

Commissioners Court/Public Virtual Conference

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

The Board met in due form with the following members present: Michael Repay Jerry Tippy and Kyle W. Allen, Sr. They passed the following orders, to wit:

The Pledge was given followed by a Moment of Silence.

A courtesy copy of the agenda and notice of this meeting was emailed by Rose Koliboski/Heather Rodziewicz to NWI Times and Chicago-Tribune Newspapers on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026 at about 2:37 p.m.

A copy of the meeting notice and agenda was posted at the entrance of the Commissioner's courtroom on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026 at about 2:37 p.m.

Public Virtual Conference: [WWW.LAKECOUNTYIN.GOV](http://WWW.LAKECOUNTYIN.GOV)

#### Order #1 Agenda #2

In the Matter of Additions, Deletions, Corrections: 2.1 Deletion: Listed below; 2.2 – 2.6 Additions: Listed below.

Allen made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended, including additions and deletion, Tippy seconded with discussion on 2.1 confirming that the deletion is only due to a duplicate entry on Agenda and not as a whole, end discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

**2.1 DELETE: HIGHWAY: (ITEM #9.25 DUPLICATE 9.41)** Design and Construction Engineering Services for Lake County Hermit's Lake Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation; Contract Execution – Lake County and NIES Engineering, Inc; in an amount not to exceed \$88,450.00, plus \$1,750.00/ per easement required.

**2.2 ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.61):** Utility Level 3 Communications/Ervin Cable Construction; Location: Southern portion of Harrison Street, starting at the intersection of Harrison Street and 233<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Request to work within County right of way to perform maintenance work utilizing existing vaults to access existing underground conduits on behalf of Lumen technologies. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure; Permit ID: PERMA59815841

**2.3 ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.62):** Road Cut Agreement; Level 3 Communications/Ervin Cable Construction; Location: Southern portion of Harrison Street, starting at the intersection of Harrison Street and 233<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Request to work within County right of way to perform maintenance work utilizing existing vaults to access existing underground conduits on behalf of Lumen technologies. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure. Work projected to take place 6/8/26 – 6/30/26; Permit ID: PERMA59815841

**2.4 ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.63):** Utility NIPSCO; Location: near Mississippi Street and 163<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Eagle Creek Township, IN 46356 and various locations in Lake County; Request to replace three (3) utility poles and install one (1) utility pole along with the associated equipment. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure; WO# 4000094321

**2.5 ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.64):** Change Order #4 for Calumet Township Septic Tank Elimination Project, Construction Project 1 – Package A in the amount of **\$2,583,512.78**; New Contract Total is **\$42,565,067.64**; New Final Completion Date – November 14, 2026

**2.6 ADDITION: (ITEM #12.1):** Ordinance 1518A Establishing the Lake County Health Departments OPIOID Settlement ENGAGE360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund, A Non-Reverting Fund.

#### Order #2 Agenda #3

In the Matter of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids And Quotes: 3.1 – 3.13 Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to open the bids, agenda items 3.1-3.13, listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

- 3.1. Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project for Sleepy Hollow Subdivision.
- 3.2. Upfitting Marked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles.
- 3.3. Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of Unmarked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles.
- 3.4. Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of 2026 F-150 (CSI Vehicle).
- 3.5. Paint Marked 2026 Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (Patrol).
- 3.6. Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of Marked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (HCU).
- 3.7. Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (Drug Interdiction Vehicles).
- 3.8. Vinyl Decals on Marked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles.
- 3.9. Disposal of Real Property to Abutting Property Owners for 45-08-34-381-017.000-004 (5266-72 Maryland Ct., Gary, IN)
- 3.10. Electric Infrastructure upgrades Phase I at the Lake County Government Center.
- 3.11. 2026 Primary Election
- 3.12. Tree Replacement Heather Hills Phase 1 & 2
- 3.13. Tree Removal Services within Lake County Jurisdiction

#### Order #3 Agenda #4.1

In the Matter of Presentation: 4.1 – 1. Mark Gourley, District Service Officer of the Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs; 2. Health Department: Strengthening Public Health in Lake County.

Comes now, before the Board of Commissioners, Mark Gourley, District Service Officer of Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs, with Presentation, presenting the IDVA Service Officer accreditation standards as finalized by the Indiana Veterans Affairs Commission, December 2025, these standards were implemented as apart of changes made to the Indiana code coming out of the 2025 Indiana General Assembly session, Mr. Gourley is present today presenting those standards as apart of the requirement that was also added that the IDVA make a presentation biannually to each County Executive as it pertains to Veterans services in each County, these standards have define several key metrics and technology requirements each County will have to adhere to so that their Veterans Service Officer maintains there accreditation with the IDVA and can confidently represent benefits claims for Veterans both at the State and Federal Level. The final section is, should a VSO be found not in compliance with the standards, there is a process where noncompliance can be remediated or if necessary, an accreditation would be revoked. Standards from State of Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs, Mike Braun Governor, Jacob D. Adams, Director, will go into effect July 1, 2026. These only effect VSO's that are accredited with the IDVA, each service organization that is registered with the VA Office of General Counsel has their own accreditation program. Required all County Service Officers become accredited through IDVA, mandated through the State Law. Purpose is to increase the quality of service and provide consistency throughout the State. Jason Gootee Service Officer for County Veterans Service Office present/spoke.

## Order #4 Agenda #4.1

In the Matter of Presentation: 4.1 – 2. Health Department: Strengthening Public Health in Lake County.

