

**PORTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018
10:00 A.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 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Administration Center.

Those present were: Commissioners Jeff Good, Laura Blaney, Jim Biggs, County Attorney Scott McClure; Administrative Assistant Melanie Massey and Recording Secretary Kathy Merle.

Call to Order/Pledge

Com. Good, Good morning this is the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Tuesday, October 9th, 2018, its 10:00 in the morning.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes – Special Meeting September 11th, 2018.

Approval of Payroll – September 21st and October 5th, 2018.

Approval of Claims – September 20th, September 27th, October 4th, 2018.

Weights and Measures Monthly Report – August 16th to September 15th, 2018.

MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE – SCOT MACDONALD, DIRECTOR

- 1. Jeremy Gregson – Venue Rental Agreement – Non Profit.**
- 2. Brightside Music LLC – Venue Rental Agreement.**

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Com. Good, We have appreciation resolution that we're going to bring from the floor and read and then we will vote on it. This is regarding Dr. Kobak who if you were at the last meeting has retired from the Board of Health in Porter County. As you may or may not know the Board of Health are all Commissioners' appointments and part of the requirement for the State Statute is you have to have 2 doctors as part of your Health Board makeup. Dr. Kobak has been with us for quite some time and he retired effective August 31st, 2018. At our last meeting we appointed his replacement. We had a young doctor step forward from Valparaiso to take his position, but this is an appreciation resolution for Dr. Kobak so I will read that into the record.

Appreciation Resolution No. 18-08 for Dr. Alfred Kobak

WHEREAS, Dr. Alfred Kobak has retired from his position as a member of the Porter County Board of Health effective August 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alfred Kobak served in his capacity as a member of the Porter County Board of Health for twenty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alfred Kobak did, during his service as a member of the Porter County Board of Health, faithfully and conscientiously discharge his duties and unselfishly put forth his talents and knowledge in service to the citizens of Porter County; and

WHEREAS, the Porter County Board of Commissioners is desirous of publicly and officially expressing its gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Alfred Kobak and in so doing acknowledging and memorializing the dedicated and committed service of Dr. Alfred Kobak as a member of the Porter County Board of Health for the past twenty-eight years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Porter County Board of Commissioners that Dr. Alfred Kobak deserves the grateful acknowledgement and appreciation of the Porter County Board of Commissioners and the citizens of Porter County and the public recognition bestowed by this resolution and that Dr. Alfred Kobak should be and is hereby commended, recognized and acknowledged for his dedication, commitment and service as a member of the Porter County Board of Health for the past twenty-eight years.

ALL OF WHICH HAVING BEEN RESOLVED by the Porter County Board of Commissioners this 9th day of October, 2018.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PORTER COUNTY INDIANA

/s/Jeffrey J. Good

/s/Laura Blaney

/s/Jim Biggs

Attest:/s/Vicki Urbanik

Com. Biggs, Jeff and Laura as we know one of the difficult parts of our positions up here as Commissioners is to find qualified and well-intended citizens to volunteer their time to serve on the numerous boards that we have to make appointments to and Dr. Kobak has done that with deserving of a lot of respect. He is going to be missed.

Com. Blaney, I agree with everything Jim said.

Com. Biggs, moved to approve Dr. Kobak's Appreciation Resolution, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMISSIONERS

Pangere Corp. – Payment Application #1 for the Porter County Expo Center Renovation in the amount of \$70,039.70. Bid Package 1 General Trades. With a balance to finish of \$726,919.30.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Pangere Corp. – Payment Application #1 for the Porter County Expo Center Renovation in the amount of \$23,329.15. Bid Package 3 Metal Studs/Drywall. With a balance to finish of \$375,442.85.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

D.A. Dodd, LLC – Payment Application #1 for the Porter County Expo Center Renovation in the amount of \$32,502.49. With a balance to finish of \$689,720.51.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Continental Electric Co. - Payment Application #1 for the Porter County Expo Center Renovation in the amount of \$12,092.55. With a balance to finish of \$542,057.45.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, I want to give an update regarding the Expo Center renovations. We got into a lot of the underground out there when we tore into the building. We found out that a lot of the electric out there was all run underground. This building has been in place for 35 years without any work done to it in 35 years. A lot of the underground electric has pretty much deteriorated so we're now in the process of reengineering everything. I think we're about at the tail end. We're going to be primarily running a lot of new subpanels, new electrical, all overhead so again I think this is why we're managing the projects the way we're managing them is that we're finding out these issues as we go along and as we build them and we're addressing them and dealing with them and value engineering them as we go along. The bad news is it is going to cost some extra money. The good news is we're going to have brand new switch gear in that building that will last for a long time. There is a good and bad to everything. This is the less expensive time to do it

right now so we're going to do it and get it done. You will be seeing change orders coming forward on that in the next meeting but I just wanted to give the Board and the public an update as to what is going on. Everything that we're experiencing right now we expected. So we're managing it. We knew some things were going to happen out there. We budgeted for it accordingly and we're still moving forward. Nothing to be alarmed about this is just an update.

