brought that utility money to extend those utilities to the Armory, the project is a blend of State and Federal money for that \$9 million dollars. **Commissioner Holifield motioned to accept the annexation proposal. Commissioner Haney seconded.** For the public's edification, this section of land that Mr. Otis spoke on is a small sliver on the northeastern portion of Zigler Road, it's a small strip to connect City property to the annex so when we say 'fairgrounds' it's a small diagonal sliver that's cut on the very northeast portion of Zigler that doesn't really affect the Fairgrounds land itself other than that small section, most is swamp and the 20 or 30 feet dry land for that utility corridor that would go behind it, that's why it's referenced as a utility annex. **La Porte City Attorney Nick Otis**, by statute you must have contiguity, it's very specific on how much land you have to have to get an annexation done, we did it working with you all to minimize any concerns on your end, took the least amount of necessary to comply with the state statute on that on annexation, it doesn't change ownership of the property. The other unique thing is the Fairgrounds' parcel had one ID that is in the City of La Porte yet it is County Fairgrounds, he doesn't have an explanation as to why but he does appreciate the Commission and the survey team working quickly to get this all done so it can be put out to bid to move the project along. **Commissioner Holifield**, it's a win-win for both the County and City of La Porte. **La Porte City Attorney Nick Otis**, during weekend duties at the Armory, the Guard members stay at our hotels, eat at our restaurants, it is a benefit for both, yes. **Motion carried 3-0. President Gramarossa** excused anyone in the room that may have been there only for the Armory project. Thanked everyone for coming in and supporting the project. ***Handouts attached to minutes

Old Business

Considered second discussion on La Porte Courthouse stained-glass windows as per Council. **Commissioner Holifield**, the windows were done in 2006 when Ziolkowski Construction did the renovation/restoration for the courthouse, Bovard Studios from Iowa did the work on the stain glass, I've reached out to them but no reply yet, hoping to get a copy of the contract for the work done. Mr. Haney and I have each talked to Botti Studios here in La Porte, he is nationwide and in 2005-2006 he offered his services free of charge to go through the windows and make recommendations. **Commissioner Haney**, he is here today and thanked him for his time. **Commissioner Holifield**, in 19 years he cannot believe the windows would need a major renovation and if Botti Studios is willing to provide services to help the County and Mr. Morris stated the People for Preservation are willing to pay or put funds towards the project so it won't cost the taxpayers. **Commissioner Haney** reached out to the Architect at the time in 2005-2006, Herceg and

Associates, no response yet either. Hoping to go through the scope with them, they should have had that information whether 19 years later if there is a warranty or not, Harmon Glass repaired the frames for the windows and they are no longer in business, we've got great input and if it's okay with Madame President, Mr. Botti would like to speak on the project. **Christopher Botti**, Botti Studios, preservation, conservation, stain glass windows, once the work is done and if there is protective glazing on the front of them then we would not be having this conservation, they would be sitting there for hundreds of years left untouched, unless there's some type of vandalism or something like that, he'd be happy to look at the windows at no cost. He spoke to Leigh Morris who has two proposals from other companies, one he is familiar with, he doesn't think much of them but he is familiar with them. Botti Studios is an international company, been in business since 1684 in Italy then 1864 in this country, worked on St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan, Cultural Center in Chicago, Amazon Headquarters in New York and even a small window for someone in Michigan City in their bathroom so they've gone from one end to the other. Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) Engineering, often engineering firms call him in for peer reviews, he is accustomed to looking at method and means for this type of work. **Commissioner Holifield**, you offered this type of work in 2005-2006? **Christopher Botti**, I was put in as a consultant for that project, but then I precluded myself from the bidding, I never saw what they ended up with as a spec or how it was issued, importantly and we talked about it earlier if there is a warranty, I know Bovard was sold since then so I don't know if that carries over to the new company. The architect at that time should have specifications as well. **President Gramarossa**, stepped down and motioned to table the issue until the next meeting and assign the project to **Commissioner Holifield** to continue investigating the stain glass windows, working with the previous vendors from 2005-2006, we know there was work done 19 years ago on the windows and my motion would be to table this item until we get further information. **Commissioner Haney**, I would be happy to make that motion but starting the tradition of having the President make motions when there's a full board here is something that hasn't been done, at least for the time that I've been here. **President Gramarossa**, there's been other times that I've stepped down so it's not a first. **Commissioner Holifield**, let's move on, please, so we have a motion, do we have a second? **Attorney Guy DiMartino**, Mr. Haney, are you making that motion? **Commissioner Haney**, I would make that motion, sure. **Commissioner Holifield** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.** **Commissioner Haney**, in the meantime, since we do have an offer here and while you're doing this research, **Commissioner Holifield**, I would motion to allow Mr. Botti authorization to look at the windows for an evaluation of the current condition. **Commissioner Holifield** seconded. **Attorney Guy DiMartino** needed clarification, Ms. Gramarossa, were you asking for this matter to be tabled? **President Gramarossa**, yes, until we can get further information. He picked up on my motion... **Commissioner Haney**, procedurally... **Attorney Guy DiMartino**, okay, so it's tabled, I didn't hear the tabled. **Commissioner Holifield**, if it is tabled then we can't discuss it or anything else? **Attorney DiMartino**, correct. Are you setting a time or whenever you remove it from the table? **President Gramarossa**, this way it will give **Commissioner Holifield** time to make contact.

