

**PORTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, January 5, 2016
1:00 P.M.**

(The entire meeting is available to watch on the Porter County website.)

The regular meeting of the Porter County Board of Commissioners convened at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Administration Center.

Those present were: Commissioners John Evans, Laura Blaney and Jeff Good; County Attorney Betty Knight; Administrative Assistant Michelle Strader and Recording Secretary Kathy Merle.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE

President Evans called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Com. Good, moved to approve John Evans President, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, The Vice President typically the opposite party.

Com. Good, moved to approve Laura Blaney Vice President, Com. Evans seconded, motion carried.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve Jeff Good Secretary, Com. Evans seconded, motion carried

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Com. Good moved to approve the payroll of December 14th and December 28th, 2015, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Com. Good moved to approve the claims of December 17th and December 30th, 2015, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND DISBURSEMENTS, DECEMBER, 2015

Com. Good moved to approve the disbursement of December 2015, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, Dan Whitten, President of the County Council come on up. Dan is going to give us an update on the Foundation today. Happy New Year to you both.

Dan Whitten, Thank you very much, Happy New Year to you guys. It's going to be an exciting year coming up I have no doubt. Thank you for letting me come address you. I just want to give a real quick brief update that I gave the Council yesterday and kind of get your thoughts on our next step. As you know we've had a series of telephone conferences with the consultants that were hired. Those conferences have included myself, Councilman Jessen, Poparad, Scott and then Commissioner Good. We have been moving through a lot of the minutia sort of the back ground information, Jeff I'm sure you can jump in and expound on this if I miss something. Kind of the philosophy of where the Foundation wants to go, what our expectations are for earnings those sorts of things. We're getting into a little more technical discussion about how to address or interpret gross earnings for a purpose of a 5% back to the General Fund. How we want to calculate that. Those things we're going to be continually working through. The time line that the consultants had given us originally was pretty far out in the sense that it was pushing more towards the middle of the year to be completed. Through our telephone conferences we've tightened that up quite a bit. I think we're

looking substantially shorter we should be up and running here I would say by end of the 1st Quarter. Scott if you want to.....

Scott McClure, I would agree.

Dan Whitten, So there was some questions that were coming from the Council Members that were not participating in the telephonic conference sessions and so some of the questions I was able to field and Scott field quite a few, but they wanted the opportunity or at least a chance to hear from the consultants and address some of the questions they might have. My thought and I indicated to the Council was that I would like to have another joint meeting of the Commissioners and the Council with the consultants so we can field some of those questions that you might have. We were looking originally at toward the end of January, but one or two of the Council Members including Councilman Poparad will be out of town. So through our discussion last night we're looking at the first week in February. If you guys want to look at your calendars and give us some dates that might work for that, we can coordinate that around your schedules. The thought is that the consultants can come then start sort of laying out the ground work for getting our Foundation Board appointed. We really need to be looking in terms of beginning to interview the three non-voting members of our Foundation Board, the folks from the financial institutions as you know and again Commissioner Good was involved meetings with the Advisory Board that we had originally put together not know if the statute would be passed. If we were going to go with a private foundation not statutorily authorized, we were going to have an Advisory Board. I'm not sure how many of those members are qualified under the statute to serve as non-voting members. So I've asked Scott yesterday to put out an RFP working with you folks to start getting some feedback from the financial world on who might be interested to sit on that board. And then perhaps we can start interviewing those folks either as our full 10 member body or we could do a subcommittee like we've been doing. It doesn't make one difference to me one way or the other, but I wanted to kind of throw that out to you guys to mull that around. We can address that between now and our meeting if you'd like or we can address that at our joint meeting it's up to you guys. I think that's going to be a very important part and some of the thought at the Council meeting was that even at this phase of the operation it might be helpful to have those financial educated folks involved. It might be able to help field some of the questions asked by the consultants and as we're mulling them around. And I don't dispute that I think that is probably a pretty good thought. The sooner the better on that and again Scott will work with you on getting your attorney who ever that may be and getting the RFP drafted and out so we can at least get that process moving. And that's it that's really all I had to say.

Scott McClure, The only thing I would add is that we have a teleconference scheduled for tomorrow and then we have one for the next three weeks including tomorrow to kind of knock these things off the list and get this going. So tomorrow we're going to have that teleconference at 1:00 p.m. we're going to knock some of those things off the list again. And then the next week and the next week so we have some substantial things to bring to that next joint meeting so that we're not all just sitting her back at square one. We'll have some real things to look at and decide on. That's kind of what these discussions have been is narrowing down some of these bigger issues on not to get into the details too much but custodial agreements, etc., etc. So those discussions are not being made by the subcommittee, but at least being steered in a way that when it gets to the full board decisions can be made.