Shive-Hattery – An Invoice for the Porter County 157 N. Franklin, Valparaiso in the amount of \$23,651.70.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Gariup Construction – Payment Application #2 for the Porter County Courthouse Restoration in the amount of \$252,011.25. With a balance to finish of \$116,171.50.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, I would like to give the public an update. Based on our schedule that we had we were planning at this point in time...probably within the next 4 weeks we were expecting deliveries for windows. The window manufacturers had some delays. It has caused some problems up there with our schedule. We have coordinated with the judges and the people that work in the courthouse along with our construction people and the contractor. We're going to move the window renovation to the spring. So when we open up the building it is going to be a little warmer weather and a little dryer. It doesn't really affect our schedule that much we just ran into a material delay and the utility bills. So you pay one way or another. I just wanted to give everybody an update on that because we talked about doing the windows I believe in October or November and finishing up in December. So our schedule has moved but the time frame and the work that we are doing within everything should still be the same. So I wanted to give everybody an update on that.

Keough Mechanical Corp. – Change Order No. 1 for the Expo renovation in the amount of \$32,500.00. The new contract sum including this Change Order will be \$73,889.00.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, These change orders are basically a lot of underground things. Again it is some sewer pipe, some storm water pipe so when we got into the building a lot of the underground had been pretty much caved in. This is a continuation of that and what we discussed with the electrical stuff. This is more mechanical plumbing and piping. This is what this change order is for.

Gariup – Change Order in the amount of \$129,600.00 for the Admin Plaza walkways.

Com. Good, We have gotten together with the City of Valparaiso and we're taking a look at our sidewalks out here in the front of the building. We're trying to get our ADA parking spots closer to the location where the ramp is. There is a lot of concrete out here along our street that is in pretty bad shape. It's more of an additional continuation of the Plaza Building but what we'll end up having is better ADA parking and it will mirror with what we're doing over here across the street at the Park. All of our handicap parking, when there are big events going on downtown that will all be in one area, which we think is going to be very convenient for the public and this is sort of the last piece of that puzzle putting that all together. Any questions on that? This year we will have some construction activity going out on the front of the building but it will be mainly sidewalks.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, When we get done with that change order then it should balance out that project and we will be able to complete it.

GIS – Property Appraisal Report Summary –Additional Annual Premium \$23,213.00.

Mr. Behrendt, Good morning I'm Mark Behrendt and this is Matt Weber. If you recall at the June Board of Commissioners' meeting as we presented a proposal from CBIC to perform appraisals on the County's properties. We kind of considered that the missing piece of our insurance audit. We wanted to make sure we properly established insurance values. The appraisal has now been completed and as we suspected the buildings were not insured to their proper values. Overall the properties were under insured by a little over \$31 million with roughly \$8,400,000.00 of that being for the old Courthouse, the Opera House and the Museum which we now have insured on a reproduction cost rather than replacement cost. Based on these findings

we recommend the property limits be increased so their proper insurance value, the estimated annual premium worked out to roughly \$23,200.00.

Com. Biggs, So we were under insured by about \$8 million?

Mr. Weber, On the Opera House and the old Courthouse and the Museum.

Com. Good, Most of your historical properties.

Mr. Behrendt, But overall it was \$31 million.

Com. Biggs, Good work.

Com. Good, This is like you said the last piece of what we're verifying and everything and now we actually have evaluations of all of our buildings. If you go into the detail report every building we have out there has been appraised. There is evaluation there and now we have a point of beginning and a record going forward. I would also like to point out even though we're contemplating a change order here in premium of \$23,213.00 we're still well within right around \$400,000.00 in savings for our property and casualty insurance from where we were a year ago. Even though we're having to spend another \$23,000.00 coming back this is a real number now and we're still well below our premiums that we had before and we're with Traveler's Insurance, which is top of the food chain in the insurance business. We have a good carrier that is behind Porter County as well too.

Com. Biggs, And our properties are properly insured.

Com. Good, All of them. Any questions for these gentlemen?

Com. Biggs, Good work.

Com. Blaney, Yes thank you.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the property appraisal report, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Legal Services Agreement

Atty. McClure, This is a legal services agreement with Newby Lewis Kaminski Jones to prepare an independent legal opinion for the Board of Commissioners and for the County Council concerning the 15 N. Franklin lease.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, I look forward to hearing back on that.

Franciscan Alliance – Healthy Access Program Agreement for Wellness Clinic

Com. Good, This is regarding the Healthy Access Program Agreement for the Wellness Clinic that we talked about at our last meeting for the employees of Porter County.

Mr. Bontrager, Do you have copies of the agreements I know we sent those ahead of time.

Com. Good, We have them.

Mr. Bontrager, Tim is here as well to help answer questions as we may get into some of those on either the agreement or just the roll out. The agreement over the last few weeks since our last meeting we worked out the agreement. It's pretty straight forward. It matches what we talked about before. It is a 2 year agreement. It does clarify who is covered to go to the clinic and that is all members covered under the health plan. So that includes spouses and independents with the one exception if it's a child under 2 years old they should be going to the pediatrician just to make sure that they are seeing the proper care. That is the one caveat to anyone covered under the plan. Overall I think it worked to be with what was presented and everything....Scott I don't know if you have any other.....

Atty. McClure, Yes I just want to point out just so that it is clear because we've had a little bit of confusion. These things aren't natural for everybody so I would like to try to make sure

everyone gets exactly what's happening. So this is a 2 year contract. It has a 90 day provision that either could cancel the contract. The first year the beginning price is \$62.00 per eligible

employee. For the first 6 months we would be paying that \$62.00 per employee per month but only on 60% of our eligible employees. In months 7 through 12 we would be paying it on 80% or our covered employees. If in that section and moving on, if the utilization rate is not 80% then, let's say it's 40% then we split the difference on that and get some of a refund for that. Also, that is the carrot for Franciscan to with the roll out and the education of our employees. Also just so everyone is clear on what participation is or utilization when we're talking 60%/80% that's not just our covered employees. So in other words our rough number of employees on health insurance is 525 let's say, but within that, within each employee that is covered they may have a spouse, they may have children that are on the plan. So when we're talking 60% utilization it is everyone on our plan. So let's say its 1500 people that are actually insured when we're talking 60% or 80% participation we're talking that bigger number. Also, you've said it but I'm going to say it one more time to try to get the concept in if it's the employee and the employee has his or her children on the plan they are eligible for the clinic. If the employee's spouse isn't on our health insurance plan that spouse isn't part of this clinic. If the kids or dependents aren't on our health insurance plan they're not part of the clinic either.

