

FEBRUARY 15, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, February 15, 2021, 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. Kevin R. Myers, Mr. Peter A. Cook; 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.

PROPERTY AT 7580 S STATE ROAD 3 AND 7590 S STATE ROAD 3, SOUTH MILFORD, INDIANA

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, inquired if there was interest in selling the four tracts of land located in South Milford located at 7580 S. State Road 3 and 7590 S. State Road 3, South Milford, Indiana. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to proceed with appointing appraisers for the properties and proceed with selling the properties. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PROPERTY ON 107 WEST SPRING STREET, LAGRANGE, INDIANA

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, inquired if there was interest in selling the property located at 107 W. Spring Street, LaGrange, Indiana. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to proceed with appointing appraisers for the property and proceed with selling the property. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

COUNCIL ON AGING – VEHICLE PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Mrs. Cheri Perkins, Council on Aging Executive Director, presented the Indiana Department of Transportation Section 5339 vehicle purchase agreement, in the amount of \$114,951.60. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the vehicle purchase agreement and have the President sign it. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented a Community Service Work Program Agreement with Gust Community Services, Jim Gust, for 2021 for consideration. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the agreement and to authorize the president to sign. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to appoint Brenda Campos to the Alcohol Beverage Board. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LAGRANGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - APPOINTMENT

The LaGrange County Council recommended Mr. Peter Cook for appointment to the LaGrange County Economic Development Commission. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to appoint Peter Cook to the LaGrange County Economic Development Commission. Mr. Terry Martin seconded the motion and it carried with Mr. Peter Cook abstaining.

2021 COMMISSIONER ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Terry Martin presented the following Commissioner assignments for 2021:

BOARD

Council on Aging Board
County Plan Commission
Community Corrections w/ Steuben County
Drug Free LaGrange County
Emergency Management Agency Advisory Board

2021

Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Terry Martin

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Extension Board
LaGrange County Citizen's Drainage Board
LaGrange/Noble Joint Drainage Board

Steuben/DeKalb/LaGrange County Drainage Board
LaGrange County Regional Utility District Advisor
Legal Expense Review
Local Emergency Planning Committee
Northeast Indiana Solid Waste District
Park Board
Plat Committee
Redevelopment Commission
St. Joseph River Basin Commission
Wood Land Lakes
Edit Committee
Region 3-A
NEI Investment Board
Major Moves Committee
Economic Development Corporation
Health Board
Human Resource Committee
Insurance - Liability
Insurance - Health
Lambright Farm
LaGrange County Community Foundation - Finance
Public Defender Board
Mayors' / Commissioners' Caucus
Judicial Committee
Personnel Handbook Committee

Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Peter Cook
Ms. Joyce Weber
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Terry Martin
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Charles Ashcraft
Mr. Kevin Myers
Mr. Peter Cook
Mr. Kevin Myers

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the assignments as presented. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to appoint Mr. Martin Franke as a proxy to the St. Joseph River Basin Commission. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PARK – PURCHASE OF CANOE TRAILER AND TARGETS

Mrs. Mary Franke, Parks Director, presented three quotes for a canoe trailer. The lowest quote is from Spreuer & Sons, Inc., LaGrange, Indiana in the amount of \$1,450. This would be paid for with a grant from the LaGrange County Community Foundation.

Mrs. Franke explained that she would like to purchase archery target replacements through Rinehart Targets at an online auction and spend up to \$3,000. She has money in the budget for this purchase,

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the purchase of the canoe trailer in the amount of \$1,450 and up to \$3,000 for target replacement. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PARK – PURCHASE OF UTILITY TASK VEHICLE AND POWER WAGON

Mr. George DeWald, Park Superintendent, explained that they would like to purchase a new utility task vehicle and trade in the John Deere Gator HXP. He presented the following quotes:

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<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Rigg's Outdoor Power	Mishawaka, Indiana	\$10,992.00
More Farm Stores	Columbia City, Indiana	12,075.00
Stutzman Power Equipment	Shipshewana, Indiana	11,444.80

Mr. DeWald would like to purchase the vehicle from Stutzman Power Equipment, since they are located in the County and the Parks Department has had good service from them in the past.