Dan Whitten, So at some point in the next week or so check your calendars, let us know and we'll coordinate that joint meeting around everybody's schedule and just kind of get that rolling.

Com. Good, Dan I think we ought to consider maybe also putting and Scott putting an RFP out for our Audit company as well, because I think they're going to be able to help us construct this so at the end of our first year we don't get a laundry list of things that we did wrong from an audit's standpoint. So I think we might want to do that as well and get that rolling so we have guidance from them as well as we're moving forward on this thing, so just a thought.

Dan Whitten, That's a good idea. We'll do that.

Com. Evans, I'd like to offer my thanks for doing this because of the way government is of course we're kind of handcuffed in the fact you can't have both bodies unless we have a called meeting scheduled meeting. And I know there is a lot of questions on both sides and I know that people that aren't involved in the immediate committee process are asking and feel like they are not being included, but that's not the case. I appreciate the communication, I appreciate the work that you guys have done and getting those answers back to all of us. I just wish there was a way we could call this a workshop or something of that nature so that those people are going to be involved and have to go to transfer the funds could all be involved at once, but obviously there is no way to do that.

Dan Whitten, That's correct John. I feel the same way and one of the things I said at the Council meeting was if Scott and I have been also having conversations consultants, some of the legal stuff and there is a teleconference coming up and I really think I've gotten my questions answered I'm certainly willing to let one of the other Council members sit in instead and kind of get their questions answered as we're moving along. On the other side of that is if I'm not comfortable that I've not gotten all that I would have gotten out of that then I will want to sit in, but otherwise I'll let some other folks sit through it.

Com. Good, One of the things I'd like to at least offer to the folks in the audience is been sitting in these calls a couple of them, we came out with a good bill but there is a lot of does and don'ts that we were not quite aware of and so we're working through those. A lot of this is unwritten too. It's taking a little bit longer, but there are a lot of things that keep popping up. So once again we're in a start up mode and it just takes more time. A lot of people tend to talk about why it's taking so long and this and that, but when you get in the calls it's pretty apparent that there is a lot of moving parts on this thing. Every little decision is important into what you do. We're carefully vetting this out as we go forward so again thank you.

Dan Whitten, I agree with that Jeff, thank you very much.

Com. Evans, Thanks for coming.

Appointment of the new County Attorney

Com. Evans, We would like to let everyone know and we ask for applications for the job of County Attorney, because our County Attorney is leaving us and we're going to miss her for sure. There have been some discussions and some applications I think there is a motion ready to be made.

Com. Blaney, made a motion to hire Scott McClure as the Porter County Attorney, Com. Good seconded, motion carried

Com. Evans, opposed hiring Scott McClure as the Porter County Attorney.

Com. Evans, I think you'll work out the start date Betty with Scott.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Alcoholic Beverage Commission

Com. Good, We had four people submit.

Com. Good moved to approve Jason Gilliana to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Drainage Board

Com. Blaney moved to approve Harvey Nix and Russell Pomeroy to the Drainage Board, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Porter County Convention, Recreation & Visitor's Commission

Com. Good, We had two replacements. Those two individuals Doug Olson and Mr. Riley reapplied and those are our two appointments.

Com. Good moved to approve Doug Olson and Richard Riley to the PCCRVC, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Plan Commission

Com. Blaney moved to approve the reappointment of Rick Burns to the Plan Commission, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

PTABOA Board of Review

Com. Blaney moved to approve the reappointment of Candy Crone and Nick Summer to the PTABOA Board, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Com. Blaney, There are very specific requirements for the PTABOA Board and we are fortunate for these two to reapply.

West Porter Twp. Fire District

Com. Blaney moved to approve the reappointment of Karie Lukas to the West Porter Twp. Fire District, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Wildlife Management Advisory Board

Com. Evans, There are I believe seven. Why don't we do them all at once.

Com. Good moved to approve Bob Gregg, Mary Ann Gregg, Chris Kadletz, Stephanie Kadletz, Ronald Notzke, Denise Sunkel and Danielle Walker to the Wildlife Management Advisory Board, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Shared Ethics Advisory Commission

Com. Blaney moved to approve the reappointment of Scott Young to the Shared Ethics Advisory Commission, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Com. Blaney, Scott has been doing a fantastic job.