Com. Biggs, It seems logical.

Atty. McClure, It is but I just want everybody....for the record and for everyone just trying to explain this to everybody. Again when we're talking about utilization that is the number we're looking at. We're looking at not just for employees but dependents and then also as far as who is eligible to go. That \$62.00 again is not times 1500 covered it is per employee covered.

Mr. Bontrager, The target date, the roll out here just as we've discussed especially with holidays and everything coming up as far as messaging we will be looking to roll this out around January 2nd. That would be the open date for it. It gives a good amount of time for education. We've got open enrollment coming up so we'll educated some through that but then also we definitely want to have some separate meetings as well because during those open enrollment meetings there is just a lot of discussion going on about everything else so we want to make sure that people know and understand this. What it is so we definitely want to schedule some meetings with employees probably at some different locations so we can go out to them and present it to them and say here's what it is, here is how you access it all of those types of things. As far as rolling it out we definitely want to have those conversations with employees in direct meetings not just a flyer hanging on the wall.

Mr. Ross, We planning on going to departments and being out there as much as possible to do the in-servicing to get the participation. Make sure we can answer everyone's questions up front. That is why January 2nd works well so that gives us plenty of time to do that.

Com. Good, So as everybody remembers when we rolled this out we sort of challenged our employees to get to that 60% number. We feel again that if we can get to that 60% above number with our use in our clinic here that we can continue to drive down our insurance costs on our main plan. So we're not doing it just to drive our costs down. This is a wellness benefit this is a big benefit to a lot of people because now these clinics are open on Saturday. There are some better hours for people that are working, but we really want to challenge our employees. We have to become a healthier group and that is nothing new out there. It is happening everywhere out there and that is the whole plan towards managing your health insurance is to try and get your group as healthy as you can get them. We're giving our employees all of the tools to be able to do that and help the County and the taxpayers out in return. Again, I challenge our employees to use it. We look forward to rolling it out. I would also like to say too a little bit earlier in the meeting we talked about all of our buildings that we're doing and the change orders and everything the really cool thing about what we're doing here in the health insurance up in Portage we're building a new building and co-habiting with Portage Township and some other various County offices up north. We're going to have community room up there. I know people think about oh community room, but again this is another place that when we get that room done we can do in-services, education for our employees in the north part of the County so now we have a place to gather and educate. As we continue to move forward with a lot of this workman's comp, wellness, it's all about education and it's all about taking that time with your employees. Letting them know what's coming, what works, what doesn't work and having that interaction. We're now going to be able to have the facilities where we can have those types of discussions and not have to look for a place to try and meet at. We're trying to be purposeful is what I'm trying to say with everything that we're doing here. I know that's just a little snippet but I say that just to show people how we're trying to think of all the different things that can affect the County as we continue to enhance these building improvements and have places where we can meet and educate and communicate to our employees from what we've done in the past. That is what Rhonda is going to be tasked with doing going forward. A lot of cool things coming up on the horizon.

Mr. Bontrager, Right along with that in the contract the provision we will review everything on a quarterly basis at least and if we come together and say this isn't working or this is working really well then we can come together with an agreement. We can do a change order stating lets cover this not that all of those types of things. We don't want to be changing it all of the time and adding confusion but certainly along the way being a newer program for the County if we see something that is not working well we'll address it.

Com. Good, We have to pivot, turn and move it in another direction and that is why you manage these programs.

Com. Biggs, There has been a lot of administrative activity of work on the part of the Board of Commissioners and with you all over the last year putting this program together. At the end of the day it is done for the benefit of the employees and the taxpayers who pays for our health insurance program. I can't over emphasize how important it is to the employees to participate because if this doesn't work they're going to expect to carry a heavier load. There is just no way around that. We're doing everything on our part as elected officials to keep that from happening. We brought in a firm such as yourself to come in and show us what the most cutting edge programs are to keep the health insurance costs down in an operation such as ours. So we're doing our part they need to do their part now.

Com. Good, Any other questions, Laura?

Com. Blaney, No I think part of our part is to provide a service that everyone will want to come to so it's a win win situation and I think we've done that.

Atty. McClure, I think the one thing we left out was it's free to the employees.

Com. Blaney, But even if it's free if it's lousy no one is going to win. So I think we've made a good place for people to go.

Mr. Ross, And we look forward to partnering the with County and the employees to make it a good thing for them.