Comes now, with Presentation, before the Board of Commissioners, Health Department on Strengthening Public Health in Lake County, Sheila Paul, HD Administrator, present/spoke, presentation was a slide show, opening remarks, "Thank you so much for having me and allowing me to talk about some of our programs and initiatives since Health First Indiana", Ms. Paul provided Board Members a handout of Core Public Health Services Activity Summary. Health Department is focusing on four pillars of transformation that's expanding Health Services, Community Outreach, Strategic Partnerships and Modernizing work flows, the Health Department plans to or are transforming the way Public Health is delivered in Lake County. Health Department Administrator continued stating that the Health Department are first expanding health services, working on stronger coordination across Departments and Partners, focusing on early intervention and care and focusing on public health service expansion. In 2025, the Health Department delivered 76,815 preventative services in areas such as Infant Safe Sleep, Home Visitation and Health Screenings, per Ms. Paul. Six Health Services have been added to the Health Department in STD testing, fatality review, which looks at the reasons for cause of death and then tries to put prevention efforts in place, TB control, Childhood Lead case management and risk assessment in the homes, Student Health and Community Outreach. Ms. Paul continued on with an area the Health Department is particularly proud of is with their Student Health, partnering directly with the Schools, compliments shown from Hammond and Merrillville Schools mentioning that the support of the Health Department helped reduced barriers greatly and helped students stay focused and successful. Community Outreach including the launch of the Mobile Clinic, to get out into the Community allowing the participation in more Community events than ever before, offering School based Clinics and Home Visitation Services, Immunization hours have been expanded to include evening and weekend hours, child blood lead testing are now in schools, daycares and preschools. Path to Wellness Program is a walking program pairing with education to help combat chronic disease. Through this outreach the Health Department have reached over nineteen thousand residents with fifty-four trauma and injury prevention education services and over five thousand immunizations. Health Department have started partnering with many services and programs, one particularly they're happy with is reducing food insecurity across Lake County and through partnering with different farms across the County and the local Food Bank, the Health Department is happy to present that they have the first Food Bank Locker South of Highway 30 over at the Health Department it will be installed soon, it's still on it's way over however happy and proud of that. None of this is possible without their Partnership, Ms. Paul expressed, who have helped to create new referral pathways, coordinate community events, and build stronger cultural outreach channels, focused greatly on maternal and child health in Lake County to help reduce infant mortality rates in child death, offered one hundred fourteen prenatal referrals, over two thousand families have been served with twenty-five maternal and child health services. Infrastructure internally need modernization and building, six new health services were added in one year and is extraordinary, in the process areas of improvement were found, an online system was added in for making appointments, now accepting credit cards, digitized records for better speed of service and using a new Lab that is cost saving for water samples, the result of that is reduce wait times, improved customer satisfaction and significant savings and proud of having more and more five star google reviews. Health Department also has been working to strengthen their Teams, building stronger alignment within Teams internally, increasing Staffing engagement, which strengthens the public facing services. Health Department has won some awards, recognized by the Tobacco Coalition as Outstanding Community Partner, the Boys & Girls Club Club House Hero Award, and the Indiana Department of Health awarded the Public Health Transformation Award in 2026. Plan ahead is to continue enhancing data system, expand outreach, improve school partnerships in youth education. End Presentation. No questions from Board Members.

## Order #5 Agenda #6.1

In the Matter of Approve Specifications For Bids: 6.1 Commissioners: Approve Specifications and Request to Advertise for Drainage Improvements Project at the Lake County Fairgrounds. Request for Bids to be received by the Lake County Auditor's Office no later than Wednesday, April 15, 2026 by 9:30 a.m.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve the advertising of Specifications for Drainage Improvements Project at Lake County Fairgrounds for the return of bids by Wednesday, April 15, 2026 by 9:30 a.m. to the Lake County Auditor's Office. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #6 Agenda #7.1 - #7.4

In the Matter of Modification Of Specifications Prior To Public Opening Of Bids, Quotes, Or Other Proposals: 7.1 – 7.4 Addendum(s): Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 7.1 – 7.4, Modification of Specifications, Addendum(s) as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

7.1 **COMMISSIONERS:** Addendum #2 was issued for the HVAC Upgrades at the Highway Garage on 2/17/26 and Addendum #3 was issued for the HVAC Upgrades at the Highway Garage on 2/13/26.

7.2 **COMMISSIONERS:** The attached Addendum #1 was issued for the East Stair Replacement Project at the Lake County Government Center on 2/5/26 and Addendum #2 was issued for the East Stair Replacement at the Lake County Government Center on 2/13/26

7.3 **COMMISSIONERS:** Addendum #1 was issued for the Gary Courthouse Masonry Maintenance on 1/28/26

7.4 **HIGHWAY:** Addendum No. 1 to the Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project for Sleepy Hollow Subdivision.

## Order #7 Agenda #9.1 - #9.3

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.1 LCEC: Extension of TSSI Contract for 2026 at a rate of \$150 per hour and not to exceed 1,330 total hours; 9.2 LCEC: Beyond Trust renewal for one year through CDWG in the amount of \$5,985.00; 9.3 LCEC: Generator preventative maintenance for 2026 through Altorfer in the amount of \$22,998.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve agenda items 9.1 – 9.3 with the new name of LCEC=Lake County Emergency Communication formerly E911, LCEC Contracts listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

9.1 LCEC: Extension of TSSI Contract for 2026 at a rate of \$150 per hour and not to exceed 1,330 total hours;

9.2 LCEC: Beyond Trust renewal for one year through CDWG in the amount of \$5,985.00;

9.3 LCEC: Generator preventative maintenance for 2026 through Altorfer in the amount of \$22,998

## Order #8 Agenda #9.4

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.4 Juvenile Court: Contract approval for the 2026-2027 Edmentum, Inc. provide Courseware for the residents at the Lake County Juvenile Center.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve on behalf of Juvenile Court the 2026-2027 Edmentum, Inc. Contract to provide Courseware for the Residents at Lake County Juvenile Center for the period of June 25, 2026 – June 24, 2027. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #9 Agenda #9.5 - #9.27

In the Matter Of Action To Form Contracts: 9.5 – 9.27 Highway: Contracts/Agreements – Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve agenda items 9.5 – 9.24 and 9.26-9.27 on behalf of Highway, Contracts/Agreements as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

**9.5 HIGHWAY:** Utility NIPSCO; Location: near E 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Iowa Street, Center Township, IN 46307 and various locations in Lake County; Request to replace eight (8) utility poles along with the associated equipment. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure; WO# 4000094299

**9.6 HIGHWAY:** Utility MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC; Location: Intersection of W 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Ross Road to 4410 Ross Road Gary, IN 46408; Request to install 2" HDPE from 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Ross Road north; Project Name: 45<sup>th</sup> and Ross Fiber Relo

**9.7 HIGHWAY:** Road Cut Agreement; MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC; Location: Intersection W 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Ross Road to 4410 Ross Road Gary, IN 46408; Request to install 2" HDPE from 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Ross Road north; Project Name: 45<sup>th</sup> and Ross Fiber Relo

**9.8 HIGHWAY:** Recommendation of Award for the Annual Bituminous Materials and Surface Milling (Delivered and Applied) 2026; Reith-Riley Construction Co. in an amount not to exceed **\$4,108,500.00**

**9.9 HIGHWAY:** Recommendation of Award for the Annual Bituminous Materials (Picked Up) 2026; Milestone in an amount not to exceed **\$37,200.00**

**9.10 HIGHWAY:** Recommendation of Award for the Annual Bituminous Materials for Bridge and Deck (Delivered and Applied) 2026; Milestone in an amount not to exceed **\$361,000.00**

**9.11 HIGHWAY:** Recommendation of Award for Crack Seal (Sealing Cracks and Joints) 2026 (SOLE BID); Day's Construction, Inc. in an amount not to exceed **\$240,000.00**

**9.12 HIGHWAY:** Recommendation of Award for Seal Coat (Chip and Seal) 2026; Milestone in an amount not to exceed **\$2,153,850.00**

**9.13 HIGHWAY:** Recommendation for Waste Removal Services for Crown Point and Lowell facilities for 2026; Republic Services

**9.14 HIGHWAY** Confirmation of Award and Contract Execution for the Rehabilitation of Lake County Bridge # 51, main Street over Cedar Creek. Lowest and most responsive bid, Rieth Riley Construction Co. Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$623,619.03.

**9.15 HIGHWAY:** Utility AT&T; Location: W 159<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Morse Street, 160<sup>th</sup> Place, Stevenson Street, 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Wheeler Street, 159<sup>th</sup> Place, 159<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sherman Place, 158<sup>th</sup> Place, 157<sup>th</sup> Lane, Sherman Street, Lakeview Drive, W Main Street, Wildwood Road, Ruth Street, Colfax Street, Island Drive, 153<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, and 152<sup>nd</sup> Court (Lake Dalecarlia east side and Westdale Estates); Project # A05ATQX

**9.16 HIGHWAY:** Road Cut Agreement; AT&T; Location: Lake Dalecarlia east side and Westdale Estates; Request to install fiber cable - partial aerial cable and partial underground bored cable; Project # A05ATQX

**9.17 HIGHWAY:** Utility NIPSCO; Location: Various locations within Lake County, near Colorado Street, please refer to attached documentation; WO#4000049160

**9.18 HIGHWAY:** Utility NIPSCO; Colorado Street and Deep River, Lake County Bridge #97; INDOT Bridge Improvement Project.

**9.19 HIGHWAY:** Road Cut Agreement; NIPSCO/ Orbital Engineering; Colorado Street and Deep River, Lake County Bridge #97; INDOT Bridge Improvement Project.

**9.20 HIGHWAY:** Road Cut Permit with NIPSCO for property located at 413 Lakeview Court, Lowell, IN

**9.21 HIGHWAY:** Utility NIPSCO; Location: Various locations within Lake County, near 91<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Sheffield Avenue, see attached documents; WO#4000060642.

**9.22 HIGHWAY:** County Utility Agreement with NIPSCO to install gas to a new home located at 413 Lakeview Court, Lowell, IN

**9.23 HIGHWAY:** Utility NIPSCO; Location: near Broadway Street and W 163<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Cedar Creek Township, IN 46307 and various locations in Lake County, see attached documents; Requesting to replace seven (7) utility poles with associated equipment, traffic control to consist of single lane closure; WO# 4000094295.

**9.24 HIGHWAY:** Utility NIPSCO; Location: County Line Road, 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, see attached documents; Requesting to replace five (5) utility poles with associated equipment, traffic control to consist of single lane closure; WO# 4000094246.

