

# MINUTES

## ELKHART COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

August 15, 2022

President Suzie Weirick called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in room 104 in the County Administration Building, 117 North Second Street, Goshen, Indiana. The other Board members, Frank Lucchese and Brad Rogers were also present. Others present were Craig Buche, County Attorney; Patricia Pickens, County Auditor; Jeff Taylor, County Administrator and Anita Mock, Administrative Manager.

\*\*\*This meeting commenced pursuant to public notice under the Indiana open door law. 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.

On a motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Suzie Weirick and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the August 1<sup>st</sup> & August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting and placed them on file.

On a motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Allowance of Claims as presented by the County Auditor's office.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

Planning & Development, Danny Dean, requested approval of Russell W. Blair & Constance A. Blair for a zone map change from GPUD E-3 to A-1, south side of County Road 104, 825 feet east of County Road 15, common address of 22338 County Road 104, in Osolo Township. Suzie Weirick opened a public hearing. No audience members wished to speak on this matter. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board closed the public hearing. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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Planning & Development Zoning Administrator, Jason Auvil, requested approval of Northern Lakes Investments Inc. represented by B. Doriot & Associates, Inc. for a zone map change from A-1 to DPUD A-1 and for primary approval of a 1-lot minor subdivision to be known as **NORTHERN LAKES MASHALING YARD**, west side of County Road 21, 660 feet south of US Highway 6, in Jackson Township. Blake Doriot presented a full description of the project. Northern Lakes Investment Representative, Rod Beer, spoke in favor of the project. Aluminum

Trailer Corporation Representative, Matt Knepp, spoke on details of the project. Mayor Phil Jenkins spoke in favor of the project and very high regards for the work he has seen done by Northern Lakes Investment Inc. in past projects. Suzie Weirick opened a public hearing. Matt Myers spoke in opposition of the project. James Otis submitted a petition signed by surrounding residents of the project in opposition to the project. Mary Dale spoke in opposition of the project. Scott Gingrich spoke in opposition of the project. Jessica Hilton asked what the project site would look like once the corn in the fields was cut back. Blake Doriot addressed the concerns that were voiced on this project. Rod Beer discussed the buffering and options available. Larry Yoder spoke in opposition of the project. Herbert Reuter spoke in opposition of the project. No other audience members wished to speak on this matter. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board closed the public hearing. Brad Rogers had the following comments. *"I am voting no on this matter, primarily over the safety concerns of the roadway of CR 21 being too narrow and the intersection of CR 21 and US 6 turn radius being too tight for trailers/trucks. Having been told by the petitioners that the tech committee has passed this project, which I found incredulous, and not having received any information on the tech committee decision or deliberations of the tech committee, I vote "No" on this rezoning at least until those factors are resolved."*

Frank advised that he voted for the project at the Plan Commissioner Meeting but did have concerns if there was enough buffering. Suzie spoke on concerns of property rights and buffering. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, he requested approval with additional buffering. No second, the motion died. On motion made by Suzie Weirick, seconded by Frank Lucchese, the Board approved this request with further buffering to be included INSIDE the fencing. A roll call vote followed: Brad Rogers; NAY, Frank Lucchese; AYE, Suzie Weirick; AYE. Motion passed. (Petitions are on file.)

County Administrator, Jeff Taylor, requested approval of Independent Contractor Agreement for Professional Consulting, Surveying and Engineering Services by and between the Board of Commissioners on behalf of Highway Department and Abonmarche Consultants, Inc. for as-needed Engineering Services. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Administrator, Jeff Taylor, requested approval of LPA – Consultant Agreement by and between Elkhart County and American Structurepoint, Inc. for Bridge 265 Replacement – Warren Street over the Little Elkhart River. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Administrator, Jeff Taylor, requested approval of INDOT – LPA Contract Amendment for the County Road 17 Multi – Use Bike Path Project. On motion made by Brad Rogers, seconded by Frank Lucchese and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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County Attorney, Craig Buche, requested approval of Joint Resolution Between York Township, Indiana and the Board of Commissioners of the County of Elkhart, Indiana for the Transfer of Cemetery Real Estate. On motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board approved this request.

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**BOARD ITEMS:**

Planning & Development Zoning Administrator, Jason Auvil, presented Ordinance PC 2022-19 Indiana Transport DPUD which was previously approved on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2022; ordained and adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022 for signatures only. No further action needed.

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**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

On a motion made by Frank Lucchese, seconded by Brad Rogers and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned their meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anita Mock