Com. Good, I know when we look at these and you want the best responsible bid but one of the things that I was very excited about with the Franciscan proposal was that the amount of time and effort that they are going to spending in educational and outreach. I know that sounds cliquey but they're also doing it in our workman's comp program now through GIS Insurance. We're actually meeting now and talking about certain outcomes and certain things that we can train the employees to do better. So we have better workman's comp outcomes too. The County is paying a lot of money for workman's comp too so if we can lower that rate and get a better workman's comp rate it is going to save the taxpayers and the County a lot of money too. It is just about managing workman's comp now. It takes time. You have to meet. We have the Sheriff, we have a big board that meets on this and we're talking about outcomes. I think we talked about looking at the different types of shoes we're buying, slips and falls for jailers and things like that. It is really minute stuff but it's really important in the grand scheme of things. Not only for the safety of our employees but for the overall cost for the County too. So it's a win win on that point. I look forward to working with Franciscan. We're excited about this. We're ready to go. Now we enter into this and as Tony knows we start managing this process now too. Thank you for doing that.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the HealthAccess Program Agreement with Franciscan Alliance, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, We will see the employees right after the first of the year and be looking for the roll out updates. We look forward to rolling this out to you. Thank you.

EXPO CENTER – LORI DALY, DIRECTOR

3 Quotes for Fence Repair

Wunder Company, Inc.	\$1,950.00
Northwest Indiana Fence Co.	\$2,250.00
Fence Masters	No Response

Com. Good, It looks like we have some fence repairs. Is this from what just happened? Is this for the break-in?

Ms. Daly, No the break-in is separate. This is somebody's breaks gave and came right into Gate 1, the gate stopped him.

Com. Good, And which gate is this?

Ms. Daly, Gate 1.

Com. Blaney, It looks like Wunder Company is the low quote. Is that what you recommend?

Com. Good, I think we've used them before.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve Wunder Company, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES – RHONDA YOUNG, DIRECTOR

Comp Time Report

Com. Good, So are we making some significant progress?

Ms. Young, We are. We have the Animal Shelter, she has her employees paid off. Those were from previous years. So they are done, they're taken out. The first page is where we were in August and where we're at in September. We have one employee that went up in one department but after that they are pretty much the same. The second page I figured out in dollars how much the pay outs would be if we were to pay them out. The Prosecutor's office had talked about trying to make her exempt. So I am trying to keep track of the pay out because we want to make sure if that is what he is going to do, we pay her out in 2018 because if she does get a raise or whatever happens we want to give her the rate that she earned it on.

Com. Blaney, Is that going through the budget process or is that outside of the budget process?

Ms. Young, Well he has to come in front of the Commissioners to see if you would approve the exempt or non-exempt. So after that he would have to go in front of the Council.

Com. Blaney, Do you have any idea when he might be coming?

Ms. Young, No I'm hoping that he gets on the agenda soon.

Com. Good, But is it safe to say that all of these departments that are on this this list now have a plan in place?

Ms. Young, Yes, every single one of them have a plan.

Com. Good, That is what we were trying to get to first. It's good to hear that we have a plan and now.....

Com. Blaney, And now we have to make sure that they execute it.

Ms. Young, They've done pretty well.

Com. Good, Yes that is good to see. We're getting it.

Com. Blaney, Thanks for your work on it.

Ms. Young, Open enrollment is October 15th through October 26th. October 15th will be the day UMR is here and Delta Dental along with R.E. Sutton. We are going to have meetings starting at 10:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers and they will have presentations throughout the whole day and to answer all questions.

Com. Good, And IT is putting a blast out on that. I think they have been.

Ms. Young, Now that we have times for the presentations hopefully the department heads will come to see the presentation.

Atty. McClure, How did we decide to do open enrollment?

Ms. Young, We are going to send out a form prior to the 15th if they don't want to change anything they are going to send it but acknowledge that and send it back its offered but they are not changing, but the can still come to the meeting if they want. If they don't want insurance I have a waiver that I want them to sign that it was offered and send it back. They don't have to attend.

Com. Good, Any other questions of Rhonda? Thanks for the update. Keep plugging away at it.

VETERAN'S SERVICES – JIM ATKINSON, DIRECTOR

A request for an Additional Appropriation – Fund #4112 Account #3991 Other Services and Charges in the amount of \$500.00. To make a contribution to a veteran-related endeavor – The USS Indiana Commissioning Committee.

Com. Good, If you remember that was for \$500.00 towards the \$1000.00 scholarship for the USS Indiana. Each county gave \$1000.00. In Porter County we have the Veteran's Administration giving \$500.00 of the \$1000.00 and then the other \$500.00 came from donations from Laura can you give the names? I want to make sure I get it right.

Com. Blaney, Yourself, myself, Rhame Elwood and McClure, Mike Jessen and Karen Conover. I think that's it.

Com. Good, And that is where the other \$500.00 in donations came from. They were donations from us.

Com. Good, moved to approve the Additional Appropriation, Com. Blaney, second, motion carried.

EMA – LANCE BELLA, DIRECTOR

A Memorandum of Understanding between Porter County Government and Lake County Government for the purpose of achieving the various aims and objectives relating to the use and maintenance of District 1 assets.

Com. Good, Are these 2nd Readings?

Atty. McClure, No the first one is a Memorandum of Understanding that EMA had worked out. Lake County has signed. This would require Lake County to pay \$3000.00 payable to Porter County for the maintenance of the District 1 assets. We have asked everyone in District 1. I think this is maybe the first one we have gotten back.

Mr. Brickner, Correct this is the first one hopefully we're anticipating at least 2 more soon.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Bartronics – An estimate to install Kenwood multi-deck mobile radio and 3 deck radio frequency programming in the amount of \$5,868.40.

Mr. Brickner, This is part of the 700 Megahertz transition in fact these 3 items are all connected to that transition for radio assists for the EMA vehicles and personnel.

Com. Good, Does this include the mobile command center too?

Mr. Brickner, Yes it does.