**9.26 HIGHWAY:** Utility Ervin Cable Construction; Location: Southern portion of Harrison Street, starting at the intersection of Harrison Street and 233<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Request to work within County right of way to perform maintenance work utilizing existing vaults to access existing underground conduits on behalf of Lumen technologies. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure; Permit ID: PERMA59815841.

**9.27 HIGHWAY:** Road Cut Agreement; Ervin Cable Construction; Location: Southern portion of Harrison Street, starting at the intersection of Harrison Street and 233<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Request to work within County right of way to perform maintenance work utilizing existing vaults to access existing underground conduits on behalf of Lumen technologies. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure. Work projected to take place 6/8/26 – 6/30/26; Permit ID: PERMA59815841.

## Order #10 Agenda #9.28 - #9.33

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.28 – 9.33 Sheriff: Contracts – Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve agenda items 9.28 – 9.33 on behalf of Sheriff, President Repay called for discussion on agenda item 9.32, Chief Balbo present/spoke, Repay asked question on agenda item 9.31, Chief Balbo present/spoke in response, Tippy asked question on agenda item 9.32, Sheriff's Department answered, Repay stated a no vote on both 9.31 and 9.32, Allen amended his motion to exclude 9.31 and 9.32, Tippy seconded the amended motion, approved Contracts on behalf of Sheriff listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

**9.28 SHERIFF:** 2026 Renewal of Seiler Geospatial's Trimble Forensics Software Subscriptions for Traffic and CSI Units. This subscription licensing for the Trimble forensics Suite (Reveal and TRW Forensics) and the Tribble Forensics Capture Catalyst Bundle are utilized by the Traffic unit for crash reconstruction investigations and by CSI for scene documentation and forensic mapping For continued access to software updates, technical support and compatibility with the hardware systems. this is a one-time payment of \$890.72.

**9.29 SHERIFF:** 2026 Trimble Hardware and Software Protection Pan for Traffic and CSI Units. This protection plan ensures continued hardware coverage and active software access necessary to maintain compatibility, reliability and operational readiness of the forensic data collection systems. This is a one-time fee of \$845.80

## Order #10 Agenda #9.28 - #9.33 cont'd

9.30 **SHERIFF**: 2026 Seakeeper 6 Platinum Extended Warranty for the Marine Unite Patrol Vessel Stabilization System. The stabilizer is a self-contained mechanical system installed inside the vessel to reduce side-to-side rocking motion caused by waves, wind, and wakes. It eliminates 95% of boat roll. This warranty is a cost of \$7,326.00

9.33 **SHERIFF**: 2026 AGREEMENTS WITH UNIFIRST FOR RENTAL OF FLOOR MATS FOR ANIMAL CONTROL, DRUG TASK FORCE, SHERIFF, AND HIGH CRIME. THESE ARE ALL 36 MONTH AGREEMENTS.

## Order #11 Agenda #9.31 - #9.32

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.31 – 9.32 Sheriff: Contracts – Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve agenda items 9.31 and 9.32 on behalf of Sheriff, Contracts as listed below. Motion carried 2-1, Repay no.

9.31 **SHERIFF**: 2026 VirTra Inc Annual STEP Training System. the VirTra system is an advanced interactive firearms and use-of-force training simulator utilized by both Correctional Officers and Police Officers. The STEP agreement provides annual licensing, software updates, scenario library access, system maintenance, technical support and equipment servicing of the simulator platform and training devices. The cost is \$133,064.10

9.32 **SHERIFF**: Request to purchase from Adorama Two (2) Fixed-Site Remote Deployment Unmanned Aircraft Packages for a Total Cost of \$50,000.00 to be Paid from 1001-8001-64490. Adorama was the lowest quote. DRONENERDS was \$52,824.00, and DSLR Pros was \$51,617.98.

## Order #12 Agenda #9.34 - #9.48

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.34 – 9.48 Commissioners: Contracts – Listed below.

Allen made a motion to approve agenda items 9.34 – 9.48 on behalf of Commissioners, Contracts as listed below, Tippy seconded with discussion on agenda item 9.47, Attorney Fech responded. Motion carried 3-0.

9.34 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with E.C. Babilla, lowest and most responsive responsible bidder for the L.C. Fairground's Industrial Building Roof Replacement in the amount of \$776,638.00, base bid plus interior painting minus deduct alternate – finish level per the Summary Quote Tabulation Official Results dated 2/20/2026 from DLZ, project no. 2561-4076-50. Letter of Recommendation from DLZ Indiana dated February 20, 2026

9.35 **COMMISSIONERS**: Amendment #15 to the Professional Services Agreement to CSK Architects, P.C., for additional/general services in the amount of \$100,000.00, to provide Additional Architectural Services per attached proposal.

9.36 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with Powers & Sons for the Facade Improvements Project at the Lake County Government Center in the amount of \$387,900.00.

9.37 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with Powers & Sons for the Roof Deck Replacement Project at the Lake County Government Center in the amount of \$198,800.00.

9.38 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with Gariup Construction for the East Stair Replacement at the Lake County Government Center in the amount of \$198,810.00, Base Bid #1, apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Recommendation letter from CSK Architects, dated February 18, 2026.

9.39 **COMMISSIONERS**: Change Order #2 with Pangere Corporation for the UPS Project in the amount of \$5,011.00.