Considered Health Insurance, Clinic, Dental and Vision, **Eric Gibson**, Highstreet Insurance. Dental is currently with Equitable, due to claims they came in with a 24% increase, vision is with EyeMed and is currently flat, we did go to 14 different markets and solicited those quotes for you, we've only included the most competitive on the information sheet. Equitable is willing to come down to a 13% renewal offer if you add vision which is VSP, if you do so then you can increase the benefit allowance on the vision to \$150 versus \$120. They will also match the rates on the vision by bundling that together, it will be a bit of a break on the dental and you will be able to increase the benefits on vision for flat, that would be my recommendation. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Holifield** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.** **Eric Gibson**, on the clinic front we've been working with Franciscans on a contract, we are recommending we move forward with Franciscans, they do have a different model than NorthShore so it is not the full service pharmacy that you all are used to but also the pricing structure is different so rather than paying directly for those drugs, there is a list of about 60-70 different drugs that they can actually offer that is all inclusive in the monthly fee that they're going to take, it's not going to be the itemized bill that you are used to seeing, it will be a flat stable base rate. They do Primary Care treatment of common ailments, annual exams, x-rays, labs, vaccines, they have numerous locations, Michigan City, La Porte, Valpo, Portage, Crown Point, they're all over the state. Recommends that transition whenever the termination of NorthShore is complete. **Commissioner Holifield**, didn't we give notice to cancel to NorthShore? **Attorney Guy DiMartino**, yes, we're on a 6-month term and I believe it is in December. You might go a couple of weeks bare but my recommendation would be if you're going to enter an agreement with Franciscan that we start it on January 1, people won't have a clinic for a few weeks but I haven't seen any contracts. **Eric Gibson**, I'll be sure you get an updated version of the pending contract with Franciscan. **Attorney DiMartino**, thank you and we had an issue with the other provider on types of services. **Commissioner Holifield** questioned the list of drugs provided to the Commission, will we be charged for those and **Eric Gibson** replied they are included in the fee. **Commissioner Holifield** then asked if \$65 is the base rate. **Eric Gibson**, \$65 is the base rate and then calculation is based off participation, we're looking at \$230,000 to \$276,000 which the current is much higher. **Attorney DiMartino**, people are hooked into Franciscan Physicians Network so it should be a smooth transition. **Commissioner Haney**, it's been a team effort on this, thank you **Eric**. **Motioned to approve** **HEALTHeACCESS** program agreement starting January 1, 2026 pending review of our legal counsel. **Commissioner Holifield** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

New Business

Considered update to County's Termination Policy in Employee Handbook, **Monique Thomas**, Human Resources. **Attorney DiMartino** has reviewed and approved. **Commissioner Holifield** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Haney** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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Considered Lochmueller Group Construction Inspection Contract for Bridge 104, **Mitch Bishop**, Planner. County received eight letters of interest for Bridge 104, it was scored by myself and Highway Superintendent Charity Glaser, we recommend Lochmueller. This is an 80/20 grant like most of them, today we have 13 bridges that are federally funded and this is one of them. Council gave 20% for the matching funds required, contract is for \$180,000 and the federal grant paid 80%. **Commissioner Holifield**, is this the bridge south of Highway 6, between the old and new gravel pit? **Mitch Bishop**, yes, it's on 1000 South, over the Kankakee River. **Commissioner Holifield motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered Integrated Public Safety Commission System Key Agreement for EMA. **Cody Lemon**, EMA, same paperwork as last year with the exception of myself being added to the list as a programmer based on his certification from the class he took. Attorney DiMartino has reviewed and approved. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve. Commissioner Holifield seconded for discussion** then asked what does this entail. **Cody Lemon**, programming public safety radios, updating firmware, programming new radios with the proper channels. **President Gramarossa** congratulated Cody for taking the class, being certified and saving taxpayers money. **Motion carried 3-0.**

