



La Porte County
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Steve Holifield
President

Connie Gramarossa
Vice President

Joe Haney
Member

La Porte County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. County Complex Room 3

President Steve Holifield called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Considered the agenda. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to add item 10 'a,' open bids for the JSC communication devices. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Considered approval of the September 16, 2026 minutes. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Considered approval of the August 24, 2026 Joint Workshop minutes. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Mike Rosenbaum read the Claims with Payroll ending 9/18/2026 - \$1,547,455.85 and 10/2/2026 - \$1,510,771.61. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve payrolls. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor Mike Rosenbaum read the Operating Expense Claims - \$2,737,715.62. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve operating claims. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

President Steve Holifield, three (3) minutes, no derogatory comments towards anybody in office, not in office, or anything.

Public Comment

Nicholas Morelli, La Porte County, wanted to know how three (3) ordinances most recently posted on the La Porte County Government website do not infringe on the rights of La Porte - **President Holifield**, speak in to the microphone please for the record. **Nicholas Morelli**, would like to know how the by-right affects citizens rights to public hearing, it's simple. Related to the three (3) ordinances, the Redevelopment Commission. **President Holifield**, it's in the ordinance. **Nicholas Morelli**, are you refusing to...**President Holifield**, no, this is Public Comment, I'm not going to answer. **Attorney Andrew Voeltz**, Mr. Holifield, if I may. **President Holifield**, yes. **Attorney Andrew Voeltz**, Mr. Morelli, it's my understanding that you've been in communication with County Attorney Guy DiMartino via email on multiple occasions and you've been directed that your redress is through the courts, do you understand that? **Nicholas Morelli**, no, I do not. **Attorney Voeltz**, okay, well, then you need to communicate further with Guy DiMartino because he has indicated to me that there is communication back and forth between the two of you with regards to what your proper redress is and your redress - sir...**Nicholas Morelli**, proper redress, sir...I'm - I request clarification under the law, would you please cite the law under which I cannot...under Public Comment. **Attorney Voeltz**, this information is already - this information has been already provided to you sir. **Nicholas Morelli**, I'm - I do not understand the information, I requested that you please explain it. **Attorney Voeltz**, and the information has been explained to you and your proper redress...sir - **Nicholas Morelli**, I'm stating I do not understand it and I'm asking that you cite the law under which I cannot speak. **Attorney Voeltz**, there's no indication that you cannot speak, sir, what the indication is, is that you have previously queried this Board and the Board's attorney and you have been provided with the information that you've requested, is that correct? **Nicholas Morelli**, I can't confirm or deny that at this moment. **Attorney Voeltz**, okay. **Nicholas Morelli**, so, I'm asking for clarification under the law, my specific public comment and I hope this isn't part of my time because we're getting - I'm trying to get clarification here and make it clear what my public comment is. **President Holifield**, Public Comment is not question and answer either, it's your public comment.

ORIGINAL

Nicholas Morelli, that's fine, I would like to make a comment. **President Holifield**, okay. **Nicholas Morelli**, and I'll put forth the question and if you'd like to answer or not, that's all up to you. So, related to the overlay at the TIF districts within La Porte County, does the by-right language in the ordinances infringe upon La Porte County's citizens' rights to public hearing? That's what the Planner told me, Mitch Bishop, I have a recording of him saying all TIF districts within La Porte County are this way, I believe there is an 'open door law' violation, people were not made aware, if you look at the La Porte County Common Council meeting last night, it was a train wreck and people were not made aware of these ordinances within proper time. **Attorney Voeltz**, and Mr. Morelli, it's been previously communicated to you that your question that you are asking during Public Comment, which is not a question-and-answer session, is properly addressed to the proper forum, which is in a court of law, is that - do you understand that? **Nicholas Morelli**, that's not adequate clarification please. **Attorney Voeltz**, well, that's the clarification from my understanding that you've been provided by the County Attorney, Guy DiMartino. **Nicholas Morelli**, I'm asking regarding my rights to speak in Public Comment regarding this issue. **President Holifield**, you've spoken. **Commissioner Joe Haney**, if you'd like to make any additional comments, please feel free. **Nicholas Morelli**, how much time have I used? **President Holifield**, you pretty much used almost three (3) minutes. **Nicholas Morelli**, I've asked for clarification, that's not Public Comment. **President Holifield**, sir, your time is up, please sit down. **Nicholas Morelli**, my time is not up, I asked, cite me the law, - **President Holifield**, sir, your time is up and your questions have been answered by our Attorney. **Nicholas Morelli**, state the law under which I cannot speak. **President Holifield**, he did, he told you to go speak at court, please sit down. **Nicholas Morelli**, this is illegal. **President Holifield**, no, it's not. **Nicholas Morelli**, yes, it is, I have a right to speak. **President Holifield**, then go see a lawyer. **Nicholas Morelli**, clarification is not Public Comment. **President Holifield**, Mr. Raymer, will you help him find his seat please. **Nicholas Morelli**, please cite the law. **Attorney Voeltz**, Mr. Holifield, the matter has been addressed, the individual has expressed his right under Public Comment, this is not a question-and-answer session. **Nicholas Morelli**, please cite the law. **Attorney Voeltz**, so therefore, his Public Comment has been made and no further action needs to be taken. **President Holifield**, okay, yes, then he needs to stop speaking. **Nicholas Morelli**, the law must be addressed. **Commissioner Haney**, do you have any other comment? **Nicholas Morelli**, yes. **Commissioner Haney**, what is your comment? **Nicholas Morelli**, I'm not commenting further until clarification is made. **Member of the audience**, come on, just sit down, just have a seat, we've all got a meeting to attend, bud. **Commissioner Haney**, sir, you've been provided with ample information and clarification. **Nicholas Morelli**, I have not been provided with my full time for Public Comment. **President Holifield**, yes, you have. **Member of the audience**, have a seat. **Nicholas Morelli**, I asked for clarification, that is not Public Comment. **President Holifield**, Mr. Lefeber, hang on. **Member of the audience**, sorry. **President Holifield**, hang on. **Nicholas Morelli**, I have a legal right to clarification. **Commissioner Haney**, sir and you've been provided by our County Attorney. **Attorney Voeltz**, and your legal right for clarification is properly addressed. **Nicholas Morelli**, I don't think so. **Attorney Voeltz**, in the proper forum for which you have been directed by the County Attorney, you acknowledge that, correct? **President Holifield**, there's nothing more we can do for you. **Nicholas Morelli**, no, I cannot confirm nor deny that and I will, I'm asking for clarification, please allow me - **Commissioner Gramarossa**, call for a recess. **President Holifield**, no, I will not let them tell me to recess. **Nicholas Morelli**, clarification under the law. **Attorney Voeltz**, sir... **President Holifield**, your time is up. **Attorney Voeltz**, ...you asked for clarification...**Nicholas Morelli**, on which I cannot continue my Public Comment. **President Holifield**, your time is up. You're allowed three (3) minutes. **Officer Raymer** approaches the podium, asking Mr. Morelli to take his seat. **Nicholas Morelli**, recite the law under which...what is your name, sir? (inaudible) Yes, you do... **President Holifield**, sir, you're disrupting our meeting now. **Nicholas Morelli**, I'm not trying to. **President Holifield**, yes, you are. **Nicholas Morelli**, trying to obtain clarification under the law. **President Holifield**, you've been told how to. **Officer Raymer**, please sit down. **Nicholas Morelli**, I do not understand... **President Holifield**, you've been told how, then I suggest you go back to school, learn how government works. **Commissioner Haney**, please feel free to continue emailing. **Attorney Voeltz**, Mr. Holifield - **Nicholas Morelli**, cite the law...**President Holifield**, I'm sorry, we're going to disagree on this. **Nicholas Morelli**, why I cannot continue my public hearing - how much time did I use? What law am I breaking, sir? **Officer Raymer**, it's almost ten (10) minutes after now. **Nicholas Morelli**, please cite the law - **Officer Raymer**, please have a seat. **Nicholas Morelli**, under which I cannot speak publicly, sir. **Attorney Voeltz**, Mr. Morelli, you've been previously provided with this information by the County Attorney, sir, I'm speaking... **Nicholas Morelli**, cite the law under which I cannot speak. **Attorney Voeltz**, it has been previously indicated to you by the County Attorney. **Nicholas Morelli**, no. **President Holifield**, yes, it has. **Attorney Voeltz**, then your proper redress is in a court of law, it is not in this forum. **Nicholas Morelli**, I am a citizen, I have a right to Public Comment and clarification before the Public Comment time starts. **Officer Raymer**, please take your seat. **Nicholas Morelli**, please don't touch me (to Officer Raymer). **President Holifield**, oh, good God. **Nicholas Morelli** to Officer Raymer, please cite under which law I am breaking. **Officer Raymer**, then sit down. **Nicholas Morelli**, please cite the law under which I am breaking and I will sit. **Officer Raymer**, I don't know which law you - **President Holifield**, okay, the lawyer has explained it. **Nicholas Morelli**, I have a Public Comment, I'm requiring clarification, I'm asking President Steve Holifield how much time...**President Holifield**, that's not what Public Comment is for, you've used up more than three (3) minutes. **Nicholas Morelli**, that was clara - we're talking specifically regarding clarification...**President Holifield**, we're done, we're moving on. **Nicholas Morelli**, we're talking... **President Holifield**, anybody else for Public Comment? **Nicholas Morelli**, this is illegal...**President Holifield**, then have us arrested please, anyone else for Public Comment? Public Comment is now closed. Moving on, Department Head Comments, do we have any Department Head Comments, please step forward to the microphone and speak. **Nicholas Morelli**, please cite the law under which...**Officer Raymer**, I'm not telling you again. **Attorney Voeltz**, Mr. Holifield - **President Holifield**, we're moving on with the meeting. **Nicholas Morelli** takes his seat. **Attorney Voeltz**, there is another individual that has expressed his request for Public Comment. **President Holifield**, okay, I didn't see anybody raise a hand. Mr. Callas, please come forward, I'm sorry about that, George.

ORIGINAL

George Callas, Toronado Dr., La Porte, no trouble this time, just a quick comment, I know you passed the pooling thing over to the Council, to figure out something, I just want to bring out a point if I'm working for somebody, they send me to Indianapolis, I don't have a pool car, I have to use my personal car, right? **President Holifield**, you get paid mileage. **George Callas**, okay, but what happens if I have an accident, my car is totaled, my insurance company gives me \$5,000 and it's going to cost me another \$25,000 to replace it. Is that just tough or is the County going to give me the difference of what it's going to cost to replace it? Just something to think about, I'm never going to use my car because it's happened to me before and I refused to do the job. Just bringing this out, my comments.

Department Head Comments

Rob Sabie, EMS Director, updates on the DERECHO storm that came through on August 11th, SDR is still removing debris, possibly done by the first week in November. About 90% done with all hanging/broken branches on trees. 40-50% done with debris removal, includes grinding up what we have and hauling it away. Heard people saying trees were being cut down just for the money and that is not the case, there is a group monitoring what can/cannot be cut down, photos are taken of everything prior to taking any trees down. This Friday and Saturday we have a one-stop-shop held at the Fairgrounds, multiple agencies will be there to help answer questions, fill out paperwork. Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Community Building. Majority of your questions can be answered on these days. Right now, we do have people in the County being assisted with temporary housing, they're looking for long-term housing so they've been putting them in hotels due to house damage. Housing support will be at the Community Building. Insurance policies can be reviewed or if you lost them due to water damage. Public Health, both State/County, will be attending to answer questions and possibly provide vital records; birth/death certificates, immunization records, cleanup guidance say for mold. Disaster Unemployment/Lost wages due to the storm, if your business was shut down, BMV will be there to help replace titles, driver's license or state id cards. Social Services will be there for mental health service referrals. State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) will be onsite with applications for assistance. General concerns, small business guidance on recovery resources for unmet needs for clothing, food, cleanup assistance through local volunteer organizations. Guidance regarding potential fraudulent contractors' concerns. Guidance for USDA for agriculture loss, FEMA will be in attendance to answer questions from previous paperwork submitted. Small Business Association for low-interest loans. Assessor's office will be available with Form 137s for reassessment for property damage. **President Holifield**, sat in on a Zoom meeting with Department of Homeland Security, if you live on a flood plain, it is category I, 1-833-495-9888 between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Est or go to insdprogram@tetrattech.com, should be able to help you with property damage. **Rob Sabie**, we're working with VOAD out of the State and United Way on long-term recovery, there will be a meeting next week, notices will go out. Some residents still have trees down in their yards, we're trying to get help with all of that, insurances may be paying only \$500 and that is not enough to have a tree removed, may be around \$5,000-\$6,000 so if you have five (5) or six (6) trees down, that's a lot of money. Our County did have a lot of damages, we had about five (5) homes destroyed, approximately 60 with major damages, but we were not as bad as the two (2) counties west of us.

Commissioner Haney, we've got one more thing, Mr. Ferraro, could you come up and join Mr. Sabie? **Anthony Ferraro**, Senior Policy Advisor for Governor Mike Braun, I had the honor of being co-incident Commander during the storms for District 1. I know I spoke with I think almost all of you if not back/forth, I had the opportunity to work directly with Rob and other EMAs across the District, I can tell you, in evidence by everything, all this information and involvement in the recovery phase, still, the level of professionalism that you here in your EMA Director is outstanding, so, I appreciated when Mr. Haney reached out and asked if we could get him recognition for him and his team's efforts, the Governor agreed, and so today 'To All Whom Though These Presents May Come Greetings, **Whereas**, some individuals may distinguish themselves through significant contributions to their communities; **Whereas**, the qualities and such characteristics of such individuals reflect the best of the great State of Indiana, **Whereas**, these actions of individuals endear them in the hearts and minds of all Hoosiers, and **Whereas**, the below named individual is such a person who has earned the respect and admiration of Hoosiers across the State and is worthy to join the ranks of those so honored, **Now** therefore, I, Mike Braun, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby declare and report **Rob Sabie**, as a distinguished Hoosier.' Congratulations, sir. **Rob Sabie**, thank you. I'd just like to add that this is a team effort, Cody as well, our staff, but as Countywide, I mean we all came together, there's a whole bunch of people sitting in the back row there that everybody, all the County agencies came together, we're all still working, I appreciate it, thank you. **Anthony Ferraro**, I anticipated those comments and so we have an additional letter for the team, because we understand that we're one people but it's always the folks underneath us that are getting it done every day so there's an additional letter of congratulations and approbation from the Governor for the team. **Rob Sabie**, well, thank you. I accept that on behalf of the whole County.

Mike Rosenbaum, Auditor, announced on Tuesday, October 13th at 10:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds, the County is holding a tax sale for over 300 properties, information details will be on the County's website and other places. On Wednesday, October 14th at 5:30 p.m. in this room, the County Council will hold a Special Meeting Public Hearing on the following items; Local Income Tax Modification for EMS; La Porte County Government 2027 budget and La Porte County Solid Waste Management 2027 budget. Proper notice has been placed in both newspapers. For State purposes, Form there (3), notice to taxpayers on the State website, known as Gateway, which is a summary of the budget for 2027. Also posted on our County website. The Public Notice also informs the public that further budget information is available at Solid Waste for their budget and in the Auditor's office for the County Government budget. Commented the implementation of an additional local income for EMS is one of the remaining tools to recover the loss of real property and personal property tax revenue, this will free up monies in the general fund to pay for upcoming major repairs to multiple structures,

such as the La Porte Courthouse and Michigan City bridge, the two (2) largest repairs. Currently, the County cannot go out and bond for these projects as the County has not restored its credit rating. The State Board of Accounts is in the process of finalizing the 2025 audit under the generally accepted accounting principles, also referred to as GAAP. Upon release of the report, it may take a few months for credit authorities to review before our credit rating can be reestablished. On another matter, there have been misstatements about his office and he would like to clarify, the Real Estate office and no one in the Auditor's office has direct access to Beacon, we can only enter information, address changes or information changes we enter into the Low software, to tell anybody that we have access to Beacon is a misstatement, it is not true. The only people that have access to Beacon is the Assessor's office where they upload information, at least on an annual basis, unless there's some other things that must occur, we also have a GIS officer that has access to it as well, but not my department. Reported next that when numbers are attached to properties, sometimes it's for real property tax or personal property tax, so when a question is asked about another department, please send the info to me, or Joie, if you believe the information is needed in our office. Joie can do quick research on anything if needed. Please forward any requests that may be sent to you and it should go to another department, forward it on to the Department Head. Lastly, heard earlier this morning, he wasn't expecting it, he heard from the person auditing our Workman's Comp, it is being finalized as we speak, and we will get an assessment. There was an overall increase in payroll from what was projected because when it was projected, it was projected without raises and last year there was 3% raises. There are different classifications of employees. Thank you.

Monique Thomas, HR Director, Open Enrollment begins October 26th through November 6th, this will be 'in-person' enrollment with our representatives from American Fidelity on-site, in different buildings, emails will be sent out. November 9-13 will be 'in-calls' for those who cannot make it during the prior two weeks for in-person appointments. Also thanked everyone who participated in the Food Truck events at both Michigan City and La Porte locations. **Commissioner Connie Gramarossa** asked about those that fail to register for Open Enrollment, what other ways are you getting the word out about Open Enrollment besides the email. **Monique Thomas**, American Fidelity sends out text messages, emails and postcards are sent to addresses on file to each employee and for those that say they were not notified, there is a record kept on file indicating they were contacted, there is a reminder sent out as well the day prior to the appointment. There is a 1-800 number to call with any questions.

Commissioner Joe Haney, reminded all that the Commissioners can be reached any time, the County Attorney as well, but when it comes to a technology park overlay, a TIF District, those are two (2) very different things, when it comes to say a BZA hearing, if there's a variance, anything that would have to go before the BZA for a hearing regardless, when it comes to - if there is no need for a variance then obviously there's no need to go before the BZA, as far as public hearings, public meetings, anything that is voted on and decided for be it through the RDC, Plan Commission, County Council, through our Board here, Commissioners, anytime there's any kind of public vote, there is a period for either remonstrators, public comment or both, none of that changes, encourages any one that is curious, all the different Joint Zoning Ordinances, are all posted online on the County website. The Data Center Ordinance that was passed is on the County website for viewing. The KIP Technology Park overlay is also posted online, when it comes to the TIF District, a TIF District map is significantly different than what a Technology Park overlay is, for example out in KIP, that Technology Park overlay is only on the portion of the Industrial Park and only on M2 Heavy Industry, the TIF map itself for the TIF district that's around that area, is larger than that and those are two (2) very different things, TIF being Tax Increment Finance District, it's a lot to get into here in the meeting for brevity, if there are any questions, reach out to any of us, County Attorney, Planning Department, Planning Commission, more than happy to answer the questions.

Requests

Considered permission to approach the Council for Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$75,000 for budget shortages. **Eric Fenstermaker**, EMS Director, all of the shortages are related to fuel. Gas prices have increased, our call loads are up so we're short in gas and oil, obviously for our ambulances, the other two (2) are other ops which is mainly our oxygen supply, delivery surcharge has gone up to recoup their fuel costs and then corporate compliance, which is all of our other expendable supplies that we use on our ambulances. Each one is \$25,000, totaling \$75,000. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Considered temporary road closures for film making. **Michael Angelo Bernacchi**, La Porte resident, writer/producer of a feature film called **Belle**. We are filming in La Porte County exclusively and a bit in downtown La Porte. Requesting permission for limited temporary closures solely for the safety of shooting some scenes of the film. As for the film's nature, when he was a young boy he would sit and listen to his grandfather, Angelo Bernacchi, who would pedal produce in 1908 to the Guinness Farm. Yes, Belle Guinness was his customer. He was the inspiration that Michael wrote the script screenplay about, Michael created a romantic relationship between his grandfather and Belle Guinness' foster daughter, so not only do we have a historical story going on based on America's most prolific female serial killer, we also have a romantic subplot which really differentiates this film. We have extreme interests across the Country in the industry, people know we're doing this and it's going to be filmed right here in La Porte. Our first day of principal photography is right around the 27th of this month and we're talking about wrapping up right around November 20th. For the details of these road closures and detours that we need to make this safe, and we realize that it's an imperative, the Commission's purpose is the safety of the residents in those areas and we realize that, this is one reason that we're thinking that if we close these roads, that we would be very, very much safer for the filming. On the details, our Production Assistant Miki Taylor is with me and she'll give you the details.

Miki Taylor, as I spoke with Diane and Steve earlier, there are specific areas we need closed down for the shooting, the first one, Orr Lake Mansion, we will be filming at the mansion itself, we will need road closure on that section of road.

1) Road in front of Orr Lake Mansion:

- Closure Details: W. Small Road from just east of N. Timber Ridge Road heading east to just west of N. 400 W.
- Requested Dates: November 2-11, 2026
- Timing: Intermittent closures needed during various times of the day and night.
- Note: Our production team will manage the barricades daily to ensure the road remains open whenever closures are not actively required.

2) Orr Lake Road:

- Closure Details: Orr Lake Road beginning just north of the final residence, continuing NW to the intersection of Orr Lake Drive
- Duration: Approximately one-half day
- Date: TBD

3) 18th St. (in front of 2532 W. 18th St.)

- Closure Details: 18th St. closed from east of S. Redbud Dr. heading east to S. Westwood Dr., including the intersection of S. Nursery Road to 18th Street
- Scheduled Date: November 12, 2026
- Backup Date: November 11, 2026 (weather backup)

Shooting at night will take place inside the Orr Mansion. Outside shooting will be 3-4 hours maximum, behind the Orr Mansion in the woods. This will not disrupt anyone in the rural neighborhood. **Commissioner Gramarossa motioned to approve. Commissioner Haney seconded. Motion carried 3-0.** **Michael Angelo Bernacchi**, we were just approved by the State of Indiana for the Indiana film tax credit, we are the first feature film, one of the first, if not the first, to be eligible for these particular funds, we are so proud of that, we just got the information and we wanted to share that with you. **President Holifield**, Belle Gunness was interesting when I was in school, to learn how she lured a bunch of men there under false pretenses and then they just disappeared. **Michael Angelo Bernacchi**, it's going to be special, it's going to have an economic impact, we're bringing in a lot of people, approximately 75 different people from all over the Country, East Coast, West Coast, Florida, it's going to be a fun production and it's right here in town. **President Holifield**, thank you, sir. **Commissioner Haney**, thank you.

Old Business

Considered bid opening for JSC controls. **Angie Davis**, Facilities Director. **Auditor Mike Rosenbaum**, one bid, timely received on 9-16-2026 at 8:45 a.m. **Attorney Andrew Voeltz** opened the sealed bid, properly timed and received. **Commissioner Haney motioned to show the one bid timely received. Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried 3-0.** **Auditor Rosenbaum**, one bid from D. A. Dodd, D.B.A OJS Building Services (Reliable Control). **Commissioner Haney** suggested Director Davis to take a look at the bid then return at the end of our meeting with a recommendation. **President Holifield**, these are the controls that open and close the valves for the heating and air conditioning at the Juvenile Service Center. **Angie Davis**, last winter we had two (2) coils frozen because they weren't working. **Auditor Rosenbaum**, earlier this week we learned that JSC had received a \$1,000,000.00 grant from Lilly, not sure what it says exactly but we will look at it to see if issues like this can be paid for repairs. **Attorney Andrew Voeltz**, for transparency purposes, the base bid is for all work required for a complete BAS retrofit/upgrade excluding only separately identified alternates, the base bid amount is \$106,625.00 from D. A. Dodd/OJS, 2516 N. Home Street, Mishawaka, Indiana, 46545. Authorized contact is Andrew Miller; the primary BAS manufacturer platform is Reliable Controls. Paperwork was then handed over to Director of Facilities **Angie Davis**. **Commissioner Gramarossa**, do we have the approval of the attorney? **Attorney Andrew Voeltz**, it is the only bid that was submitted, it is in proper form but the Department Head will verify that all requirements are met. Yes, we could accept the bid at this meeting once reviewed by **Angie Davis**.

New Business

Considered proposal for Dental and Vision. **Eric Gibson**, Highstreet Insurance, seeking approval for both dental and vision plans. We took both to market with 14 different insurance carriers, the equitable renewal on the dental came in at a 30% increase, that was due to claims unfortunately, vision was a rate hold. Pacific Life came in very aggressive on it and they're actually slightly below on dental, but a \$1,500.00 annual savings. Vision is also slightly below as well on the current, it's about \$4,000 annual savings there, the only plan changes would be for the dental, there's no teeth whitening that would be covered and panoramic x-rays are going to be basic, it will not be considered preventative. The only plan change on the vision is a slightly lower allowance on the lenses and frames. We did a deep dive on the network meaning we took the County's claims and overlaid it with the network, there is a single provider that is impacted in the entire County, our recommendation would be to take the almost \$60,000 swing versus the renewal and go to Pacific Life. **Commissioner Haney motioned to approve.** Thank you for doing the deep dive, the switch will save us a lot of money and the employees direct money as well. That is unfortunate for whoever uses that one provider but all the other ones used by the employees will be able to continue doing so, it's going to be nice. **Commissioner Gramarossa**, what is going to be the actual increase for the employees? **Eric Gibson**, it will be an actual slight decrease for the employees. **Commissioner Gramarossa**, what is the percentage? **Eric Gibson**, on the dental, it's going to be a .17 cents savings, on a family plan it will be .60 cents savings and then on the vision it's going to be .56 cents for individual and for family it's going to be \$1.66. **Commissioner Gramarossa seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

ORIGINAL

Considered Ordinance to change speed limit on West 400 North, Coolspring Township, between North 950 West/Cleveland Avenue and North 875 West. **Mike Yacullo**, Engineer, we reviewed the current speed limit, a speed study was done, geometry of the roadway and in both cases, it was indicated to raise the speed limit from 35 mph to 40 mph to match the speed limit further east on N. 400 W. Once you get west of Cleveland Avenue, with all the congestion, traffic for all the businesses in that area, it is appropriate to go from 35 mph to 40 mph from Cleveland Avenue to 875 West. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to read by title only. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Attorney Andrew Voeltz, An Ordinance setting new speed limit on County Road 400 North between Cleveland Avenue and County Road 875 West. **Commissioner Haney** motioned to approve on first reading. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Attorney Andrew Voeltz, unanimous vote therefore no second reading is required, passed on first reading. ***Ordinance 2026-8.

Commissioner Haney motioned to adjourn at 10:52 a.m. **Commissioner Gramarossa** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.



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

DATE 10-21-2026

[Signature]
[Signature]

ATTEST: _____
Auditor

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

ORIGINAL