9.40 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with Mechanical Concepts, Inc. for the HVAC Upgrades at the Highway Garage in the amount of \$210,000.00, Base Bid #1, apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Recommendation letter from CSK Architects, dated February 18, 2026.

9.41 **COMMISSIONERS**: Contract with NIES Engineering, Inc. for the Lake County Hermit's Lake Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Engineering Services in an amount not to exceed \$88,450.00.

9.42 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with Berglund Construction for the Masonry Maintenance at the Gary Courthouse in the amount of \$470,000.00, being the apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Base Bid #1. Letter of Recommendation from CSK Architects dated February 18, 2026.

9.43 **COMMISSIONERS**: Contract with Butterfingers, Inc. for Cafeteria Service at the Lake County Government Center from March 3, 2026 through March 2, 2027.

9.44 **COMMISSIONERS**: Award and Contract with TLC Plumbing Inc., lowest bid, to replace existing electric water heater located in the janitor closet on the 2nd floor of Building A at the Lake County Government Center in the amount of \$11,310.00.

9.45 **COMMISSIONERS**: Contract with The Pangere Corporation for Roof Deck Removal Project in the amount of \$123,889.00.

9.46 **COMMISSIONERS**: License Renewals with Tri-Electronic for Camera and Viewing Station in the total amount of \$41,403.18.

9.47 **COMMISSIONERS**: Recommend approval of contract with Baker Tilly in the amount of \$55,000 for ongoing managed services of the Oracle Cloud EPM application.

9.48 **COMMISSIONERS**: Recommend approval of DLZ Change Order for Fuel Replacement Project, Contractor Pangere Corporation, increase amount \$127,017.00, contract time increased by zero (0) days, change order is to account for anticipated costs associated contaminated soil transportation; contaminated soil waste sampling, profiling and disposal; backfill with clean soil; contaminated water removal and disposal. Per Change Order services will be reimbursed through the Contingency Allowance and Pangere proposal Final quantities will be based upon actual work performed. Change order dated March 6, 2026.

## Order #13 Agenda #9.49

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.49 Criminal Court: Contract with Word Systems, Inc., for maintenance of recording equipment located in the four Criminal Courts. The total annual amount is \$6,429.00.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 9.49 on behalf of Criminal Court, Contract with Word Systems, Inc. for Maintenance of Recording Equipment in the four (4) Criminal Courts in the total annual amount of \$6,429.00, no increase from last year, agreement term is from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #14 Agenda #9.50

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.50 Community Corrections: Service Agreement with Tek84, for body scanner 2 year service & maintenance contract.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve Service Agreement with Tek84, for body scanner 2 year Service & Maintenance Contract on behalf of Community Corrections, this agreement covers repairs, annual radiation safety surveys, and recommended preventative maintenance for the existing Tek84 Intercept Whole Body Scanner through May 22, 2028. Motion carried 3-0.

Order #15 Agenda #9.51 - #9.56

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.51 – 9.56 Health Dept. – Contracts: Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 9.51 – 9.56, Contract on behalf of Health Department, as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

9.51 **HEALTH DEPT:** Contract with AIDS Task force of LaPorte and Porter Counties/ The Aliveness Project of Northwest Indiana in the amount of \$150,000.00

9.52 **HEALTH DEPT:** Contract with Families Anchored in Total Harmony (Faith) Food is Medicine Culturally Relevant Medically Tailored Meal in the amount of \$150,000.00

9.53 **HEALTH DEPT:** Contract with Safe Coalition for Human Rights A Better Way in the amount of \$154,300.00

9.54 **HEALTH DEPT:** Contract with For The Love of Arts Shine Recovery Transportation in the amount of \$6,000.00

9.55 **HEALTH DEPT:** Contract with For The Love of Arts Shine Youth and Family in the amount of \$15,632.00

9.56 **HEALTH DEPT:** Contract with Sounds of Sarah Prevention Pathway Program in the amount of \$129,240.00

Order #16 Agenda #9.57 - #9.59

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.57 Coroner: Approve Proposal with Fire Service, Inc., for Van Uplift in the amount of \$39,473.01; 9.58 Coroner: Award and Contract with Credent Quality Electric Co., lowest bid, for new lay in lights to be wattage and color selectable and replace surface mounted lights in each locker room with new low profile flat panel LED light in the amount of \$22,500.00; 9.59 Coroner: Recommend approval of Participation Agreement with AT&T Enterprises for cellular services in the amount of \$2,567.28.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 9.57 – 9.59 on behalf of the Coroner, Contracts as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

9.57 Coroner: Approve Proposal with Fire Service, Inc., for Van Uplift in the amount of \$39,473.01. (Note this is a Commissioners' item on behalf of the Coroner, per President Repay)

9.58 Coroner: Award and Contract with Credent Quality Electric Co., lowest bid, for new lay in lights to be wattage and color selectable and replace surface mounted lights in each locker room with new low profile flat panel LED light in the amount of \$22,500.00. (Note this is a Commissioners' item on behalf of the Coroner, per President Repay)

9.59 Coroner: Recommend approval of Participation Agreement with AT&T Enterprises for cellular services in the amount of \$2,567.28.

Order #17 Agenda #9.60

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.60 Fairgrounds: Contract with Republic Services for 30 yard and 6 yard dumpsters for the year 2026 in the estimated annual amount of \$6,000.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 9.60 on behalf of Fairgrounds, Contract with Republic Services for 30 yard and 6 yard dumpsters for the year 2026 in the estimated annual amount of \$6,000, small containers \$81.00 per month, large containers \$400.00 per haul/4.0 tons included/\$74.55 per ton. Motion carried 3-0.

Order #18 ADD Agenda #9.61 – #9.64

In the Matter of Action To Form Contracts: 9.61 – 9.64 Highway: Contracts/Agreements – Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve agenda items 9.61 – 9.64 on behalf of Highway as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

9.61 **ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.61):** Utility Level 3 Communications/Ervin Cable Construction; Location: Southern portion of Harrison Street, starting at the intersection of Harrison Street and 233<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Request to work within County right of way to perform maintenance work utilizing existing vaults to access existing underground conduits on behalf of Lumen technologies. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure; Permit ID: PERMA59815841

9.62 **ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.62):** Road Cut Agreement; Level 3 Communications/Ervin Cable Construction; Location: Southern portion of Harrison Street, starting at the intersection of Harrison Street and 233<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Request to work within County right of way to perform maintenance work utilizing existing vaults to access existing underground conduits on behalf of Lumen technologies. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure. Work projected to take place 6/8/26 – 6/30/26; Permit ID: PERMA59815841

9.63 **ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.63):** Utility NIPSCO; Location: near Mississippi Street and 163<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Eagle Creek Township, IN 46356 and various locations in Lake County; Request to replace three (3) utility poles and install one (1) utility pole along with the associated equipment. Traffic control to consist of single lane closure; WO# 4000094321

9.64 **ADDITION: HIGHWAY: (ITEM#9.64):** Change Order #4 for Calumet Township Septic Tank Elimination Project, Construction Project 1 – Package A in the amount of **\$2,583,512.78**; New Contract Total is **\$42,565,067.64**; New Final Completion Date – November 14, 2026 {President Repay, noted the Final Completion Date for the Calumet STEP; Attorney Fech indicated that in the last couple weeks, people have had hook-ups and are on to the system}

Order #19 Agenda #11.1 – #11.3

In the Matter of Action On Commissioners' Items: 11.1 Calumet Township: Poor Relief Decisions; 11.2 Fairgrounds: Storage Building Lease at Lake County, Indiana Fairgrounds; 11.3 Whiting Library Board Appointment.

Allen made a motion to approve 11.1 and 11.2 and approve appointment of Holly L. O'Drobinak to the Whiting Library Board, Tippy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

11.1 Calumet Township: Poor Relief Decisions

Alisha Daniels	Approved in part
Cynthia Bailey	Approved in part
Domneke Jefferies	Approved in part

11.2 Fairgrounds: Storage Building Lease at Lake County, Indiana Fairgrounds (36 Month Lease, begins January 1, 2026, terminates December 31, 2029)

11.3 Whiting Library Board Appointment – Holly L. O'Drobinak (term period March 11, 2026 ending April 30, 2027)

Order #20 Agenda #12.1

In the Matter of Council Items: 12.1 ADDITION: Ordinance 1518A Establishing the Lake County Health Departments OPIOID Settlement ENGAGE360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund, A Non-Reverting Fund.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve Council Ordinance 1518A Establishing the Lake County Health Departments OPIOID Settlement ENGAGE360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund, A Non-Reverting Fund. Motion carried 3-0.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1518A**

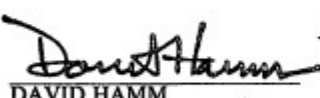
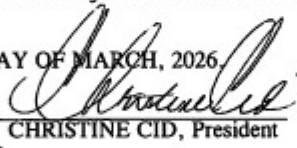
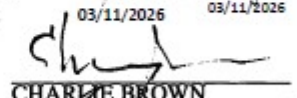
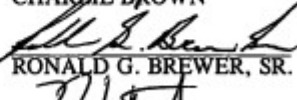

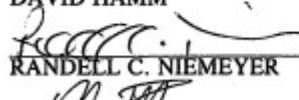

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE LAKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S OPIOID SETTLEMENT ENGAGE360: YOUTH EMPOWERED PROJECT GRANT FUND, A NON-REVERTING FUND**

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to I.C. 36-2-3.5-5, the County Council shall adopt ordinances to promote efficient County Government; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to I.C. 36-2-5-2(b), the County Council shall appropriate money to be paid out of the County Treasury, and money may be paid from the County Treasury only under appropriation made by the County Council, except as otherwise provided as law; and
- WHEREAS,** the Lake County Council desires to establish by ordinance all funds within the County Treasury, from which appropriations and transfers require County Council approval; and
- WHEREAS,** Lake County Health Department has been awarded a grant by the Lake County Board of Commissioners and the Lake County Opioid Funding Steering Committee from the Lake County Opioid Settlement Funds in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000.00) Dollars for the Engage360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund to implement initiatives focused on youth substance use prevention; and
- WHEREAS,** the Lake County Council desires to create a Lake County Health Department's Opioid Settlement Engage360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund, a non-reverting fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Lake County Health Department's Opioid Settlement Engage360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund, a non-reverting fund, is established for the deposit of Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000.00) Dollars from the Lake County Board of Commissioners and the Lake County Opioid Funding Steering Committee.
2. That pursuant to I.C. 36-2-5-2(b), the County fiscal body shall appropriate all money to be paid out of the fund, except as otherwise provided by law.
3. Any money remaining in the fund at the end of the year shall not revert to any other fund but continues in the Lake County Health Department's Opioid Settlement Engage360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund, a non-reverting fund.
4. In the event the Lake County Health Department receives additional Opioid Settlement Engage360: Youth Empowered Project Grant Fund awards, such grants may be accounted for using the new fund.

