CITY OF EAST CHICAGO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERS
Val Gomez, President
Winna Guzman, Vice-President
Frank Rivera, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

Reported by Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.
By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Staff Present: Olga Cosme, Recording Secretary
Shana Levinson, Attorney

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Val Gomez
Winna Guzman
Frank Rivera

MR. GOMEZ: Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works for April 9th, 2026. We do have a quorum.

I'd like to make a motion to approve the minutes for the March 26th, 2026 meeting, as written.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

We have no correspondence, we'll move on to New Business.

First item on the agenda is from Butler Fairman & Seufert, GIS services. This is from the IT Department. We do have a description of the agreement from our IT Director, Kevin Klocek.

"This agreement is for renewal of BF&S to continue with providing requested GIS services to the City. BF&S has been providing providing this service since 2020, and our

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departments continue to request the services to meet their requests. There is a bit of modification to this agreement from the original. We have averaged utilizing services of BF&S for roughly $90,000.00 per year, which equated to an agreement for $180,000.00, which is basically encumbered a two-year period. Being that we have staff in the Engineering Department who is assisting with some of our GIS requests, the funding for this agreement has been submitted with a total of $160,000.00, which will budge the project to $80,000.00 per year. This will equate to a total of $20,000.00 less than the previous agreement. I am therefore requesting the Boards' approval of the BF&S agreement for the amount of $160,000.00. This total amount has been approved and the funds have been allocated by Mr. Bennett." Mr. Bennett is the Mayor's financial adviser.

So do we have any questions or comments on this agreement between the City of East Chicago and Butler, Fairman & Seufert? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving this proposal from the IT Department with BF&S.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Xerox IT Solutions, T & M for Exchange Migration to Office 365. We do have an explanation and clarification from our IT Director, Kevin Klocek. IT Department - IT Savvy/Xerox T & M hours for Exchange Migration to Office 365.

"The existing Exchange Migration to Office 365 project had previously approved a T & M agreement for additional hours to be performed by IT Savvy/Xerox if necessary. Much of the prep work for this project was being performed by Trocor, who was a network engineer contractor for the project at the time of putting the scope of the project together. Now that the project is approved for IT Savvy/Xerox, and they have begun the prep of the project, they are finding that a good amount of the work that Trocor would have completed has not been setup. The reason for this is Trocor has ceased their business as of

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December 1st, 2025, and no longer services the City. Therefore, the network prep work for the exchange project is not complete.

IT Savvy/Xerox will now be completing the Exchange Migration prep work, so I am submitting amendment to the previously approved T & M agreement for this project. This approved agreement is attached to this amendment, as well as a detailed list of findings that need to be completed prior to the migration. This detail is the list of tasks that would have been completed by Trocor.

I am requesting that we amend the approved agreement for ten hours and one hour project leader, for total of $2614.00 to the following: A total of 50 hours at 243.90, which equals $12,195.00 and one hour project management at 175.00, which will amount to a not-to-exceed amount of $12,370.00.

Just to clarify, the 12,195 amount is not a change or addition to the original scope of work, it is to complete the prep work that would have been completed by Trocor and has been compensated for the 12,195 that we are amending."

At the last meeting, just for the record, we approved this Migration and Kevin is saying there was some prep work that wasn't done, that's the reason why he's asking for an additional change or to change it basically. Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the changes to time and material agreement by the IT Department for Xerox, for the Migration to Office 365.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have also from the IT Department, we have two proposals from Beyond Trust. This is for our remote connection device replacement. The explanation from Kevin Klocek:

"I am requesting requesting the Board's approval for a replacement of our remote connection device because it is not functioning and in need of immediate replacement. There are two parts to the agreement that you have received.

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Part 1: This is the agreement to replace our existing device with a cloud based solution. You can see that there is a credit for our current device licensing that will apply to the new device. The one-year cost of this device and licensing is $3,646.77.

part 2: This is the agreement for implementation support of installation and configuration of the newly installed device. The one time fee for the support is $2,850.00"

Are there any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments --

MR. RIVERA: I do have a question, is that 2814 or 2614? Here we have 2614.