BZA

Com. Blaney moved to approve the reappointment of Marv Brickner and Debra Cook to the BZA, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, Congratulations to all of those people that have been appointed and thank you very much to all of those people who submitted applications, that were not selected, but please continue to submit those applications because that's how government works. We need the people to help us with many of these boards and bodies.

Mike Anton, Anton Insurance INETICO – Memorandum of Understanding

Mike Anton, Thank you Commissioners for giving us a few minutes here this morning, it won't take very long. We presented for your review a Memorandum of Understanding between INETICO, which is your provider for reference based pricing and Porter County Government to facilitate to the use of INETICO's arrangements or agreements with other health care providers to be passed on to the County for the betterment of the County's bottom line in terms of the employee benefit plan and for the benefit for the participants in the plan. So I would ask that you accept that Memorandum of Understanding and move forward and be able to have INETICO extend the benefit of their agreements.

Com. Evans, Betty have you reviewed the Memorandum?

Atty. Knight, I have.

Com. Evans, Any questions from the board?

Com. Blaney moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with INETICO.
Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Mike Anton, Thank you I will pass that on to INETICO. One other thing I will quickly bring up. I think you may have had the opportunity this morning to see the report I sent you for the end of the year. That's not 100% because there is some cost factors that aren't included. I think it's very safe for me to say that we're every bit of around 15% below the budget, which I'm thrilled to report. If the County Council invited me I might go this time. I'm just very pleased to report that and hopefully the trend will continue. I think we're getting very good results out of INETICO. We're monitoring every day, all of the activity and I think that and frankly the wellness of our participants is proving to be very beneficial to the County.

Com. Good, Well I also think too that with the addition of BSA we're going to be getting much more electronic data for analysis. Which I think is going to help us screw things down a little bit more. And I think that was a big replacement that we did here at the end of the year so I'm looking forward to that too and being able to see the numbers.

Mike Anton, Yes, I would just comment on BSA since you brought it up Commissioner.

Com. Evans, For the clarification of everybody else. They are the County's third party administrator taking the place of Stewart C. Miller in the last thirty days.

Mike Anton, And I hate to use acronyms, but I would just comment that we're into the transition. The hand off so to speak was made January 1st. The benefit administrative services are now adjudicating claims. There are a few things that have to be finalized. Some transfer of data in boxes needs to be completed, in fact we'll find out this afternoon if Leigh and I are making a trip to Lafayette to pick those boxes up and take them to Homewood. I'm not sure of that as we speak, but it's all moving very well and I will say that Stewart Miller is cooperating very well. The flex situation with the debit card is moving forward and there will be some loading of the carryover issues related to that to the new system, but it's all working. Leigh just has a couple of things.

Leigh Westergren, I just want to let you know that the wellness screening, the onsite wellness screening has been scheduled. There was an email sent out by H.R. today. It will start next week. I have been told by the Sheriff's department that they are going to have 100% participation so I think that is super exciting.

Com. Evans, I think the whole County should have 100% participation.

Leigh Westergren, I agree and I think that the Commissioners' conversation that took place in the summer time about how we wanted to see a greater increase in participation has really resounded throughout the County. So I'm just going to leave a schedule with each of you for your general consumption.

Com. Evans, Thank you very much.

Office Holders/Department Heads

Sundae Schoon – Voter's Registration Ellis Systems Corporation – Equipment Service Agreement

Com. Evans, We'll hold on to that one if Sundae shows up we'll do it then.

Walter Lenckos – Parks Kate Sanders – Contract for Grant Writing Services

Walter Lenckos, This would be again for the whole County it wouldn't be just for our department so I just want to make sure that is clear.

Com. Evans, Would you want to pay for it?

Walter Lenckos, If we could only transfer this return on this investment with everything else we do we'd be golden.

Com. Evans, Betty have you reviewed the contract?

Atty. Knight, I have.

Com. Evans, How much does she get and where are the funds coming from?

Com. Blaney, We pay for it.

Com. Good, These are just hourly rates right?

Walter Lenckos, Correct.

Com. Good, Is there a retainer? I didn't see a retainer or anything just hourly. So it's billed on an added needed basis.

Walter Lenckos, Correct.

Com. Good, Then does your office oversees her deal or would the different department over see the hours in tracking that?