President Gramarossa, before we adjourn, we need to add Jail Showers repair. The showers above the gas line that was leaking and approved for repair, once those were opened as work began, they realized the showers above that area was leaking as well, there are now four sets of showers leaking instead of four. We need to have a discussion because only 2 sets were approved for repairs, not four sets. **Commissioner Holifield** spoke to Council President Adam Koronka prior to our meeting and he sees no issue with putting all of this into one project and get it done, it will be over \$50,000 but still should not be an issue in approving the work that needs to be done, **we should proceed and get it done. Commissioner Holifield made that his motion. Attorney DiMartino** called Sheriff Ron Heeg and Captain Andrew Hahn to the podium. **Commissioner Haney seconded for discussion.** Yesterday we, Council President Koronka and I, toured the facility with Captain Hahn, the specific cell block itself, the thought was since money is already appropriated for Block 3 that if we changed the direction to use Block 3 to Block 7, is directly above it if memory serves, then we don't have to necessarily worry about appropriation to get the repairs started on 7 without doing 3 right now, 3 obviously needs to be dry. **Commissioner Holifield**, the way I understand it is he was going to move the \$40,000 appropriated already to do the ones above that was just discovered and then fix the other ones, roll that in as an additional appropriation later is the way I understood it. **President Gramarossa**, at this meeting we should probably go ahead and give approval to move it up but also have a motion where we're going to go back to the Council and we have to know by Friday to get on their agenda. We will need a two-part motion, one to move the money up for the upper showers done right away and then two – **Attorney DiMartino**, the first motion should be to do the repairs on 7, the ones they just found and the second part will be to approach the Council. **Commissioner Holifield motioned to approve repairs on the upper showers, S6 and S7. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Holifield motioned to approach the Council for additional appropriations for S2 and S3. Commissioner Haney seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Haney** thanked Sheriff Heeg and his staff for working with everyone to get this work done.

Commissioner Holifield, a few weeks ago his mom fell in her house, she used her life-alert bracelet, the hospital contacted him and he went along with his son-in-law, an EMT in New Carlisle, to his mom's house, they decided to call 911. Sage, 911 operator, was wonderful, calm, collective and took care of everything, dispatched first responders from Lincoln Township Volunteer Fire Department, Mike Lazaro and Kyle Rensburger. When the EMTs arrived, Ron Johnson and Jason Albin, they spoke to my mother the whole time, kept her calm, we don't hear much about these individuals until we desperately need them and they stepped up that day. Thank you! **Commissioner Holifield** then announced on September 10th in Michigan City at City Hall, 5:30-7:30 p.m. a Town Hall meeting will be held. Elected officials and the public is welcome.

Commissioner Haney hopes to see everyone at the Harvest Fest this weekend in Door Village.

Commissioner Holifield motioned to adjourn at 10:53 a.m. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

ORIGINAL

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

DATE

9-17-2025
[Signature]

ATTEST:

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

Auditor



INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD



WE ARE YOUR GUARD

We live here, work here and serve here

We are thousands of soldiers and airmen serving our communities and our nation across the state of Indiana and around the world – assisting Hoosiers during dangerous winter storms, helping secure the southern border, deploying across the globe, and engaging with partner nations to promote regional security and cooperation.

We are the hundreds of state and federal employees, contractors, veterans, families and volunteers whose constant support of our programs and units fortifies and enables our missions.

MISSION: The mission of the Indiana National Guard (INNG) is to deliver lethal, ready, warfighting units, trained and professional Soldiers and Airmen in the best-led teams to fight and win our Nation's wars and serve the Hoosier state when called upon.

PROJECT NARRATIVE: Indiana National Guard intends to start a modernization project on the LaPorte Readiness Center (2391 W State Road 2) in September of 2025. This project will renovate approximately 12,200 sf and construct an addition of 3,300sf to support training, administrative and logistics for the stationed units. The Readiness Center provides assembly and training space, offices, kitchen, restrooms, classrooms, weapons and protective personal equipment storage areas. Approximately 3 full time Soldiers will work at the RC and 89 Soldiers will be stationed here to conduct training on select weekends. The site will continue to consist of a privately owned vehicle parking lot, military vehicle parking lot (fenced), site lighting and sidewalks.





LAPORTE READINESS CENTER MODERNIZATION

INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD MISSION

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PROPOSED ADDITION

The proposed addition to the LaPorte Readiness Center will modernize the facility with updated office, training, and conference spaces. This expansion addresses the facility's current inadequacies by providing necessary square footage to support the unit's mission. New furnishings, fixtures, and technology will enhance readiness, facilitate effective training, and improve retention. These renovations are intended to support the unit's training regimens, significantly boosting operational efficiency and readiness.

AESTHETIC UPGRADE

The aesthetic upgrades at the LaPorte Readiness Center aim to transform its deteriorating exterior into a modern structure that reflects the Indiana National Guard's strength. The renovations will include a revamped entryway, military storage areas, and state of the art interior space. These improvements are designed to enhance the facility's appearance and boost recruitment by projecting a contemporary, powerful image to the community.

DOMESTIC WATER & SANITRY

The existing property utilizes a well and septic system. An upgrade to a utility provided water supply and sanitary system is critical for the operation of the designed building and systems. The upgrade of mechanical and plumbing systems require higher flow rates and increased water quality. A sanitary system must be provided to adequately accept the increase from the additional of showers and fixtures.

IMAGE EXAMPLES



ADDITION AND RENOVATION RENDERING



ADDITION AND RENOVATION RENDERING