SO ORDAINED THIS 10th DAY OF MARCH, 2026.

  
 DAVID HAMM  
  
 CHRISTINE CID, President  
  
 CHARLIE BROWN  
  
 RONALD G. BREWER, SR.  
  
 TED F. BILSKI  
  
 RANDELL C. NIEMEIER  
  
 PETE LINDEMULDER

PRESENTED TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BY LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR  
MAR 10 2026

Members of the Lake County Council

Order #21 Agenda #13.1 – #13.3

In the Matter of State Board of Accounts Items: 13.1 – 13.2 Auditor: Listed below; 13.3 Economic Development: Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 13.1 – 13.3, State Board of Accounts Items listed below submitted by Auditor and Economic Development. Motion carried 3-0.

- 13.1 **AUDITOR:** Accounts Payable Voucher Register for County Payroll - Pay Date 2-9-26
- 13.2 **AUDITOR:** LC 265 2/19/26 To 3/11/26; Hand Cuts 2/19/26 to 3/11/26 LC130 3/11/26
- 13.3 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Accounts Payable Vouch Register – For Period 2/1/26-3/1/26

Order #22 Agenda #14.1 – #14.2

In the Matter of Action On Bonds/Insurance: 14.1 Highway: Certificate of Insurance Updates 03-2026; 14.2 Commissioners: Performance and Payment Bonds along with the Certificate of Insurance for the Lake County Fairgrounds Midway Window Replacement and Tuckpointing project being performed by Gariup.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 14.1 and 14.2, Bonds/Insurance as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

- 14.1 Highway: Certificate of Insurance Updates 03-2026
- 14.2 Commissioners: Performance and Payment Bonds along with the Certificate of Insurance for the Lake County Fairgrounds Midway Window Replacement and Tuckpointing project being performed by Gariup.

Order #23 Agenda #14.3

In the Matter of Action On Bonds/Insurance: 14.3 Commissioners: Certificate of Insurance for Gariup for the East Stair Replacement.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 14.3 Certificate of Insurance for Gariup for the East Stair Replacement for Commissioners. Motion carried 3-0.

Order #24 Agenda #16.1

In the Matter of Staff Reports: 16.1 Treasurer's Monthly Report.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve 16.1 Treasurer's Monthly Report, month ending January 31, 2026. Motion carried 3-0.

Order #25 Agenda #17.1

In the Matter of Other/Matters Of Public Record: 17.1 – 17.4 Sheriff – Listed below.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to make a matter of public record agenda items 17.1 – 17.3 and 17.4 on behalf of Sheriff, as listed below. Motion carried 3-0.

17.1 **SHERIFF:** Retired Sergeant Brian Jones Service Weapon Request

17.2 **SHERIFF:** Retired Officer Jesse Vargas Service Weapon Request

17.3 **SHERIFF:** 2026 renewal for Axon Enterprise subscription of Body Worn Camera for Corrections Division. This renewal provides 50 correctional officers device licensing, unlimited digital evidence storage, camera refresh services, docking station warranties, and refresh coverage, and software licensing for a cost of \$40,049.84.

17.4 **SHERIFF:** Jail 2026 Amendment #7 to the Summit Food Service Agreement. The cost is \$1.62 per meal served. Amendment effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

Order #26 Agenda #3.1

In the Matter Of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids And Quotes: 3.1 Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project for Sleepy Hollow Subdivision.

This being the day, time and place for the receiving of bids for Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project for Sleepy Hollow Subdivision for Highway, the following bids were received:

- |                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Gatlin Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  | \$2,950,000.00 |
| 2. Grimmer Construction, Inc.       | \$3,573,124.90 |
| 3. LGS Plumbing, Inc.               | \$3,286,980.00 |
| 4. H & G Underground Utilities, LLC | \$3,390,976.36 |

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to approve, pending review, and awarding the apparent low bidder Gatlin Plumbing & Heating, Inc. for \$2,950,000.00 for Sanitary Sewer Collection System Project for Sleepy Hollow Subdivision for Highway. Motion carried 3-0.

Order #27 Agenda #3.2-#3.8

In the Matter Of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids And Quotes: 3.2 – 3.8 Sheriff: Bids: Listed below.

This being the day, time and place for the receiving of bids for Sheriff in agenda items 3.2 – 3.8, the following bids were received:

3.2 Upfitting Marked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles

- |                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Federal Signal Corporation         | \$279,895.04 |
| 2. First Response Vehicle Fabrication | \$342,277.95 |
| 3. Statewide Emergency Products       | \$307,280.20 |
| 4. Mover Over Outfitters, Inc.        | \$310,316.88 |

3.3 Upfitting (Emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of Unmarked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Federal Signal Corporation         | \$41,393.64 |
| 2. First Response Vehicle Fabrication | \$54,688.96 |
| 3. Statewide Emergency Products       | \$34,800.00 |
| 4. Mover Over Outfitters, Inc.        | \$40,808.76 |

3.4 Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of 2026 F-150 (CSI Vehicle)

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Federal Signal Corporation         | \$20,980.32 |
| 2. First Response Vehicle Fabrication | \$33,685.35 |
| 3. Statewide Emergency Products       | \$29,000.00 |
| 4. Mover Over Outfitters, Inc.        | \$23,386.18 |

