

**AUGUST 4 , 2025**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, August 4, 2025, 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, Mr. Peter A. Cook, and Mr. Kevin R. Myers; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. 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. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**NORTHEAST INDIANA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT - AGREEMENT**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, explained that the agreement between the Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District and the County, will expire on November 2, 2025, unless the County would like to renew it automatically. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to allow the agreement to auto renew. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LAGRANGE COUNTY ARTS - SCULPTURE**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, presented a Courthouse Lawn Sculpture Agreement. The agreement is between the Board of Commissioners of LaGrange and LaGrange County Arts. This is for the placement of a sculpture to be installed on the lawn of the LaGrange County Courthouse. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve agreement, to be signed by the president after the LaGrange County Arts members have signed. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT**

Mr. Bill Morr, Emergency Management Agency Director, would like permission to apply for a federal grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. The grant would be used to purchase a new ¾ ton pickup truck to pull the response trailer with and also some equipment for the truck. The grant would be for up to \$150,000. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – SURPLUS ITEMS**

Mr. Marc Peterson, Information Technology Directory, requested permission to have a list of equipment from the Health Department declared as surplus. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to declare the items as surplus. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**SHERIFF – COMPUTER VOICE STRESS ANALYZER**

Mr. Tracy Harker, County Sheriff, requested permission to purchase of a new computer voice stress analysis computer. The current computer will be traded in for a newer model. The cost will be \$11,980, and includes equipment and training. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**HUMAN RESOURCES – VACATION LEAVE**

Mrs. Jenny Landez, Human Resources Director, presented a list of employees that began employment in 2025. She would like to have their vacation leave grandfathered in to allow for them to earn vacation at 6 months per the handbook at the time of their hire and they will be on track with new revision to the Personnel Policies Handbook that was approved in July. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ENGINEERING – REPAIR OF GUARDRAIL ON BRIDGE NO. 16**

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, presented a quote from ANCO Concrete Raising, LLC for repair to a guardrail on Bridge No. 16 that was hit on County Road 100 South. The quote is in the amount of \$7,400. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the quote. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AUGUST 4 , 2025**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**DRAINAGE BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to appoint Glen Bontrager to serve on the Citizen Drainage Board. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MAINTENANCE – EAGLE CARVING FOR COURTHOUSE LAWN**

Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, reported that he recently had a large tree cut down on the Courthouse lawn near the gazebo. He asked if the Commissioners would be interested in a carving of an eagle and flag out of the tree stump. The cost would be \$2,500. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the carving. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ARK ANIMAL RESCUE AND ADOPTION - BARN**

Mr. Tom Tribbett, from ARK, explained that they have receive a \$20,000 grant from the LaGrange County Community Foundation for a temporary structure at the shelter. This would replace a current trailer that is there. The structure would be 16' x 40' with tie downs. The money for the structure would come from grants and donations. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the structure. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to remove the current structure and declare it as surplus. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**2026 STATEMENT OF SALARIES AND WAGES**

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the 2026 Statement of Salaries and Wages. Mr. Kevin Myers reported that the Wage and Salary Committee is recommending a 3% wage increase for all employees for 2026. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**2026 COMMISSIONER MEETINGS AND STAFF MEETINGS**

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the 2026 Commissioner meeting schedule and Commissioner staff meeting schedule. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS**

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

**JULY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the financial statement for the month ending July 31, 2025, in the amount of \$60,628,646.30 and investments of \$19,362,340.00. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to accept the report. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2025 regular session. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MEMORANDUM**

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the memorandum for the July 30, 2025 staff meeting and the July 30, 2025 Executive Session. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

LaGrange County Treasurer – July 2025 report

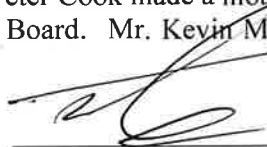
Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of receipt of construction permit application, Townline Mennonite Church, Application for Public Water Supply Construction Permit.

**AUGUST 4 , 2025**

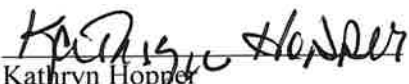
**REGULAR SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
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Terry A. Martin  
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Peter A. Cook  
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Kevin R. Myers

ATTEST:

  
Kathryn Hopper  
LaGrange County Auditor

