

**APRIL 3, 2023**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, April 3, 2023, in their meeting room, County Office Building, 114 W. Michigan Street, LaGrange, Indiana, 46761, at 8:30 a.m., with the following present: Commissioners, Mr. Terry A. Martin and Mr. Kevin R. Myers; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Peter A. Cook was absent. Mr. Terry Martin, President, called the meeting to order and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda with flexibility. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**NUISANCE ISSUE – 3460 SOUTH 1145 EAST LAND TRUST. 3460 S 1145 E, LAGRANGE, INDIANA**

Mr. Tony Manns, County Attorney, explained that he has communicated with Mr. Bill Stewart, Code Enforcement Officer, and the property 3460 South 1145 East Land Trust, 3460 S 1145 E, LaGrange, Indiana, remains a nuisance. Fines are being assessed on the property. Another update will be given on May 1, 2023.

**SHERIFF – BUILDING PROJECT**

Mr. Tony Manns, County Attorney, requested approval to proceed with a bid packet for the new building at the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve and authorize the president to sign an engineer contract once completed. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PROBLEM-SOLVING COURT COORDINATOR – INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT**

Judge Lisa Bowen-Slaven, Superior Court Judge, was present. She explained that the current Independent Contractor Agreement is between LaGrange County and Ernsberger and Helmer, Attorneys at Law, PC, by and through its attorney, Lisa L. Hanna. Ms. Hanna is no longer association with Ernsberger and Helmer, Attorneys at Law. She presented a termination of contract. She would like to have a new agreement prepared with Lisa L. Hanna. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the termination of contract and to proceed with a new contract. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**SUPERIOR COURTROOM – REMODEL**

Judge Lisa Bowen-Slaven, Superior Court Judge, was present. She would like to have the Superior Courtroom updated and presented a quote from High Point Designs LLC in the amount of 30,292.70 for cabinets, chairs, benches, and a railing. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the quote and pay from the EDIT and Jury Pay funds. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PARKS – SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

Mrs. Mary Franke, Park Director, requested to have a Campbell Hausfield 3200 psi pressure washer declared as surplus property. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL ON AGING – REQUEST TO APPLY FOR A GRANT**

Mrs. Cheri Perkins, Council on Aging Executive Director, requested permission to apply for a grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve applying for the grant. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL ON AGING – TRANSPORTATION GRANT**

Mrs. Cheri Perkins, Council on Aging Executive Director, presented a Notice of deobligation of Transit Grant Funds for signature. This is for the 2022 Operating Grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to authorize the president to sign the letter. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ARK ANIMAL SANCTUARY – MARY JANE ECKER IRREVOCABLE TRUST EXPENSE**

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Ms. Brenda Rife, from ARK Animal Sanctuary, presented bills from Animal Care Clinic of Topeka, in the amount of \$6,624.49, a bill from King Veterinary Clinic in the amount of \$2,733.13, and a bill from LaGrange Veterinary Clinic in the amount of \$12,199.60. The invoices would be paid out of the Mary Jane Ecker Irrevocable Trust account. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the expenses to be paid out of the Mary Jane Ecker Irrevocable Trust account. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and to carried unanimously.

**ARK - REQUEST TO PURCHASE ISOLATION KENNELS**

Mr. Terry Martin made a motion to approve up to \$1,000 for an isolation kennel to be paid out of the Mary Jane Ecker Irrevocable Trust account. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and to carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTRACT**

Mr. Terry Martin made a motion to approve the County Attorney's office to proceed on a Juvenile Community Service contract. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PLAN COMMISSION – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Mrs. Robbie Miller, Plan Administrator, explained that she has been asked to issue a rezone petaton for near County Road 1000 E. This is one of the recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RENEWAL AGREEMENT**

Mr. Dave Warren, Information Technology Director, presented a renewal agreement for the Barracuda Message Archiver, in the amount of \$2,210.76. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the agreement. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – PURCHASE REQUEST**

Mr. Dave Warren, Information Technology Director, presented quote from LigTel to add a redundant fiber active internet line. The cost is \$250 one time fee and \$99.95 per month. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the quote. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and to carried unanimously.

**ENGINEER - CULVERT REPLACEMENT**

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, explained that the culvert on County Road 300 W needs to be replaced. She has received two quotes, with the lowest one being from Greg Owens in the amount of \$21,000. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the quote and authorize the president to sign the quote outside of a public meeting with proper documentation. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and to carried unanimously.

**HIGHWAY – PURCHASE OF TWO TANDEM AXLE CHASSIS**

Mr. Aaron Fugate, Highway Supervisor, reported that requests for proposals were sent out for two tandem axle chassis. The only quote received was from Stoops Freightliner, for Wester Star 47X freightliners, in the amount of \$145,769 each. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and to carried unanimously.

**MAINTENANCE - SURPLUS ITEMS**

Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, requested to have two tables, two end tables, and two office desks declared as surplus property. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MAINTENANCE - REQUEST TO PURCHASE STREET LAMPS**

Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, requested permission to purchase four streetlamps for the Courthouse lawn, for \$835 each plus paint. They will match what is at the Justice building. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the request and pay for it out of the Edit Fund. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS**

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the Accounts Payable Vouchers. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the vouchers. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023, regular session meeting. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MEMORANDUM**

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the memorandum for the March 29, 2023, staff meeting. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PETITION TO VACATE PUBLIC WAY SOUTH AND EAST OF LOT 40 IN WESTLER LAKE RESORT**

At 9:00 a.m. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to recess and reconvene the hearing on June 5, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of Public Comment, Artistic Dream LLC,  
Permit Number 087-46124-00694

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being nothing further to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to adjourn and meet on any subsequent day necessary to carry on the business of the Board. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Absent

Terry A. Martin

  
Kevin R. Myers

  
Peter A. Cook

ATTEST:

  
Kathryn Hopper  
LaGrange County Auditor