

ORDINACE NO. 2024-13

AMENDING ORDINANCE 2017-13 AN AMENDED ORDINANCE OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CASS COUNTY, INDIANA ESTABLISHING
AND ADOPTING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

WHEREAS, Cass County, Indiana recognizes the importance of eliminating conflicts of interest in the conduct of County business; and

WHEREAS, Conflicts of interest are not only against state and federal regulations but are detrimental to the County's good reputation and the public's confidence in County government; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners also recognizes the value of collaboration that occurs at special events and functions such as conferences, dinners, and social outings in which Cass County officials and employees may be guests of one (1) or more vendors that do business with the County, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to fulfill both the letter and spirit of federal and state regulations addressing conflicts of interest, and desires to establish a dollar threshold of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per vendor, below which any financial interest or value of any gratuity is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners also wishes to establish a Conflict of Interest Policy that provides that no one individual elected official, department head or employee may accept a gratuity, favor or anything of monetary value on an annual basis in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). This does not include or intended to include financial reimbursement for expenses incurred or advancement of expenses to be incurred by an elected official, department head or employee.

WHEREAS, the intent or purpose of the policy is to prevent an office holder, department head or employee from receiving anything of substantial interest, gratuity, or monetary value for which the purpose is to influence the outcome of,

or affect the result of a decision in favor of vendor or payor of such substantial contribution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CASS COUNTY, INDIANA THAT:

1. The dollar value of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per vendor below which any financial interest or value of any gratuity is not substantial and may be accepted from a vendor per this policy.

2. No one individual elected official, department head or employee may accept a gratuity, favor or anything of monetary value on an annual basis in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). For any gift in excess of Fifty Dollars (\$50) but less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500), such gift shall be reported to the County Auditor.

3. This Ordinance does not apply to, nor does it include nor is it intended to include, financial reimbursement for expenses incurred or an advancement of expenses to be incurred by an elected official, department head or employee in his or her services or duties to the county or a representative of the county.

4. The intent or purpose of the policy is to prevent an office holder, department head or employee from receiving anything of substantial interest, gratuity, or monetary value for which the purpose is to influence the outcome of, or affect the result of a decision in favor of a vendor or any payor of such substantial contribution.

5. The Board of Commissioners of Cass County, Indiana, establishes and adopts the Conflict of Interest Policy, which is attached to and made part of this Ordinance.

6. This policy shall be effective upon signing by the Board of Commissioners.

Cass County, Indiana

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The following paragraphs apply to all public officials, department heads, and employees of Cass County, Indiana.

No individual elected official, department head, officers or employee of the county shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from Consultants, potential Consultants, or parties to sub agreements, unless in accordance with this Conflict of Interest Policy. The aforementioned prohibition does not include gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value under Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). Any financial interest under Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) shall be considered not substantial in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations.

This policy conforms to the standards set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations and by the Indiana Department of Transportation. A “Consultant” is defined as an individual or firm providing engineering and design related services as a party to contract with a recipient or subrecipient of federal assistance.

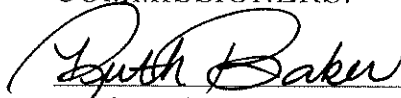
This does not include or intended to include financial reimbursement for expenses incurred or an advancement of expenses to be incurred by an elected official, department head or employee.

The intent or purpose of the policy is to prevent an office holder, department head or employee from receiving anything of substantial interest, gratuity, or monetary value for which the purpose is to influence the outcome of, or affect the result

7. This Ordinance revokes Ordinance 2017-13 and replaces the revoked Ordinance with this one.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF CASS COUNTY,
INDIANA THIS 5 day of August 2024.

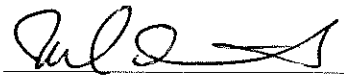
CASS COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS:



Ruth Baker, President



Michael W. Stajduhar



Mike Deitrich

Attest:



Cheryl Alcorn, Auditor