

DECEMBER 16, 2024

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, December 16, 2024, in their meeting room, County Office Building, 114 W. Michigan Street, LaGrange, Indiana, 46761, at 8:30 a.m., with the following present: Commissioners, Mr. Terry A. Martin, Mr. Peter A. Cook, and Mr. Kevin Myers. and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Terry Martin, President, called the meeting to order and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda with flexibility. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

STRAND ASSOCIATES AGREEMENT

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, presented an Amendment No. 4 to the Agreement for General Services for LaGrange County Landfill Monitoring with Strand Associates, Inc. The amendment will be in effect to the final closing in December 2028. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the agreement. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

COUNTY LEGAL SERVICES – BEERS MALLERS BACKS & SALIN, LLP

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, presented a contract for legal services for 2025 with Beers Mellers Backs & Salin, LLP for consideration. The contract is in the amount of \$28,000, which includes the staff meetings. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the contract and authorize the President to sign. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY – PERMISSION TO DECLARE ITEMS AS SURPLUS

Mr. Aaron Fugate, Highway Supervisor, requested permission to declare several chain saws as surplus equipment. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – STELLAR PATHWAYS GRANT

Mrs. Emilee Buller, LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation, presented an overview of the Stellar Pathways Program that was presented to the committee in Indianapolis. They are seeking \$7.2 million from the Stellar Pathways Program for Connect LaGrange County.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – PURCHASE REQUEST

Mr. Marc Peterson, Information Technology Director, presented a quote from Van Ausdall & Farrar, in the amount of \$20,435.47 for three additional servers for the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion approve the quote as presented. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PARK – PURCHASE OF VEHICLE

Mrs. Mary Franke, Park Director, requested permission to purchase a vehicle to replace one that was totaled earlier this year. She presented a quote from Shepherd's Family Auto Group, for a 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 in the amount of \$53,510. This would be paid out of the Park budget. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the vehicle purchase. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR PURCHASE OF SAFETY VESTS

Mrs. Jenny Landez, Human Resources Director, explained that the Safety Committee met recently and is recommending the purchase of safety lights for 6 departments. She presented a quote for 70 safety lights in the amount of \$3,189.30, from Michael Todd Industrial Supply. The vests would be paid for out of the LIT Public Safety Fund. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the request as presented. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

HUMAN RESOURCES – APPRECIATION GIFTS

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Mrs. Jenny Landez, Human Resources Director, requested permission to purchase 211 gift cards at \$25.00 each for employees as an appreciation gift. The cost would be \$5,275. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MAINTENANCE – LAWN CARE

Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, explained that there are spots in the lawn at the Courthouse where the grass doesn't grow. He presented a quote from Elite Lawn Care & More LLC, for lawn care on the Courthouse Lawn. The quote is in the amount of \$4,632.36. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the quote. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MAINTENANCE – RESURFACING OF PARKING LOTS AT JUSTICE CENTER

Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, presented quotes for the resurfacing of the two parking lots at the Justice Center. The lowest quote is from Ranger Materials in the amount of \$3,009. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the quote. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BIDS FOR LAGRANGE COUNTY ROAD RESURFACING PROJECTS

At 9:00 a.m. Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, opened the following bids for resurfacing various County roads:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Segment 1 Amount</u>	<u>Segment 2 Amount</u>	<u>Segment 3 Amount</u>	<u>Segment 4 Amount</u>
API Constructions Corp.	LaOtto, Indiana	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$2,067,300.00	\$868,970.00
Books Construction Co. Inc.	Fort Wayne, Indiana	0.00	0.00	2,216,065.00	918,239.00
E & B Paving, Inc.	Fort Wayne, Indiana	0.00	0.00	2,195,180.40	856,492.90
Niblock Excavating, Inc.	Bristol, Indiana	718,253.12	830,653.22	2,029,835.88	872,498.18
Phend & Brown, Inc.	Milford, Indiana	0.00	0.00	2,012,797.80	863,109.00
Pulver Asphalt Paving, Inc.	Albion, Indiana	0.00	0.00	0.00	712,589.00
Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.	South Bend, Indiana	\$949,410.00	\$1,482,212.43	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to take the bids under advisement. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

SHERIFF – SALE OF VEHICLE

Mr. Tracy Harker, County Sheriff, reported that the highest bid for the 2013 Dodge Ram is \$3,500. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the sale of the vehicle for \$3,500. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

SHERIFF – PURCHASE OF VEHICLES

Mr. Tracy Harker, County Sheriff, presented quotes for new vehicles for 2025. The lowest quote is from Fletcher Chrysler in the amount of \$43,850 each. He is requesting to purchase four vehicles. These would be paid out of the Cumulative Capital Development fund. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the quotes. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ARK ANIMAL SANCTUARY – MARY JANE ECKER IRREVOCABLE TRUST EXPENSE

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented bills from various veterinary clinics in the amount of \$40,228.89. The invoices would be paid out of the Mary Jane Ecker Irrevocable Trust account. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the expenses to be paid out of the Mary Jane Ecker Irrevocable Trust account. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the Annual Certifications of Elected Officials on Compliance with County Nepotism Policy and County Contract Disclosure Policy for 2024 for consideration. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to accept the certifications. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

NOVEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the financial statement for the month ending November 30, 2024, in the amount of \$48,592,885.21 and investments of \$22,640,000. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to accept the report. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the Accounts Payable Vouchers. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the vouchers. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2024 regular session meeting. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the memorandum for the December 11, 2024 staff meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

LaGrange County Clerk of the Circuit Court – November 2024 report

LaGrange County Treasurer – November 2024 report

Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Inspection Summary Letter, LaGrange County Landfill,
LaGrange Indiana

Plant 1, 087-47897-00036

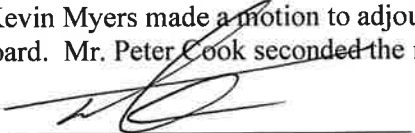
Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of Approval, Four Woods Laminating Inc

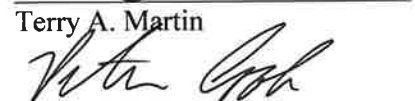
Plant 1, TV Renewal, 087-47897-00036

Indiana Department of Natural Resources – Nomination of property to National Register of Historic Places

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to adjourn and meet on any subsequent day necessary to carry on the business of the Board. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.


Terry A. Martin

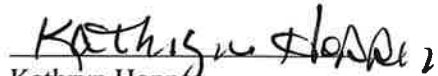

Peter A. Cook


Kevin R. Myers

ATTEST:

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Kathryn Hopper

LaGrange County Auditor