Com. Good, Can we vote on these all at one time Scott?

Atty. McClure, Yes.

Bartronics – An estimate to install an Impact speaker mike in the amount of \$690.00.

Bartronics – An estimate to install an EF Johnson Armada Kit, Viking Portable & mobile software and programming cables and EFJ programming hard slave programming key in the amount of \$1,094.00.

Com. Good, As you can see EMA and 911 just keeps becoming more complexed with more equipment.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve all of the Bartronics agreements, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

JON MILLER, RECORDER

Clifford-Wald – A maintenance agreement for a large format book scanner in the amount of \$1,295.00 annually.

Mr. Miller, In the spirit of coming before the Commissioners for any maintenance agreements this is an agreement for a machine it is called a Kip 7170. What it is is a large format scanner and printer. We use it for plats. We use it to scan our plats into our system and we also use it for providing copies to the public. I think it mentioned on the agenda that it was \$1,295.00 a month it should be that annually. This is a company Clifford-Wald that we have done business with for several years. The Recorder's office has probably had for 2 decades had a large format device like this. This one is a newer one we just purchased last year and the manufacturer's agreement has run out. So this will be an annual agreement. This agreement does include supplies so that is one benefit of it. Not only does it include the actual hardware maintenance it does include paper and toner.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve Clifford-Wald maintenance agreement, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

ITS – DON WELLSAND, DIRECTOR

NITCO – Private Fiber Optic Connector for Porter County Government from 155 Indiana and separately from the Courthouse to 157 Franklin St., Valparaiso, IN.

Mr. Wellsand, This is a contract with NITCO to run fiber from 157 Franklin to the Courthouse and also another from 157 Franklin to the Administration Building. The one going to the Courthouse is going to be our backup (Inaudible).

Com. Good, So if we were to execute this then we would actually have loop for the entire County facilities in the downtown Valparaiso area.

Mr. Wellsand, As far as 911 (Inaudible).

Com. Good, When 911 and everything moves in. So we'll have some redundancy built in and some other things into our fiber.

Mr. Wellsand, Correct.

Com. Good, I just want to make sure. Not only are we buying a lot of high technology equipment we have to get the cable and the fiber optics to the building and that is what this is. This is your infrastructure portion of the IT component of 157 Franklin. Any questions? Looking at the amounts Don are these.....

Com. Blaney, Total construction cost, that's the number \$2,531.99.

Mr. Wellsand, Correct.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the NITCO agreement, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Mr. Wellsand, Just a note on the service agreement. There is a place to initial it on the back page it seems you miss it. I told Tom Carol I would bring that up.

Com. Good, When you sign stuff that thick you always miss a few. You try not to.

A Memorandum of Understanding between Porter County Government and the Porter County Public Library System of 103 Jefferson St., Valparaiso, IN for the purpose of achieving the various aims and objectives relating to the "Join the PCG Telephone System"

Com. Good, Don why don't you tell everybody what we are doing here and how we're trying to partner up with our Library System to help them save some money.

Mr. Wellsand, Yes I was approached by the Library System a gentleman from the Board if we could help them out with their antique telephone system that they have. Their phone system is so out of date the directory told me that he would get a voicemail and it wouldn't show up on his phone for 2 to 3 days later. We've had a lot of conversations with him and we came up with this MOU and they are going to buy all of the telephones and they are going to pay for the licensing for the phones. Our cost is firewall, I will install a firewall at the main branch in Valpo because that is going to be ours as far as programming. It will connect to our telephone system our call manager. They are purchasing 88 telephones and I think it will be a good deal for all.

Com. Good, Yes I think it's another way we are trying to reach out to the different entities in government and try to create a single source to maintain and operate. It's much more cost effective I'm sure for the Library System so we're more than happy to help out and I think you will be seeing more and more of these things in the future where they make a lot of sense for everybody.

Com. Blaney, It's nice to have Stu Summers and the Board over there wanting to work together.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

ADAMS REMCO, INC – Lease agreement for a new color copier for the Print Shop.

Com. Good, I think this is the one down in the print shop. It is at end of life.

Mr. Wellsand, We're going to replace the one we have down there. This is a 6 year lease that we are going to sign. Just to let you know the old one broke down twice in one week. It's well over 1.5 million copies or something I don't remember exactly what it was. In the long run it was cheaper for us to lease a new copier than it was to keep paying the maintenance on the old one.

Com. Blaney, Weren't they having trouble finding parts?

Mr. Wellsand, Yes and the other problem they were having there are not very many left out in production and it is getting harder and harder to find toner. That was an issue we had a month or so ago. Hopefully this will eliminate those issues.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve the Adams Remco contract, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, We held out as long as we could for that thing. We knew it was starting to rattle and stuff but we decided to give in.

WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, BOB GREGG

A request to install Comcast internet connection in the sanctuary and set up security cameras at the entrance due to vandalism that has recently occurred in the amount of a one-time charge of \$199.00.

A request to pay an invoice to Michiana Rental for a stage in the amount \$872.00.

Com. Blaney, moved to approve both requests, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

PLAN COMMISSION – BOB THOMPSON, DIRECTOR

**A request to vacate the unimproved Right-of-Way in Hanrahan Subdivision
Petitioner Thomas Rice – 2nd Reading.**

Com. Good, As you all recall at our last meeting we had 1st Reading. We opened it up to the public for "For or Against" nobody spoke up for either I believe on that one. So this is the rubber stamp 2nd Reading of this request to vacate.

