



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAPORTE COUNTY

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*Barbara Huston
President*

*Mike Bohacek
Vice President*

*Ken Layton
Member*

LAPORTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

The LaPorte County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the LaPorte County Complex Meeting Room #3.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mrs. Huston, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Braje led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Huston, Mr. Layton

Absent: Mr. Bohacek

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Layton made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Mrs. Huston, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Layton made a motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2010, seconded by Mrs. Huston, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

WEEKLY REPORTS

Commissioners review and sign the weekly reports during the meeting.

CLAIMS

Payroll Ending January 22, 2010, Mr. Layton made a motion to approve, seconded by the chair, motion carried by roll call vote 2-0.

Miscellaneous Claims—\$94,282.47, Mr. Layton made a motion to approve, seconded by the chair, motion carried by roll call vote 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Mr. Jeff Wright, LaPorte County Highway Engineer, this came up a couple of weeks back, to have Forester Road posted at 35 mph. At that meeting, you requested I get more information about what will go on with the right of way. Since that time, I got all of the information and set of plans. The

right of way itself will remain the property of the state. Any utilities in that right of way are the responsibilities of those utilities and we have no responsibilities for those at all. There is one section, a cul de sac, that right of way will be turned over to the county. I am asking for a motion to ask our attorney to draft an ordinance to post that section at 35 mph.

Mr. Layton made a motion to concur with the highway engineer and ask the attorney to prepare the proper documents for the ordinance, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Mr. Hendricks, LaPorte County Surveyor, just a quick update on the Welnetz Road area. We plan to drain the ditch behind the area and have plans for a drainage swale, we will keep working on that, taking trees out. Dennis Metheny and Ed Muzyeka are finalizing getting those signatures and getting that done, we are getting close.

Mr. Layton, I took all the information you gave me and forwarded to Mr. Shot, the board president this morning and also to Mr. Roger Van Schoyck, supervisor for forestry for NIPSCO for review. NIPSCO will be assisting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REQUESTS

Dick Reel, Chairman, Log Cabin Committee, LaPorte County Fairgrounds/Request \$500.00 Tourism Funds

Mr. Layton made a motion to allow \$500 to Pioneer Land, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Charles Mountford, Southtown Beach Property Owner's Assn., 2010 Festival/Request \$500.00 Tourism Funds

Mr. Layton made a motion to allow \$500.00 to the Southtown Beach Property Owners' Assn., seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Appointment, Hanna District Foreman (Tabled)

Mr. Layton made a motion to take off the table, seconded by Mrs. Huston, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Mr. Layton made a motion to appoint Dave Doud as the Hanna District Foreman, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Mr. Doud, I would like to thank the commission and hope to serve the people well.

Board Appointment, Board of Construction Review (Tabled)

Mr. Layton made a motion to take off the table, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Mr. Layton, I pulled Ordinance 2001-03, Ordinance to Establish the LaPorte County Building Code, Building Inspection and Contractor Registration Within the Unincorporated Areas of LaPorte County. If people are not satisfied with the results from the Plan Commission, they can take it in front of this Board of Review as a follow up or appeal process. I would like to nominate Mr. Benefiel to continue on this board, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Board Appointment, LaPorte County Redevelopment Commission/Non Voting School Board Member (Tabled)

Mr. Layton, I would like to keep that on the table.

Robert Young, Highway Superintendent, Asphalt Bid Extension Prices (Tabled)

Mr. Layton made a motion to remove from the table, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Mr. Young, you asked me to speak with Rieth & Riley to see if they would include cities and towns in the county in the annual bid as well. Long story short, no. If we were to bring in the cities and towns, it would force our bid to be higher.

Mr. Layton, made a motion to concur with the highway superintendent and accept the continuation of the bids from Rieth-Riley, Rowe & Sons, and Walsh & Kelly, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Craig Hinchman, LaPorte County Auditor/Former County Home Residents Unpaid Debts

Mrs. Ray, Chief Deputy Auditor, there is only four residents with unpaid debts and Mrs. Felton, County Home Administrator, thinks they are uncollectible for a total of \$632.54. She is asking that they be forgiven.

Mr. Layton made a motion to concur with Mrs. Felton and clear the ledger of the debt, seconded by Mrs. Huston, motion carried by roll call vote 2-0.

Federal/County Mileage Rate

Mr. Layton, we received from the Department of Revenue that there has been a change in the mileage rate for 2010, it is reduced from \$.55 to \$.50 and I would like to make a motion that the county concur with the Federal rate, seconded by the chair, motion carried by roll call vote 2-0.

Jeff Wright, Highway Engineer/Release of Subdivision Bond For Heron Hills Subdivision

Mr. Wright, we have a request from Morris McKnight, Heron Lake Hills, to release the subdivision Bond. There has been almost seven years of no activity or construction there. We have no exception to releasing the bond. As far as the plans are concerned, everything is in place. I would like to have a motion to release the bond.

Mr. Layton made a motion to concur with the highway engineer and release the bond for Heron Lake Hills subdivision, seconded by the chair, motion carried by roll call vote 2-0.

Tim Gropp, Greater LaPorte Economic Development/Foreign-Trade Zone Status Ports of Indiana

Mr. Gropp, the county has received two letters of request for support to be included in the Alternative Site Framework Applications for the Ports of Indiana and St. Joseph Regional Airport of South Bend. Basically, what this is, is in 2009 the Federal Government changed the law which allowed the foreign trade zones to have service areas. LaPorte County overlaps with both of these sites. This is not tied to any specific project, or costing the county anything. It is just a letter of support that we want to be included in the application for the alternative sites for both organizations.

Mr. Layton made a motion to concur with Mr. Gropp and approve both letters with Mrs. Huston's signature, seconded by the chair, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Huston, in watching everything that has been happening in Haiti, we owe them our prayers. I have learned this morning that over 300 students from Notre Dame are over there to help. It is just a

very sad thing that so many people are misplaced.

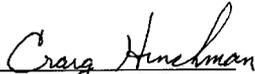
ADJOURN

Mrs. Huston, President, adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Barbara Huston, President


Ken Layton, Member

ATTEST: 
Craig Hinchman, LaPorte
County Auditor