

MARCH 3, 2025

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, March 3, 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. Peter A. Cook and Mr. Kevin R. Myers; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Terry Martin was absent. Mr. Peter Cook, Vice 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.

PARK – MERCHANT AGREEMENT

Mrs. Mary Franke, Park Director, presented a Merchant Application and Agreement for Point of Sales for the Park Department. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the document and authorize the President to sign it outside of a public meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

NUISANCE STATUS UPDATE – 0230 E 500 N, HOWE, INDIANA

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, explained that a nuisance existed at 0230 E 500 N, Howe, Indiana, owned by Thomas Tribbett. Mr. Tracy Harker, County Sheriff, reported that there are a few mowers on the property that need to be removed. Mr. Tribbett is waiting on the Indiana Department of Natural Resources on getting permission to install a fence on the property. Fines are accruing on the matter until it is completely cleaned up. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to extend the nuisance matter until April 7, 2025, and authorize an order to signed by the President outside of a public meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

SHERIFF – SURPLUS ITEMS

Mr. Tracy Harker, County Sheriff, would like to have a 2013 Dodge Charger declared as surplus. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to declare the items as surplus. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE FOR COURTHOUSE AND JUSTICE CENTER

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, would like permission to work on an ordinance pertaining to bringing in food and beverage to the Courthouse and Justice Center. This stems from a joint court order issued from Judge Bowen-Slaven and Judge William Walz in February. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to authorize the County Attorney to work on the ordinance. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

JOINT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, would like set a joint executive session on March 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. to address litigation. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to set a joint executive session for March 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LAGRANGE COUNTY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Mrs. Octavia Yoder, Executive Director of the LaGrange County Community Foundation, was present. She presented the LaGrange County Master Trails Plan.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – PURCHASE APPROVAL

Mr. Jim Hanson, Chief Public Defender is requesting approval to purchase case management software for \$7,946.10, office furniture in the amount of \$3,983.39. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the purchases. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PROPOSAL FOR WEED EATING, MOWING, AND MAINTENANCE AT BRIDGES AND GUARDRAILS

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, presented a proposal from ANCO Concrete Raising, LLC for weed eating and mowing at 63 bridges and guardrails and maintenance on various bridges. The proposal is in the amount of

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\$97,231. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMERICAN STRUCTUREPOINT, INC. – BRIDGE 49 CONTRACT

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, presented the LPA Consulting Contract between LaGrange County Board of Commissioners and American Structurepoint, Inc. for the replacement of Bridge 49, at County Road 700 South over Westler / Witmer Lake Channel. This is for a grant and the maximum payable under the grant shall not exceed \$26,500. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the contract. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUTLER, FAIRMAN, AND SEUFERT INC. – PAINT STRIPING CONTRACT

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, presented the LPA Consulting Contract between LaGrange County Board of Commissioners and Butler, Fairman, and Seufert Inc. for striping of unstriped roadways at various locations within LaGrange County. This is for a grant and the maximum payable under the grant shall not exceed \$45,000. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the contract. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – SURPLUS ITEMS

Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, would like to have 3 filing cabinets, a typewriter stand, chairs, a desk, and cabinet, declared as surplus. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to declare the items as surplus. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. Brandy Lowe, Victims Assistant Coordinator, explained that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and is an annual campaign to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. She would like to use the Courthouse gazebo and lawn on April 22, 2025 for an event. April 30, 2025 is designated as Denim Day, and she would like permission to have County employees to wear denim that day in exchange for a donation for the Sexual Assault Treatment Center. She would like to do a chalk walk the week of April 14 to raise awareness. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the activities. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Mr. Marc Peterson, Information Technology Director, presented a proposal from Allstar Technologies for a new telephone system. The proposal is in the amount of \$3,387.50 for installation and set for the new telephone system. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the proposal. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

COUNTY ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the 2024 County Annual Financial Report. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to accept the report. 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.

MINUTES

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2025 regular session meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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MEMORANDUM

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the memorandum for the February 18 2025 staff meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of Public Approval, Forest River LaGrange Complex, FESOP Renewal No. F087-48226-00685

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.

Absent

Terry A. Martin

Peter Cook

Peter A. Cook

Kevin R. Myers

Kevin R. Myers

ATTEST:

Kathryn Hopper

Kathryn Hopper
LaGrange County Auditor