Com. Blaney, move to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Rezone - I1, Light Industry to CH, Commercial High Intensity. Petitioner Tudor Design Center LLC zoning map amendment – 2nd Reading.

Com. Blaney, move to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Rezone - R1, Single Family Residential to PUD, Planned Unit Development. Petitioner FWA Development, LLC zoning map amendment Falling Waters Subdivision – 2nd Reading.

Com. Good, I would like to point out at the 1st Reading we did have people show up and everyone that came and remonstrated were for this development. So that was very positive to see that we're starting to work through the Falling Waters Subdivision and we're starting to get some traction out there which I think is really positive.

Com. Blaney, move to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

SEH of Indiana - Supplemental Agreement for additional professional services on Bridge 62 – 625 West over Kankakee River.

Mr. Thompson, This is Supplemental Agreement for Bridge 62. We have federal aid on this project. It's 625 over the Kankakee River. To give you an idea of the progress and where we're at right now we're in the process of purchasing right-of-way. They have appraisers go out there now. It's scheduled to be let for construction we're looking at probably October of 2019 I believe it is, I could be wrong on that, but somewhere around there that bridge is going to get let for total replacement. We've stopped this project in the past and put it on hold for a while because of some recurring costs. I know one of the items that came across is that since then the Kankakee River got designated as a water trail. So they had to go through some additional environmental reporting because of that. They give a history of everything here on why they're asking for the additional with the agreement plus we have the project engineer, project manager for the SEH Craig Hendricks sitting here

Com. Good, Just for the record I'm sure maybe a lot of residents here or don't know but we will put it into the record Bridge 62 is very very important bridge to Porter County. I don't people really realize how important this bridge is. It spans across the Kankakee River. It's usually where a lot of obstructions, large trees and other things. When the river rises trees fall in. It starts carrying it down the river. This is the bridge that catches it. It has taken a lot of wear and tear over the years. It's at end of life. We're usually in there twice a year a gentleman down south goes out on the bridge with a big backhoe and he grabs the trees out of the water, hoists them up on the bridge and we cut them and haul them away. It's quite an event if you see it happen, but this bridge is at end of life. The really cool thing about it is we're going to be making a lot of changes to that bridge right now I believe it has 3 pylons.

Mr. Thompson, Existing 5 piers in the river and we're going to be going down to 3.

Com. Good, That is important going from 5 to 3 because we'll have less blockage as things pass through the water. Usually that happens in a very big water rate event when we see these types of things so your water tables get really high. I think it's a tricky bridge because you're really limited with the type of elevations and things you have down there to work with and one of the houses is right on the water right next to it so we have to relocate a driveway and some other things. It's long overdue. I think this is a big improvement for down there. Not only for people to be able to communicate back and forth but in emergency situations too. And we're now going to have a much more robust bridge down there to work going forward. It won't catch as much stuff either. I think it's all good and it's long overdue.

Com. Blaney, move to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Consultant selection for design engineering - Bridge 68 – Smoke Rd. over Jones Ditch.

Mr. Thompson, This is a federal aid project that we have that is going to be construction letting in July of 2022. We're starting to design services on this and we had a consultant selection team of Mike, Rich Sexton and myself and we have 5 letters of interest or RFP in on this and the consultant that rose to the top on this was DLZ and that is who we're giving the recommendation to.

Com. Blaney, move to approve DLZ, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, Again this is taking place in 2022 so we're now starting to lay the foundation work for our bridge repairs going forward.

Com. Good, While we have you here Bob we wanted to take the opportunity to address something here that sort of popped up last week in County government. We've been getting as of yesterday our phones started ringing quite a bit so we knew something was up. There is an annexation that is I think on the agenda tonight at the City of Valparaiso Plan Commission. They're looking to annex a piece of property from County to City. This is up at Spectacle Lake Rd. up in the north part in the VLACD area Conservancy District and this is something that the City of Valparaiso is pushing forward. We will be sending a letter of our concerns of this annexation to be entered into the record of the Plan Commission meeting tonight. Basically the letter will be representing Porter County will be talking about the roadway infrastructure or lack thereof out there, drainage lack thereof out there and other things. So we want to make sure the County weighs in on its concerns because this would be a road that would have 30 to 40 additional cars on it. It's really not built for additional wear and tear. We're letting the County serve record and notice of what our concerns are. The downside to that I will turnover to Atty. McClure because I think annexation is somewhat complicated and a lot of people really don't understand how the process works in the State of Indiana and unfortunately for the County we don't have a lot of say so in this but I will let Atty. McClure speak to the legality of it. We just wanted to have a record of this in our meeting stating that we talked about it and then we'll be sending out a public letter to the Plan Commission letting them know of our position.

Atty. McClure, Generally speaking whether the annexation occurs or not it's between the property owners and the incorporated municipality that is hearing it. My understanding that this is the property owners themselves requested the City to annex. Obviously the City has the process by statute to go through Plan Commission, Council, they go through a couple of public hearings but ultimately it's not up to us whether or not....that's an agreement between the private property owners and the municipality themselves. We just want to be sure the concerns, roads and storm water those things that greatly affect us on annexations are at least brought up and attempted to be dealt with as these annexations happen but ultimately it's between the property owners and that municipality on whether or not there is an agreement on the annexation. Normally on this and especially on this one normally the reason for the annexation is a two-fold there is either a need for public utilities or there is a need or want for increased density and I think we might have a combo of those two things here. I think roughly speaking our lowest density is 18,000 square feet give or take.

Mr. Thompson, 15.

