



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAPORTE COUNTY

Circuit Courthouse
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Marlow Harmon, President

Barbara Huston

William Hager

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2006

The LaPorte County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 21, 2006 in the lobby level meeting room #3 of the LaPorte County Annex and Security Complex at 10:00 a.m...

LaPorte County Commission President Marlow Harmon called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m...

Present at the meeting were Commission President Marlow Harmon, Commission Vice President Barbara Huston, Commission Member William Hager. Also, present at the meeting were County Attorney Robert Szilagyi, Executive Secretary Linda Arnett and Commission Assistant Monique Gillard.

Commissioner Hager led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Harmon, I would like to amend the agenda and ask the board to meet after this meeting to review the plans of the walkway and possibly put it out for bids.

Mrs. Huston made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the minutes of February 7, 2006 as submitted, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

WEEKLY REPORTS

Commissioner's review the weekly reports during the meeting.

CLAIMS

PAYROLL

Mrs. Huston, made a motion to approve Payroll Ending February 24, 2006, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

MISCELLANEOUS CLAIMS

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve Miscellaneous Claims in the amount of \$2,154,673.33, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REQUESTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Appointment to LaPorte County Fair Board

Mrs. Huston made a motion to appoint Mr. Harmon, the chairmen will second the motion. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 2-1, with Mr. Hager voting nay.

Final Approval, LaPorte County Personnel Policy

Mr. Harmon, we have spent the last 2 years to draw this up and we have taken recommendations and we need to adopt as printed and move forward.

Mrs. Huston made a motion to approve, second by Mr. Hager.

Mr. Harmon, we have questions on the motion. There are some departments that do have addendums to the policy manual, those departments' heads that have those addendums will be sent a letter advising them to get them to the commissioners for approval. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Harmon, Madam Secretary you will notify each department head that has addendums to get the addendums together and present them to the Board of Commissioners to be reviewed and adopted. I think it is important for the department heads that have addendums, review the policy manual first before they present the addendums so they won't have any conflicts or duplicates what we have in the policy manual. Resolution #2006-04

NEW BUSINESS

Walt Sell, LaPorte County Extension Director—Win Tax appropriation in the amount of \$40,000.00 4-H Program

Mr. Sell, I am here to ask for your support and approval of \$40,000.00 out of Win Tax Funds for assistance to help the 4-H Program.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to approve the request of Mr. Sell and appropriate \$40,000.00 out of Win Tax, second by Mrs. Huston.

Mrs. Huston, I do have a question one of the reasons we wanted to be on the Fair Board was so we could give the money directly to them, is that right.

Attorney Szilagyi, this is not suppose to be given to the Fair Board it is to be given to the 4-H directly.

Mr. Sell, this is per the State Auditors request that we handle the money that way.

Mrs. Huston, I thought that was because didn't have anybody on the Fair Board and I thought was because we couldn't give the money directly to the Fair because we were not represented.

Attorney Szilagyi, the State Board of Accounts wants the county as far as the separate account for the and Mr. Sell would send in the invoices to be paid out so we would know where the \$40,000.00 goes.

Mrs. Huston, I understand that but I thought one of the reasons we struggled to be on the board was so that we could do things for the Fair and I thought that part of this money was part of that for the 4-II.

Attorney Szilagyi, it is my understanding that the State Board of Accounts wanted more of a paper trail.

Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Ordinance to Re-Establish the LaPorte County Emergency Medical Services

Mr. Harmon, Mrs. Pease you have gone thru this ordinance with the county attorney.

Ms. Pease, yes and we needed to go thru and update.

Mrs. Huston, is this the updated one?

Mrs. Pease, yes.

Mr. Harmon, we have an ordinance before us on first reading by title only, hearing no objections, Ordinance to Re-Establish the LaPorte County Emergency Medical Services.

Mrs. Huston made the motion to adopt the Ordinance on first reading by title only, second by Mr. Hager. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Harmon do we want to move this on for second reading, hearing no objection. Mr. Hager, made a motion to move on second and second and final reading.

Mr. Harmon, an Ordinance to Re-Establish the LaPorte County Emergency Medical Services.

Mr. Hager, made a motion to accept the Ordinance on second and final reading, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mr. Harmon, this will be known as Ordinance # 2006-02

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Harmon, we have a project coming up on the south side of Michigan City, south of 400 North and 950 West where we have a company that is in the process of moving to LaPorte County. There are issues that we have to be involved in as far as Redevelopment Board is the design of the road the access road into the facilities. At this time we are at the point that we need to put an engineering firm in place and we are going to try to move forward with this today so when we go before the Redevelopment Board tonight we can advise them that the engineering firm has been chosen to design that road. At this time we had some drawings done but now we need to know what the cost of this project is going to be and that is what the purpose of this engineering firm will be to design this.

Mrs. Huston, would like to recommend Beem Longest and Neff Engineering Firm, second by Mr. Hager.

Mr. Harmon, just a comment I think that this is a good choice do to the fact that Beem Longest and Neff are already designing 400 North at that intersection so that will save us some costs.

Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

Mrs. Huston, I have two things one is John Wantuch he presented us with a letter and this has to do with the Medals that were given out and this is a letter to the editors in reference to the Veterans Ceremony. Mrs. Huston reads letter from Bob Miller.

Mrs. Huston, The second thing I would like to say is that it been brought to our attention that there have been employees going to the basement of both the complex and the courthouse and smoking on their breaks instead of going outside. When you come to the commissioners and this was prior to my being elected a commissioner there was thru the state a ordinance that there is no smoking in either building and I do understand that it is very difficult some times when it is so cold to go outside and smoke but it is a ordinance that we expect everyone to comply with, we won't issue any fines we are just please asking that as elected officials you work with us and encourage your people to go outside and smoke. It is a State Law and we are asking everyone to comply with no smoking in the buildings.

Mr. Harmon, I am not a smoker and I don't mind that people smoke but we do have the rules to go by and I hope the employees comply.

Mr. Harmon, we will meet with DLZ in reference to the walkway, I would like the board to make a motion if we approve of the plans that they have now that we allow DLZ to put them out for bids.

Mr. Hager, I would put that in the form of a motion, second by Mrs. Huston. Motion carried with a roll-call vote 3-0.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Harmon adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m...

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

Marlow Harmon, Commission President

Barbara Huston

Barbara Huston, Commission Vice President

William Hager

William Hager, Commission Member

ATTEST: *Teresa Shuter*
Teresa Shuter, LaPorte County Auditor