3.5 Paint Marked 2026 Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (Patrol)

- |                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 1. Lowell Body Shop       | \$8,545.46 |
| 2. CarStar Liss Auto Body | \$6,043.60 |

3.6 Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of Marked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (HCU)

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Federal Signal Corporation         | \$17,208.54 |
| 2. First Response Vehicle Fabrication | \$16,978.67 |
| 3. Statewide Emergency Products       | \$19,296.00 |
| 4. Move Over Outfitters, Inc.         | \$15,948.07 |

3.7 Upfitting (emergency lights, sirens, and equipment) of 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (Drug Interdiction Vehicles)

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Federal Signal Corporation         | \$39,868.68 |
| 2. First Response Vehicle Fabrication | \$54,266.19 |
| 3. Statewide Emergency Products       | \$44,850.00 |
| 4. MoveOver Outfitters, Inc.          | \$38,398.41 |

Cont'd.

## Order #27 Agenda #3.2-#3.8 cont'd

## 3.8 Vinyl Decals on Marked 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles

- |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Lowell Body Shop          | \$20,531.20 |
| 2. MoveOver Outfitters, Inc. | \$16,653.44 |

Allen made a motion to take the above mentioned bids for Sheriff agenda items 3.2 – 3.8 under advisement for further tabulation and recommendation, Tippy seconded with discussion, complimented the number of bids that came in for those items, kudos to the Department, end discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #28 Agenda #3.9

In the Matter of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids And Quotes: 3.9 Disposal of Real Property to Abutting Property Owners for 45-08-34-381-017.000-004 (5266-72 Maryland Ct., Gary, IN).

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to make a matter of public record no bids were received for Disposal of Real Property to Abutting Property Owners for 45-08-34-381-017.000-004 (5266-72 Maryland Ct., Gary, IN). Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #29 Agenda #3.10

In the Matter of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids And Quotes: 3.10 Electronic Infrastructure upgrades Phase I at the Lake County Government Center.

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to delete. Motion to delete carried 3-0.

## Order #30 Agenda #3.11

In the Matter of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids and Quotes: 3.11 2026 Primary Election.

This being the day, time and place for the receiving of quotes for 2026 Primary Election Moving of the Voting Machines for Elections and Registration, the following quotes were received:

	<u>Infinity</u>	<u>ADA Equipment</u>	<u>Election Equipment</u>
1. Ferree Movers, Inc.	\$40 per Unit	\$30 per site	\$250 per hour (two (2) men)
2. Bill's Movers & Storage	\$40 per Unit	\$30 per site	\$250 per hour (two (2) men)

Comes now, Elections and Registration Director, Michelle Fajman, before the Board of Commissioners, with recommendation to approve both quotes submitted for use of both Companies throughout North and South of the County for the 2026 Primary Election.

Allen made a motion to split the responsibilities based on the recommendation from Director Fajman for the upcoming Primary Election, Tippy seconded the motion, approve both Ferree Movers and Bill's Movers & Storage, in a split, Infinity \$40 per Unit, ADA Equipment \$30 per site Election Equipment \$250 per hour for two (2) Men. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #31 Agenda #3.12

In the Matter of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids and Quotes: 3.12 Tree Replacement Heather Hills Phase 1 & 2.

This being the day, time and place for the receiving of quotes for Tree Replacement Heather Hills Phase 1 & 2 for Highway, the following quotes were received:

- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Groen Homescape | \$47,510.22 |
|--------------------|-------------|

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to award, pending review, and presentation at the next Commissioners Meeting April 15, 2026, to the sole bidder Groen Homescape of Dyer, IN for \$47,510.22 for Tree Replacement Heather Hills Phase 1 & 2 for Highway. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #32 Agenda #3.13

In the Matter of Public Opening Of Vendor Responses To Requests For Bids and Quotes: 3.13 Tree Removal Services within Lake County Jurisdiction.

This being the day, time and place for the receiving of quotes for Tree Removal Services within Lake County Jurisdiction for Highway, the following quotes were received:

- |                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Homer Tree Service, Inc.          | \$ 80,890.00 |
| 2. Russell's Tree Care Services Inc. | \$131,700.00 |

Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to award, pending review, based on the County Engineer's recommendation at the next meeting, to the apparent low bidder, Homer Tree Service, Inc. for \$80,890.00 for Tree Removal Services within Lake County Jurisdiction for Highway. Motion carried 3-0.

## Order #33 Agenda #18

In the Matter of Comments: Members of the Public; Elected Officials; Commissioners.

Comes now, Sheila Paul, with Public Comment, spoke as an advocate for Health First Indiana, asked Board Members to advocate for Health First Indiana, this year there was significant Funding cuts going from nine million to two point five million, what that's going to do is impact the ability to support Local Partners, ask to maintain and restore the Health First Indiana funding.

There being no further business before the Board at this time, Allen made a motion, seconded by Tippy, to adjourn.

The following Officials were Present:  
Attorney Matthew Fech

Commissioners Court/Public Virtual Conference

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

The next Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

*Michael Repay*

\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL REPAY, PRESIDENT

*Kyle Allen Sr.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
KYLE ALLEN Sr., COMMISSIONER

\_\_\_\_\_  
JERRY TIPPY, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

*Peggy Katona*

\_\_\_\_\_  
PEGGY H. KATONA, LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR