



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAPONTE COUNTY

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*Ken Layton  
President*

*Barbara Huston  
Vice President*

*Willie Milsap  
Member*

## LAPONTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

The LaPorte County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the LaPorte County Complex Meeting Room #3.

### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Layton, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sheriff Mollenhauer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL

Mr. Layton and Mr. Milsap, present. Mrs. Huston, absent.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Layton, under correspondence, brought to us by the highway engineer, please add bridge contract with Beam-Longest and Neff for Bridge Scour Protection.

Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2011, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

### WEEKLY REPORTS

Commissioners review and sign the weekly reports during the meeting.

### CLAIMS

Payroll Ending March 4, 2011, Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

Misc. Claims ----\$121,728.79, Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by roll call vote 2-0.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Sheriff Mollenhauer, our department was honored along with the Michigan City Police Department on February 16, 2011, for a joint operations award that involved a double homicide that occurred in Chicago in January, 2009. They honored many of our officers. They were grateful for our assistance

and we were very impressed with them. It was at the Chicago Headquarters and we got to meet the superintendent. We hope to have him as our speaker here in May for our ceremony for fallen officers.

Sheriff Mollenhauer, the second thing I have is the 2010 Annual Jail Report prepared by Jail Commander Scott Bell. He is showing how the population has risen at a rate of 5.8% since 2005. He estimated for an increase in the next five years. Last year the average jail population was 372, which is over capacity. One thing I am looking into is video visitation. That would help greatly. Also, we know we need a community work release program building. That will help the most right now for decreasing the population of the jail. It would also bring more money back to the county. We get money from the DOC, \$35 per diem per day, and it brought in along with inmate medical co pay and some restitution, for a total of \$219,243.97 that was deposited in the general fund in 2010.

Mr. Milsap, are all the pods open at this time even with one officer short?

Sheriff Mollenhauer, yes and we are more than one officer short. We are one short because having the funding taken away, one is on FMLA, one on medical leave, and one is out for surgery.

Mr. Milsap, what is the capacity of the jail?

Sheriff Mollenhauer, 368 and we are at 370, we have been over 400 all year.

Mr. Layton, is the jail AMA accredited?

Sheriff Mollenhauer, no we are not.

Mr. Layton, you might look into this in the future because it is very, very important when it comes to law suits and litigation as far as medical concerns. In Indianapolis, two weeks ago, we learned that NACCO prescription cards can be used by county jails for their inmates. Would you check into that? That information came through the AIC office.

Mr. Layton, congratulations on the award for the department and the officers involved.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

##### Beam, Longest and Neff/Bridge Contract

Mr. Layton, we have been presented with a contract by the county highway engineer. It is an annual contract called Bridge Scour Protection.

Mr. Fred Larmore, representing Beam, Longest and Neff, LaPorte County has five bridges that are on a scour critical list. In addition to the regular inspection every two years, these five bridges have to be inspected for scour conditions. This contract will be for doing the investigations and recommendations to alleviate the possible scour around these piers and once those recommendations are implemented, then these bridges would be removed from the scour critical list and not be required to be inspected in the future. In the long run, these five bridges can be eliminated from that list and therefore reduce the cost of the inspections.

Mr. Layton, Mr. Braje has reviewed the contracts and has found they are within the service agreement that would be between us and the county. So what we need is a motion to accept the contracts.

Mr. Milsap made a motion to accept the recommendation of the highway engineer and have the contracts signed for the scour critical analysis of the five bridges, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

#### REQUESTS

##### HannaFest Committee/Request \$500 Tourism Funds

Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

LaPorte Jaycees/Road Closure

Mr. Layton, the LaPorte Jaycees are requesting a road closure in preparation of this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. They are asking to shut down Zigler Road from State Road 2 to 5<sup>th</sup> Street for the annual fireworks display at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds.

Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve the road closure, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Craig Braje, Attorney/EEPC Claims-Release and Settlement Agreements

Mr. Braje, I have two Mutual Release and Settlement Agreements on two pending EEOC cases. We ask that the commissioners approve the agreements, execute them, and return them to me.

Mr. Milsap made a motion to approve the agreements, seconded by Mr. Layton, motion carried by voice vote 2-0.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Milsap, I would like to thank all the people that attended the ethics workshop.

Mr. Layton, I have been asked on behalf of the LaPorte County Highway to relay this announcement to the public. They have sent out letters to over 100 trucking business related companies. Thursday there should be a publication in the press in regard to the frost law going into effect. As of Friday, the frost law will be in effect. People that need to do business on county roads can obtain a permit from the County Highway Department.

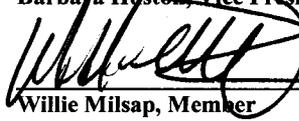
ADJOURN

Mr. Layton, President, adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

LAPORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Layton, President

  
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Barbaya Huston, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Willie Milsap, Member

ATTEST:   
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Craig Hinchman, LaPorte  
County Auditor