Mr. DeWald explained that they would like to purchase a power wagon. He presented three quotes with the lowest quote being from County Line Engine in the amount of \$2,249.91.

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the purchase of the utility task vehicle in the amount of \$11,444.80 and the power wagon in the amount of \$2,249.91. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

JUSTICE CENTER – OFFICE FURNITURE

Mr. Jason Boggs, Building Commissioner, presented two quotes for furniture for the Commissioner's office in the County Justice Building. The lowest quote is from Kendrick Stationers in the amount of \$4,195.90. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the purchase from Kendrick Stationers and pay for it out of the Rainy Day Fund. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – PURCHASE OF GLOVES

Mr. Bill Morr, Emergency Management Agency Director, requested permission to purchase gloves out of the EMA Donation Fund. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the purchase of gloves. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO SERVICES AGREEMENT – MERV BEECHY, LAMBRIGHT FARM

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, presented an amendment to the Services Agreement with Merv Beechy to provide and perform services for the County on the property known as the Lambright Property. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the amendment for one year commencing March 1, 2021 and terminating on February 28, 2022. Mr. Peter Cook 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.

JANUARY 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the financial statement for the month ending January 31, 2021, in the amount of \$37,959,251.84 and investments of \$19,182,000.00. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to accept the report. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2021 regular session meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MEMORANDUM

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Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the memorandum for the February 10, 2021 meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING - COVID 19 RESPONSE PROGRAM GRANT

At 9:00 a.m. Ms. Sandra Tamez, Region 3-A Community Development Planner, opened the public hearing to provide citizens an opportunity to express their views on the proposed federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project. This program is funded by Title I of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. These funds are to be used for an economic recovery project that will provide financial resources to small businesses for operations and other working capital needs. The total amount of CDBG funds to be requested is \$250,000. The amount of CDBG funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit low and moderate income persons is \$127,500. LaGrange County proposes to expend an estimated \$25,000 in non-CDBG funds on the project, which will come from the LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Bill Bradley, LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation President, was present virtually and expressed his support for the grant.

The following Resolution was presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02-15

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION SUBMISSION
AND LOCAL MATCH COMMITMENT**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LAGRANGE, INDIANA,
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE COVID-19 RESPONSE PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE
INDIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND RURAL AFFAIRS AND ADDRESSING RELATED MATTERS**

WHEREAS, the LaGrange County Commissioners, Indiana recognizes the need to stimulate growth and to maintain a sound economy within its corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, authorizes the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs to provide grants to local units of government to meet the housing and community development needs of low- and moderate-income persons; and

WHEREAS, the County of LaGrange, Indiana has conducted or will conduct public hearings prior to the submission of an application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, said public hearings to assess the housing, public facilities and economic needs of its low- and moderate-income residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of LaGrange County, Indiana that:

1. The County Commission President is authorized to prepare and submit an application for grant funding for the LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation COVID-19 Response Program, and to execute and administer a resultant grant including requisite general administration and project management, contracts and agreements pursuant to regulations of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

2. The County of LaGrange, Indiana hereby commits the requisite local funds in the amount of \$25,000, in the form of LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation Funds as matching funds for said program, such

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commitment to be contingent upon receipt of grant funding from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

Adopted by the LaGrange County Commissioners this 15th day of February, 2021.

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LAMBRIGHT PROPERTY – TREES

Mr. Terry Martin explained that individuals have been clearing out some of the trees on the Lambright property. He has had inquiries about the trees inside the property. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to leave the property as it is. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

LaGrange County Clerk of the Circuit Court – January 2021 report

LaGrange County Treasurer – January 2021 report

Randy Weller – Notice of Public Hearing, February 16, 2021, LaGrange County Board of Zoning Appeals

Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of Approval, ANR Pipeline Company LaGrange Compressor Station, 2255 West U.S. 20, LaGrange, Indiana 46761, Permit Number 087-42922-00004

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. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.


Terry A. Martin


Kevin R. Myers


Peter A. Cook

ATTEST:


Kathryn Hopper

LaGrange County Auditor