MR. GOMEZ: That's the previous one. That's the one from the last meeting. This is recent.

MS. COSME: I sent the revised one.

MR. RIVERA: Okay, making sure.

MR. GOMEZ: Any other questions or comments? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the proposal from Beyond Trust for our remote connection device replacement, Part 1 and Part 2.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Now we go to outstanding invoices. We have five outstanding invoices. I'll go through each one and make a motion at the end.

First one is from Dream Builders of America. This is from the IT Department. The late invoice is dated 12/30/25, amount of $9,433.46. Explanation: The vendor transitioned to new billing system in December of 2025 and failed to send. This was noticed when I was closing out the 2025 PO. This invoice is for services that were included for November and December 2025.

Any questions or comments on this

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one? (None)

Next one from the Police Department and the vendor is Cintas. Late invoice dated 10/31/25, amount of $240.00. Explanation: Due to oversight, it was not paid in a timely manner. The PO 250998 was on hand to pay for this invoice.

Any questions on this one? (None)

Next we have one from the Law Department. This is for Faegre Drinker Biddle. We have two late invoices dated 11/25/25, for $21,027.00 and one dated 12/8/25 for $934.00; for a total of $21,961.00. Explanation: Invoices were sent by e-mail, they were not received. It was not until I received a list of the outstanding e-mails from the firm where it was discovered either they were not sent or were not sent by e-mail. Funding is available to process, I am requesting approval.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

Next one is from Public Works. This is from Krooswyk Materials, Inc., one late invoice dated 11/30/26. The amount is $3,589.89. Explanation: Invoice was never received from vendor. Invoice received by Public Works on March 18, 2026.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

The last one from Arctic Engineering Company, it's from Public Works. One late invoice dated 7/31/25, amount of $1,420.00. Explanation: Invoice was sent to the wrong department. Invoice received by Public Works on March 20, 2026.

Any questions on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving for payment all five of the aforementioned late invoices.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we go to a proposal from The Corporate Thread. This is for Public Works Team Up Clean Up project for 2026 T-shirts. They have a sole proprietary form. They are the company that does the Team Up Clean Up T-shirts for the last few years. There's a not-to-exceed of $5,000.00.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

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There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the proposal from The Corporate Thread through Public Works for their Team Up Clean Up T-shirts.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Public Works also, this is from Rieth Riley, 2026 rates for hot and cold patch, with a not-to-exceed of $25,000.00 for Public Works. Also includes material, slag and lime.

Any questions or comments on this rate schedule? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Rieth Riley's 2026 rate schedule for Public Works.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from the Fire Department pertaining to Legacy Fire Apparatus. This is part of the City of East Chicago Fire Department's emergency apparatus service policy, which we passed on the 22nd of January, 2026, of this year. The reason it is before us again, they want to increase the not-to-exceed by $10,000.00.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the Fire Department's request to approve Legacy Fire Apparatus not-to-exceed increase of $10,000.00.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have also from the Fire Department, a letter from the chief, Marc Escobedo.

"Please consider my request to approve new department SCBA equipment, facemask, and associated gear since our current SCBA gear

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will be considered legacy this December. Attached you will find a quote for the SCBA and all associates gear. We have received approval from Mayor Copeland and Mr. Bennett, and have located available funds in account 903001-449099 LDA, Capital Outlays."

The amount is $699,074.00. They did submit a sole proprietor form.

I did talk to the Fire Chief and I told him they should have included that. The manufacturer is MSA. This is the equipment we have been using for years and that should be included on this form because they are the sole vendor for it.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving vendor MacQueen's proposal to the Fire Department for their new SCBA equipment.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

next we come to City of East Chicago Public Works Resolution 2026-05.

"A Resolution of the East Chicago Board of Public Works establishing terms and conditions for the transfer of certain property owned by the City of East Chicago to the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment."

I think they left out Redevelopment on the top.

"This property is commonly known as 4004 Parrish Avenue, parcel 45-03-21-483.015.000-024 and 4006 Parrish Avenue, parcel 45-03-21-483.016.000-024.

Whereas, the City of East Chicago owns property within the City of East Chicago listed in the title of this resolution commonly known address and parcel number;

Whereas, I.C. 36-1-11 prescribes the manner of disposal and conveyance of real property by political subdivision including municipal departments;

And Whereas, I.C. 36-1-11-8 provides such entities may transfer or exchange property on terms and conditions, for such consideration as

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evidenced by adoption of substantially identical resolutions by such entities; and

Whereas, the City of East Chicago, acting through Board of Public Works, desires to convey and transfer the subject property without monetary consideration to the East Chicago, Department of Redevelopment;

Now, therefore be it resolved by the City of East Chicago shall convey and transfer without consideration, the above described real estate, as particularly described on the attach quitclaim deeds, to the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment who shall accept said property acting through its commission and their resolution.

And further be it resolved, that the Commission President be and is hereby authorized to receive a deed substantially conforming to the documents attached, conveying such property to East Chicago Department of Redevelopment, along with appropriate Sales Disclosure Forms."

And we do have the two quitclaim deeds for each property. Any questions or comments on Resolution 2026-05?

MS. GUZMAN: Just for the record, I don't know if they did already, but maybe correct the title City of East Chicago and Department of Redevelopment, just correct that.

MR. GOMEZ: It should be Redevelopment.

MS. GUZMAN: We can enter the resolution, that would be after the fact, but even in the body after be it resolved, after its commission.

MR. GOMEZ: Has the commission already passed this or is it going to?

MR. RIVERA: No, it's going to. It has to go before the Board of Works first. Also, there's a misspelling on Chicago, right by where it should be East Chicago Department of Redevelopment.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay.

MR. RIVERA: Just make sure it's all cleared up before I receive it to present to my board.

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MS. COSME: I'll revise it and get everybody's signatures.

MR. RIVERA: Our next meeting is two weeks from now.

MR. GOMEZ: Any further questions or comments? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Resolution 2026-05.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have, also from Engineering, from Comcate Software acknowledging its amendment for the Agreement between City of East Chicago and Comcate Software Incorporated, for the contract year 2026 through 2027. The amendment to this Agreement between the City of East Chicago and Comcate Software, Inc., this amendment is entered into between the City of East Chicago and Comcate Software Inc.,

Whereas, the parties have entered into an Agreement effective June 15, 2026, for the implementation of Handicap Sign Management software. The parties desire to amend the Agreement as follows:

The changes are in Section 8, and basically it's the amount. The software for HSM, which is Handicap Signs Manager is now going to increase to $5,564.69. The professional service will be an additional $1,072.08. The GIS enterprise is included in the price. The total price is $6,626.77. Per the Agreement there is an annual licensing fee adjusted by Cost of Living of five percent.

Are there any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Comcate's proposal to the Engineering Department for their software.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

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Next we come to right-of-way applications from Engineering. Board of Public Works permit applications number 26-05388 through 26-05395.

Are there any questions or comments on these Board of Public Works permit applications? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the aforementioned permit applications.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

I believe we have no other business. Our next regular scheduled meeting is Thursday April 23, 2026, at 4:30.

That concludes all items on the agenda for tonight, I'd like to make a motion for adjournment.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned.

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Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of
April 9, 2026
Approved and Signed April 9, 2026.

_____
Val Gomez, President

_____
Winna Guzman, Vice President

_____
Frank Rivera, member

_____
Olga Cosme, Secretary

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Peggy S. LaLonde, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of the said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Munster, Indiana, this 13th day of April, 2026.



Peggy S. LaLonde

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