Atty. McClure, In the City it maybe gets down to 11.

Mr. Thompson, Less than that.

Atty. McClure, They can go down farther. It comes to density and it comes to city utilities that is normally why people want to be annexed somewhere which is part of our concern and that is why we're having a letter done is that there are already some drainage issues out there that we are well and all painfully aware of. If the density is to rise on this particular annexation parcel which we are way early in the stage to know that for sure but if it were to increase beyond even what our codes would allow it just heightens the concern over the drainage on what's being done.

Com. Good, Once again we're trying to be proactive. We're trying to be a voice of the residents in unincorporated Porter County and we're letting people know where our position is and it is strictly from studying engineering, infrastructure, the current situation that we have out there. Spectacle Lake Road is a very narrow road and it's going to take on quite a bit of additional traffic and that is a road that the County would still maintain as well too. So they would have the annexation but we would still have the road. It's not a perfect situation with annexations but it's the law in Indiana as of right now. We're going to make our opinion known of what we feel about it in a professional and courteous way. That is what is going on and we just wanted to let the people know and enter it into the record today that we had a discussion about it.

Com. Biggs, Bob what is there now that they want to annex it? Is it just land?

Mr. Thompson, 17 acres of land.

Com. Biggs, Do we know what they want to put on it?

Mr. Thompson, Single family from what I am seeing from a proposed concept plan about 40 to 45 lots in that area. They were showing drainage ponds in the northwest corner and southeast corners.

Com. Biggs, Do these lots about the actual lake?

Mr. Thompson, No.

Com. Good, The lake is not far away though.

Mr. Thompson, No it's not far away at all.

Atty. McClure, But all of the water goes to the lake.

Com. Blaney, Yes the water goes to the lake.

Atty. McClure, One way or another.

Com. Blaney, That is some of the concerns we're hearing.

Com. Biggs, And quite honestly that is mine as well. That has historically had a very sensitive environmental history there the way that that drains and eventually gets to the lake. I'm sure Valpo is aware of that it's just that on our part we make that we're crystal clear on how they're addressing that.

Mr. Novotney, Make sure that they are aware of that and that there is a plan to address to address it. That is the important thing.

THE SALVATION ARMY OF PORTER COUNTY – ANGELA KALIN, DEV. DIRECTOR

A request to use the north side of the Courthouse grounds Thursday, November 8th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm for the Red Kettle Kick Off. There will be a Christmas carol choir, hot cocoa, and cookies. Bell ringing officially begins November 9th.

Com. Good, moved to approve, Com. Biggs, second, motion carried.

Com. Good, Is there anyone wishing to address this Board? Yes, please state your name and address.

Ms. Kamynos, Good morning. My name is Evelyn Kamynos. My address is 1087 North Pearson Rd., Chesterton, Indiana. I'm not asking for money, I'm not asking for anything this should be an easy easy task however it has not been. This is to Mr. Biggs because I had called you July 13th and spoke with you about a problem and you said give you a week or two and you would return my phone call. That was July 13th. I called again August 6th and left a message. I called September 7th left a message. And I called again September 12th left a message. You have not returned my phone call. You have not answered any questions and I want to know why and I want it for the record. You can speak to me more after.

Com. Biggs, Well ma'am let's start off what was the issue you called about?

Ms. Kamynos, The golf balls that keep coming into my yard that was part of it. Mainly it was the golf course does not mow across road and they usually mow it if I remind them and they usually do. They said they would.

Com. Biggs, How many times have we spoke at least twice. No I've spoken to you at least twice.

Ms. Kamynos, You spoke to me July 13th.

Com. Biggs, I've not only spoken to you I've spoken to one other property owner out there. I went and talked to the golf pro out there.

Ms. Kamynos, But you never called me back so I don't know what you ever said.

Com. Biggs, Do you have a voice messaging system.

Ms. Kamynos, Yes I do and I have two. If one is filled it goes over to another one.

Com. Biggs, I don't know why we haven't connected after that, but I know we've spoken at least twice.

Ms. Kamynos, Once.

Com. Biggs, I spoke to the golf course I get very little understanding or.....

Ms. Kamynos, And who did you speak to there?

Com. Biggs, The first time I spoke to a female there. I don't remember her name exactly.

Ms. Kamynos, And when was that?

Com. Biggs, That was last summer. She said that.....

Ms. Kamynos, That was last year she is not there anymore.

Com. Biggs, I spoke to a female last summer.

Ms. Kamynos, Okay but I called you in July of this year.

Com Biggs, Okay and I spoke to her last summer. The last time I looked July is in the summer.

Ms. Kamynos, What problem did you.... because mine was the non-mowing and they mowed it last year.

Com. Biggs, I spoke to them about the mowing. I also spoke to them about the golf balls coming across the road. We can't as Commissioners force a private property owner to mow their grass.

Ms. Kamynos, You know we can't walk outside our house without the possibility of getting hit and I've had damage done to my house numerous time and I get no response but this was an easy one that I asked you for.

Com. Biggs, I understand you may think it's easy but I as an elected official cannot force a private property owner to mow their grass.

Ms. Kamynos, But you could call me back.

Com. Biggs, And I have called you back and I have talked to you twice. There is no reason for me to tell you that if I haven't. We spoke twice.

Ms. Kamynos, Once. You spoke to a neighbor of mine you did not speak to me.

Com. Biggs, I also spoke to him but we've spoke twice.

Ms. Kamynos, One time because I keep a record of it.

Com. Biggs, The second time we spoke I had told you we cannot force him to mow it. I even threw out the offer would you care if the Highway were to come in.

Ms. Kamynos, You told me that the original one.....

Com. Biggs, We don't have the apparatus to mow that hill.

Ms. Kamynos, The Highway did come they mowed along the side. Yes the Highway cannot mow that hill because it's on the golf course property.

Com. Biggs, Yes exactly. If we started doing that we would be doing it every other mile down the road.

Ms. Kamynos, I understand that I didn't ask for that.

Com. Biggs, You asked me to have them do it and they're indifferent about it for whatever reason and it's probably due to cost but there is nothing I can do.

Ms. Kamynos, But I'm here today because you would not return a phone call. I would not keep you calling if you had returned the phone call.

Com. Biggs, Well you did get a return phone call. You absolutely did.

Ms. Kamynos, One time.

Com. Biggs, Well you did get a return phone call and I have no messages on my phone in my office.

Ms. Kamynos, So it's not settled and you could do nothing and yes there were messages. And if you didn't get messages you need to get a better recorder.

Com. Biggs, Let's be honest you're upset with me or the Board of Commissioners because we can't do anything.

Ms. Kamynos, I'm kind of upset really with the Town of Chesterton because they okayed this. However, the driving range is in Porter County so I have a conflict here. Of course Chesterton okayed all of this but being that the driving range is in Porter County I have to go through Porter County for it. This has been going on for 20 years and there has been no resolution. I've had broken windows, broken outdoor lights, you can't walk outside, broken mower blades. I should have some enjoyment of my property which you can't have.

Com. Biggs, I don't disagree with you. I mean I've even spoken to the County Attorney about this a year ago about some type of ordinance. No there is nothing and the Plan Commission with Bob Thompson. We don't have anything. When that was approved there is no specifications about flying golf balls. As you know they put up a 40' high or 60' high screen there and some of those balls just find their way occasionally over that screen and occasionally you'll get the golfer who doesn't care about....you know they're out there messing around and start shooting balls every which way as long they think somebody is not watching them. I have compassion for you. I understand that but I can't go out of my jurisdiction or authority and force a private property owner to do something that we clearly don't have the jurisdiction to force them to do.

Ms. Kamynos, Then what do I do? What do I do to stop this?

Com. Biggs, Well you have the civil side of it. If they're breaking windows in your house or on your car then....

Ms. Kamynos, Oh I have done it but it still continues. So then what do I do?

Com. Biggs, You can take them to court.

Ms. Kamynos, Okay this was a problem made by somebody else another town and now I have to pay the money for an attorney to take them to court.

Com. Biggs, Ma'am I understand. Have you showed up at the Town Board of Chesterton and accused them of not doing anything?

Ms. Kamynos, Not to the Board no. Before I was working meetings are usually during the day when working people cannot attend and I worked so now that I'm retired I can do this. It's like I just keep hitting a wall for everything.

Com. Biggs, If you want to contact them and tell them that we've discussed this and if they want to contact me for additional information how I dealt with them. I got a very cold reception from that golf pro.

Ms. Kamynos, You ought to live next to them and see what they say. They are quite arrogant and belligerent.

Com. Biggs, I want to reassure you that we all three of us up here get residents that call us on a regular basis but it's not usual that where we actually get in our car and drive over to the point of the complaint which I did do. I tried to do as much as I can but again I don't want to throw my weight around as a County Commissioner and say you know what Scott let's sue them. Well you can't well let's sue the anyway. I can't do that. Again I would suggest that you approach the Town of Chesterton. I will call them today and see what they have on the books as far as what they can enforce out there.

Ms. Kamynos, It's not like I bought this property to be by the golf course. I lived there 40 years and they put in 20 years ago.

Com. Biggs, And that is exactly what I told them because I was told that's just park parcel living next to a golf course and I said those homes were there first. She was very indifferent about it.

Ms. Kamynos, That was last year because she is not there anymore.

Com. Biggs, She gave me the phone number of their attorney which I called and never got a return phone call. Short of buying a pup tent and staking it out and spending the night until somebody shows up who can answer any questions I don't know what else I can do. I know it's not what you want to hear and I feel for you but I can't abuse my authority and try to hoodwink somebody into doing something that I really don't have the authority to have them do.

Ms. Kamynos, Well I'm sorry to waste everybody's time but because I didn't get a return phone call that is why I'm here.

Com. Biggs, You didn't waste anybody's time that is what we get paid to do is to listen our residents. So if you want to contact the Town of Chesterton I will contact them as well.

Ms. Kamynos, I talked to Mark O'Dell who has never called me back but I did talk to him person to person.

Com. Biggs, I'll call Mark you leave your name and phone number with Melanie and I promise you will get a phone call back today.

Ms. Kamynos, He said that he was not there when it was okayed that they okayed the project but they cannot say hey you have to put this here you have to put that there you have to do whatever. They do whatever but I said on the original plan it was there at the meeting I saw it and I commented about it the driving range was along the side of the road.

Com. Biggs, I'm sure there is regulations there that they have to follow but I'm telling you right now that hill and those weeds that the seeds are floating into your property.

Ms. Kamynos, It's like snow on my ground.

Com. Biggs, I have no idea whether or not they're property maintenance over the Town of Chesterton allows them to....

Ms. Kamynos, That's County.

Com. Biggs, Well we don't have anything like that.

Ms. Kamynos, Okay that's it thank you.

Com. Good, Thank you.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA

Jeffrey J. Good

Laura M. Blaney

Jim Biggs

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor