

MINUTES

ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

January 4, 2021

Vice President, Frank Lucchese called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the County Administration Building, 117 North Second Street, Goshen, Indiana. Board members Frank Lucchese and Suzie Weirick attended VIRTUALLY. Board Member, Brad Rogers was present. Others present were Jeff Taylor, VIRTUALLY, County Administrator; Craig Buche, VIRTUALLY, County Attorney; and Anita Mock; Executive Assistant. All presenters attended VIRTUALLY.

***This meeting commenced pursuant to public notice under the Indiana open door law and Governor Holcomb's Executive Orders. This meeting was made available for the public and press to attend in person or engage in remote real-time observation and remote electronic participation.

Auditor, Patty Pickens, opened the floor for nominations. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, Suzie Weirick was nominated as President of the Board. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, Frank Lucchese was nominated as Vice President of the Board. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the various assignments as follows: A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

President – Suzie Weirick
Vice President – Frank Lucchese
MACOG – Suzie Weirick
St. Joseph River Basin – Frank Lucchese
Drainage Board – Frank Lucchese
Plan Commission - Frank Lucchese
Oaklawn – Brad Rogers
Community Corrections Advisory Board (CCAB) – Brad Rogers
CCPC – Personnel Liaison – Brad Rogers
Affirmative Action (EEOC) – Vacant
Economic Development Commission – Suzie Weirick
Emergency Management Board – Suzie Weirick
South Bend - Elkhart/Regional Partnership – Suzie Weirick

On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried the Board approved the Minutes of the December 1st, December 7th & December 14th, 2020 meetings and placed them on file. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

On a motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Allowance of Claims, as presented by the County Auditor's office. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointments to various County Departments as follows: A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

Superintendent, Buildings & Grounds – Don Tubicsak
Veteran's Service Officer – James Snowden
County Highway Engineer – Tom Rushlow
Manager of Transportation – Charlie McKenzie
Human Resources Director – Kirt Hunsberger
Data Processing Director – Matt Dietz
Weights & Measures – Todd Barrows
Emergency Management Director – Jenn Tobey
County Administrator – Jeff Taylor
County Attorney – Craig Buche

On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved appointments to various County Boards and placed it on file. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

County Highway Manager of Transportation, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of Curve Warning Signs on County Road 34 between County Road 43 and the East County Line. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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County Highway Manager of Transportation, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval of No Truck Sign on Lake Shore Drive by County Road 4 and County Road 15. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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County Highway Manager of Transportation, Charlie McKenzie, requested approval to advertise for 2020-22 Community Crossings Matching Grant Paving Project. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

Director of Landfill, John Bowers, requested approval of ENFOCUS Agreement. Program Director, Allison Egan, gave a short presentation explaining the program. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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Director of Landfill, John Bowers, requested approval of Memorandum of Understanding by and between Elkhart City and Elkhart County Landfill to extend the current agreement of 15 years. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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County Attorney, Craig Buche, requested approval of Agreement for Engagement of the Elkhart County Attorney. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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County Attorney, Craig Buche, requested approval of Ordinance Adopting Amendment to Elkhart County Government Personnel Policy and Standard Procedures Manual extending COVID-19 Leave through June 30, 2021. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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County Attorney, Craig Buche, requested approval of Uniform Conflict Disclosure for Dave Hess & Tom Stump. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board moved to accept the Elkhart County Community Mental Health Center Annual Report submitted by Oaklawn Psychiatric Center, Inc. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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Elkhart County's Drug Free Partnership Director, Jessica Koscher, requested approval of additional appropriation from Drug Free Community Fund in the amount of \$4,500 as an annual allocation. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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BOARD ITEMS:

County Administrator, Jeff Taylor, requested approval of Supplement & Addendum 2 to Independent Contractor Agreement for Professional Services (Courthouse Study and Oversight Services) by and between the Board of Commissioners and PMSI, USA, LLC. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

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Commissioner Brad Rogers began discussion on opening county buildings back up to the public. Dr. Bethany Wait was then introduced virtually as the new Health Officer and was asked her opinion on this matter. A lengthy discussion followed. Brad Rogers made a motion to open the county buildings to the public at which time no second motion was received and the motion died with no action taken.

AUDIENCE ITEMS:

On a motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned their meeting. A roll call vote followed with all members voting; AYE.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Mock