Walter Lenckos, Correct. I think previously Mr. Bob Thompson has but he's crying Uncle a little bit so I've been trying to help out and keep track of things. Frankly, we use the bulk of the writer's time. Probably between myself the Opera House and the Museum and to a certain extent the Plan Commission, but far and away those three agencies we've used that up the most.

Com. Evans, Is there any way to pay back for those people that do the grants so that next year we wouldn't have to dip into our funds to pay for this? Maybe we can just create a.... you know if you get a grant 5% of it goes into a fund to fund the next years.....

Walter Lenckos, Sometimes funders will allow for an overhead expense to be included, they will pay for it. Sometimes they will not, they will only pay for direct services and goods. Auditor Urbanik and I are starting to get really good at administrating and managing different grant programs and the different line items that need to go out. So as we move forward that's one of the things that I'm interested in and if we can we'll be including some sort of percentage per the funder's allowance and how we do that exactly Vicki and I will have to sort out.

Com. Evans, I like that idea.

Walter Lenckos, No promises, but we will definitely try.

Com. Evans, Questions?

Com. Blaney moved to approve the Kate Sanders Grant Writing Services Contract, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

**Gary Atherton – Porter Memorial Hospital EMS
Philips Healthcare – Quote for Verizon Wireless for their 12 Lead Capabilities**

Com. Evans, Gary Atherton couldn't be here he sent us an email he is having surgery. He has a request for Philip Healthcare quote for Verizon Wireless for 12 Lead Capabilities. This is an upgrade to the system; I don't have the email with me right now. It's paid for by the reserve funds from the ambulance facility rental. I think that kind of explains it and the need is that they have been performing this practice by telephone, cell phone and when they upgraded to 4G in our area they can't do this program over 4G only 3G and the upgrade will allow them to have the ability to do away with the 4G's and the 3G's and they'll go direct to be able to do it. Did I cover it?

Com. Good, And then the funds to pay for this come out come out of a.....

Com. Evans, A reserve fund.

Com. Good, The reserve fund. So this money is being collected for this purpose and there are funds to this so this isn't coming out of any.....

Com. Evans, And the total dollar amount is....

Com. Good, \$15,773.80.

Com. Blaney moved to approve, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE JAN. 19TH, MEETING
Ray Riddell – Porter County Highway Engineer
LPA Consulting Contract between the Porter County Board of Commissioners and DLZ
Indiana.

TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE JAN. 19TH, MEETING
Vicki Urbanik – Auditor
RDS Contract – Employee 1095C On-line Access.

Report From Commissioners

Center District

1. Center District acceptance of the Prairie at Aberdeen Phase II. Improvements have been installed in accordance with the standard specifications and requirements of Porter County. 1st Merchant Bank foresaid three year maintenance bond in the amount of \$55,371.00. Recommend approval.

Com. Good moved to approve, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Correspondence

Treasurer’s Monthly Report – November 2015.

Weights and Measures Monthly Report – November 16th – December 15th, 2015.

Request for approval from Jackie Gray of the Family & Youth Services Bureau to hold their fourth annual Chalk the Walk event on the sidewalks surrounding the Courthouse. The event will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016. The set up will begin at 6:00 a.m. If the weather is inclement they would like permission to hold the event on Sunday, June 12, 2016.

Com. Good moved to approve, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Request for approval of an Official Bond for Dianna R. Haynes, Porter County Assessor’s Office. The bond is in the amount of \$7,500.

Com. Blaney moved to approve, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Request for approval from Pat Tuttle, Executive Director of the Porter County Right to Life to hold a Prayer Vigil in front of the Courthouse on Saturday, January 16, 2016 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Com. Good moved to approve, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, Also I need to make note that the Animal Control contracts that went out some time ago to the different municipalities throughout the County are coming back in and we need to note that the Chesterton and the Porter contracts have now been signed and executed and returned to the County. That’s the last of them. Everybody is on board with the plan there so that’s a good deal.

Com. Good, John we will also be having our first meeting this week for RFQ’s for Design Build Contractors for the Animal Shelter. So the process is starting this Thursday, it’s pretty exciting. The Technical Review Committee is still working through all those things, but step 1 starts on Thursday we’re looking forward to that. Also, if you get to go and drive by the site you’ll see a nice new pretty sign up there letting everybody know that it’s coming. We’re actually pulling a permit here; we’re pulling a permit from ourselves to demolition the building. The Plan Commission and Kristy and Bob are helping us pull that together so we can maybe get the Highway Department out there and start knocking things down. But not the buildings that have stuff in it Laura.

Com. Evans, Anybody wish to address this body?

Com. Blaney, We have our boards. NIRPC, NITCD.

Com. Good, Thanks Laura.

Com. Good moved to approve the Commissioners stay on the same boards as 2015, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, Do you want to read those Michelle just so we have them in the minutes, just read what they are.

Michelle Strader, NIRPC – Commissioner Good, NICTD – Commissioner Evans, Plan Commission – Commissioner Blaney, Drainage Board – Commissioner Good, Center Workforce Innovations – Commissioner Blaney, Community Corrections - Commissioner Blaney, Child Protection Team – Commissioner Blaney, Kankakee River Basin Committee – Russell Pomeroy EMA - Commissioner Evans, The Common Wage Construction Rate Committee – Karen Martin.

Com. Evans, There was a law passed in regard to the Common Construction Wage that may be repealed or has had an appeal challenge against it. So that is why we went ahead and reappointed a representative in the event that that is repealed will have to go back to that system, but right now the way the law stands we don't have to do that. But we want to be prepared in case something happens so that is the reason for that.

Com. Evans, Anyone wishing to address this body? One more time anyone want to address this body?

Com. Good, Can I say something John? I think we announced at our last meeting that we hired our new Facilities Superintendent and he is here with us today. Yesterday was his first day. Why don't you stand up Matt Stechly. He's going to be a great addition, thank you for being here, welcome.

Com. Evans, We'll stand in recess and open the Plan Commission portion of our hearing.

Plan Commission

Rezone – RL to IN – Petitioner Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District, c/o David Hollenbeck – 1st Reading

Com. Good, Hello Robert.

Com. Evans, Happy New Year to you.

Bob Thompson, Yes, Happy New Year. This is Plan Commission Resolution #15-12. The petitioner was Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District requesting a zoning map amendment from RL Residential Lake District to IN Institutional District. The Plan Commission heard this at their December public hearing meeting and voted 7-0 to forward this with a favorable recommendation to the Commissioners. To quickly explain this the VLACD offices currently are on Burlington Beach Road. They have obtained the two lots directly North of this existing office building and they're requesting to rezone this from the Residential Lake to the Institutional District so that way they can place back their additional parking for their offices and also some material storage there for their operation.

Com. Blaney, And the neighbors were all in favor of this?

Bob Thompson, Yes. They were. They tore down an old cottage house, so they were happy that came down.

Com. Evans, So I see David, you're here on behalf of the petitioner.

David Hollenbeck, I don't have anything to add. Bob has indicated exactly what we're doing and I think if anything the neighbors applauded us for getting rid of the shack.

Com. Evans, Okay well we still have to go through the process and we have to open a public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN

Com. Evans, Does anyone wish to speak in favor of this rezone? Anyone wishing to speak should come forward now. Third and final time anyone wishing to speak in favor of this rezone should come forward now. We'll go to those people wishing to speak in opposition of

this rezone. Anyone wishing to speak in opposition of this rezone should come forward now. Second time, anyone wishing to speak in opposition you should come to the podium now. Third and final time anyone wishing to speak in opposition of this rezone should come forward now.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

Com. Evans, Comments, questions, statements from the Commissioners?

Com. Good, My only comment is and this probably doesn't have much to do with the rezoning, but I'll just throw it out there. Is this going to be a fenced in compound then to Dave? Will it be blocked visual?

David Hollenbeck, (Inaudible) not sitting near the microphone. We're also going to do a significant renovation to the house itself. You know where we are, we're on Burlington Beach Road there just immediately West of the Family Express store and we've outgrown our building function. Our meeting room we can see (Inaudible) where we do business.

Com. Good, Thank you.

Com. Evans, Anyone else?

Com. Blaney moved to approve the rezoning of RL to IN, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, 2nd Reading Bob at our next meeting or can we do it now.

Bob Thompson, I've got the paperwork here ready to go if you wanted to do it now.

Com. Good moved to approve waiving the rules to wait for a 2nd Reading, Com. Blaney seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, This will be the 2nd hearing in regards to the rezone by petitioner of Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District. The 1st reading was unanimous vote in favor of. The public hearing portion is closed.

Com. Blaney moved to approve the rezoning of RL to IN on 2nd Reading, Com. Good seconded, motion carried.

Com. Evans, Anything else? Did I miss anything?

With no further business, the meeting was recessed at 1:45 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

John A. Evans

Laura M. Blaney

Jeffrey J. Good

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor

