



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LA PORTE COUNTY
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**Dr. Vidya Kora,
President**

**Sheila Brillson,
Vice President**

**Richard Mrozinski,
Member**

**LA PORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at the La Porte County Complex Meeting Room #3 at 10:00 a.m.**

President Vidya Kora called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

President Kora asked Bob Cutler to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence followed for the passing of Mike McGuire, father of Andrew McGuire, EMS Director.

Auditor Joie Winski called the roll: Commissioner Brillson – Present; Commissioner Kora – Present; Commissioner Mrozinski – Present. Quorum present therefore a meeting commenced.

Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve the agenda after adding under New Business “Letter of Support for Head Start Grant with PNW. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered approval of January 2, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Auditor Winski read the claims with Payroll ending 1/11/19 and 1/25/2019 and miscellaneous claims of \$884,416.66.

Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered Policy to encourage effective, efficient use of Public Comment to assist Commission. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve after reading the Policy in to the minutes. (Attached to these minutes.) Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

Public Comment: Lisa Pierzakowski, Center Township Trustee, reported to the Commissioners the 48 hours during the below zero temperatures her office stayed open as a warming center. Thanked EMA for providing cots for people to sleep on. Lisa inquired about the County Home – has it been sold yet? President Kora responded that additional appraisals were being conducted.

Department Head Comments: Mike Quinn, Weights & Measures Inspector, reported to the Commissioners that his department consists of one full time and one part time employee. State of Indiana requires a county with population of 30,000 or more to provide an Inspector that is under the jurisdiction of the State Health Department. All equipment is owned by the County but must be certified by the NIST Lab. One vehicle has an insert to check gas pumps and transport all weights used in Inspections. Mike’s department also has a 100 gallon prover on a trailer used in High Flow Fuel Pumps and Bulk Truck Meters. There are 67 regular gas stations and 10 High Flow Fuel stations in our county. In the past year 2,107 tests or inspections were completed. Different types of Scales are inspected as well, 535 were done at 156 locations in our county on computing scales, portable & dormant, gram scales, pharmacy, non-commercial, Hopper scales at concrete plants and grain elevators. Scales at Farmers Markets and all grocery stores as well. La Porte County has 25 locations with vehicle scales. Six locations provide fuel via a bulk truck meter to famers and kerosene customers with 34 such meters inspected yearly. Laundromat dryers were inspected last year, 170 of them at 7 locations. Taxis are inspected. Grocery stores, 6,705 items at 9 locations, were inspected or package check audits were done to ensure the “tare” was accurate on the package. Motto is “Equity May Prevail” indicating the Inspector is keeping an eye on consumer pricing. Weights & Measures Department has been in the State of Indiana over 106 years and in the US since George Washington’s days.

Larry Levendowski, Building Maintenance Director, reported he has 11 buildings his office maintains with 9 House Keepers and 11 Maintenance Personnel. He has been assessing repairs that need to be done. Larry stated he will be implementing a Preventive Maintenance Schedule. A work order system is currently being used by all Departments to instill time accountability, efficient/timely repairs and decrease turnaround time on repairs. He has done an employee realignment by scheduling House Keeping hours in accordance with hours of operation. Team building with a monthly employee recognition. A plan has been put in place to address current projects: Clerk’s office, 3rd elevator ceiling tiles, jail dampers and La Porte Courthouse outside lights and the bell.

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Requests:

Considered request of Sheriff's Office to approach Council to pay for retiring employee David Chapell's 60 days of unused sick time. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried. **Considered request of Erika Stallworth**, Juvenile Services Director to travel March 24-30 to Washington, D.C. for training/conference. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered request from Prosecutor John Lake for Kristina Armstrong to travel Feb. 5-7 to Washington, D.C. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered requests of \$500 each from Pioneer Land, Wanatah American Legion, Fish Lake Land Trust, Rolling Prairie Business & Community Assoc and PDK Foundation from CVB Community Event Fund. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered request of HR Director Barb Mossman for signature on employee health plan documents reviewed by Health Insurance Agent-of-Record Craig Menne. Requested permission for travel to Las Vegas. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered authorizing EMS director to approach Council to fully equip donated EMS ambulance. Requested permission to open bidding for two replacement ambulances. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered request of EMA to approach Council to find funds for relocating two sirens. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered recommendation of E-911 Advisory Committee to appoint Steve Alt as Director and consider appointment of Wendy Perkins as "Acting" Assistant Director. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered recommendation of La Porte Co. Historical Society to appoint Christina Tapia as Assistant Director of the County Museum. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered Appointment of Scott Cooley to the La Porte County Redevelopment Commission. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered Re-Appointment of County Councilman Mark Yagelski as county's "representative" to Swanson Center Board of Directors. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered Appointment of John Coulter, Sr. to the Kankakee River Basin Commission. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

New Business:

Considered Appointment of "Working Group" to study rural broadband initiative/fiber optic network in rural parts of La Porte County. Commissioner Mrozinski motioned to approve. Commissioner Brillson seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered authorizing addition of all fairgrounds buildings onto county's general liability policies – John Jones, Liability Agent-of-Record, Michiana Insurance. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried.

Considered Ordinance for proposed speed limit change on Garden Street near La Porte. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve first reading. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve on second reading. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried. *****Ordinance 2019-1**

Considered Resolution of Support for Vibrant Communities Initiative – Maggi Spartz, Unity Foundation and Jack Arnett, La Porte County CVB. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motioned carried. No public comment was heard. *****Resolution 2019-2**

Considered requesting County Building Commissioner to issue "Red Tag" regarding Pond Construction on property owned by Ryan Miller/D&M Construction on N. 400 W. near Schultz Road. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. President Kora stepped down and seconded. Motioned carried. Commissioner Mrozinski voted no.

Considered Memorandum of Understanding to provide for a temporary parking lot for county employees during 2019 Overpass Construction and also approve outlines of proposed property swap with County assuming N-S lot behind Ludwig's as well as Circle by LP Courthouse in return for Don George property conveyed to City of La Porte with resolution authorizing start of conveyance process. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered proposed engagement of Marissa Lynch as governmental affairs consultant/lobbyist for La Porte County. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

Considered request for signatures on the Lincoln Trail Extension project. Commissioner Brillson motioned to approve. Commissioner Mrozinski seconded. Motion carried.

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