



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAPORTE COUNTY

555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202  
LaPorte, IN 46350-3400  
Phone: (219) 326-6808 ext. 2229 – FAX: (219) 326-9103

Dave Decker,  
President

Dr. Vidya Kora,  
Vice President

Michael Bohacek,  
Member

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

## MINUTES

### LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

To be held at 6:00 p.m. in the LaPorte County Complex Meeting Room #3

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**  
Commissioner Decker called the meeting to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**  
All Commissioners were present.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
Commissioner Kora moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. **April 6, 2016**  
Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. **CLAIMS**
  - A. **Payroll Ending 04/08/2016-\$1,056,364.37**  
**Miscellaneous Claims-\$1,983,795.40**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
Commissioner Decker indicated that there will be a separate public comment for the Railroad topic. Dennis Metheny appeared before the Commissioner with questions regarding the County Home.
8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**  
Jerry Cooley appeared before the Commission and indicated that they have investigated the damage caused by the power surge in March, he said the amount to repair the damage is in excess of \$100,000.00 and will need to be submitted as an insurance claim. Commissioner Bohacek indicated that there is an issue with Security accessing cameras at the Hiler building. Mr. Cooley stated that they are trying to find the issue with the help of the IT department.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE**
10. **REQUESTS**
  - A. **Larry Butcher-EMA-Request for out of state travel to Atlanta, GA for training.**  
Mr. Butcher indicated that he needs to withdraw his request at this time. He further requested permission to store county property in areas not owned by the county. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
  - B. **Judge Thorne-Superior 3-Request regarding LADS office space in Circuit Courthouse.**  
Judge Thorne appeared to inform the Commissioners of the needed space and the renovations that would need to be made in that space. The Commission discussed with the Auditor where the money can come from for the renovations. Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve with an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
  - C. **Mike Yacullo-Engineer-Request signature of Professional Services Contract Amendment with URS for design of Johnson Rd. & CR 400 North**  
Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
11. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. **Consider 2nd and final reading of Planned Unit Development ordinance – IU LaPorte Health development at 400 N/Johnson Rd**

Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Update on Great Lakes Basin RR proposal – conditions provided to Developer by County Attorney’s office/Discuss multiple steps remaining before property acquisition can occur.

Commissioner Kora read a fact sheet indicating that there is a long way to go before seeing how this project will turn out. He further indicated that the Commission has given the developer a series of conditions that must be met in order to have the support of the Commission. Commissioner Kora moved to approve the fact sheet. Commissioner Bohacek seconded with the amendment to include Pinola. Motion carried by voice vote.

- B. Consider notifying Indiana Division of Aging of formal date for closing/mothballing County Home/update on remaining residents’ transfer to St. Joseph County.

Commissioner Kora moves to approve. Commissioner Bohacek seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

- C. Conduct public hearing on 3rd batch of parcels for Hoosier Homestead program; consider resolution formally assigning tax certificate in 3rd batch to Housing Opportunities Inc.”

Public comment was open. No public comment was rendered. Commissioner Bohacek moves to sign the certificates over to Housing Opportunities. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

- D. Consider resolution identifying 4th batch of parcels for Hoosier Homestead program; set public hearing/issue notice for hearing at meeting on May 4, 2016 for 4th batch of parcels.

Commissioner Bohacek moves to approve. Commissioner Kora seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Kora indicated that last week he and Terry Garner, the Auditor, and Mr. Cooley went to the Michigan City Courthouse to examine the space due to a request from the Prosecutor for more offices. He indicated that a space study may be necessary.

Commissioner Bohacek indicated that he was invited to come to Hannah to answer questions about sewers and infrastructures and how they can benefit Hannah. He wanted to be clear in saying there is no plan for sewers in Hannah.

Commissioner Decker thanked Dr. Kora for participating in the National Association of Counties drug task force this past week in Washington D.C.

14. ADJOURN

Commissioner Decker adjourned the meeting.

LA PORTE COUNTY, INDIANA  
Auditor  
ATTEST:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
COUNTY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA  
EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE