<u>COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES</u> MARCH 25, 2015

Commissioner Chairman Rodney D. Ruddock called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:33 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Rodney D. Ruddock, present
Commissioner Patricia A. Evanko, present

Also in attendance were Solicitor Katie Haberl, Chief Clerk Robin Maryai, and others. Members of the news media present were Randy Wells, Greg Reinbold and Josh Widdowson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Ruddock asked John Somonick to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVE MINUTES...MARCH 11, 2015

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of March 11, 2015 as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PROCLAMATION...CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Baker, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to proclaim the month of April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Indiana County and urged all citizens to work together to help reduce child abuse and neglect and engage in activities that strengthen families and provide a health environment for children to learn, grow and thrive in our community.

Jessica Clark from the Care Center was present to accept the proclamation and thanked the Board for their support. She said the Care Center uses the pinwheel as national symbol of child abuse awareness and every child deserves a safe happy childhood. The pinwheel planting ceremony will be April 1st at noon on the courthouse front lawn and they will be up for the entire month of April.

AGREEMENT...MARY BETH WILLIAMS / COMMUNITIES AT INDIAN HAVEN

At the request of Kim Cobaugh, Communities at Indian Haven, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve an agreement with Mary Beth Williams to provide billing and collections consulting at the rate of \$30.00 per hour. This is a temporary agreement while the billing clerk is out on family medical leave.

<u>CERTIFICATION OF FIVE YEAR AND ANNUAL PHA PLAN / HOUSING AUTHORITY</u>

At the request of Bonni Dunlap, Indiana County Housing Authority, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve the certification of the five year and annual PHA Plan and that it is consistent with the consolidated plan of Indiana County.

The motion also allows Commissioner Ruddock to sign the certification on behalf of Indiana County.

CONTRACT...WINDY RIDGE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY PARK DEVELOPMENT AREA 2 ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT CONTRACT 2015-1 / PLANNING

At the request of the Indiana County Office of Planning & Development, Stiffler, McGraw and Associates and the Indiana County Development Corporation, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to table award of the Windy Ridge Business and Technology Park Development Area 2 Roadway Construction Project Contract 2015-1 until review and recommendation is received from the engineer on bids received and opened March 19, 2015. Seven bids were received on the project ranging from low bid of \$1,581,124.24 to high bid of \$1,897,517.50. Funding for this project is through a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant, HUD EDI Funds and ICDC.

CONTRACT...WINDY RIDGE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY PARK DEVELOPMENT AREA 2 UTILITIES AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES PROJECT / PLANNING

At the request of the Indiana County Office of Planning & Development, Stiffler, McGraw and Associates and the Indiana County Development Corporation, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to table award of the Windy Ridge Business and Technology Park Development Area 2 Utilities and Stormwater Management Facilities Project Contract 2015-2 until review and recommendation is received from the engineer on bids received and opened March 19, 2015. Eight bids were received on the project ranging from low bid of \$1,134,276.95 to high bid of \$1,884,488.00. Funding for this project is through a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant, HUD EDI Funds and ICDC.

<u>INDIANA COUNTY PHASE I – ACT 167 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION</u>

At the request of the Indiana County Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to adopt the Indiana County Phase I Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan. This adoption will be conditional until the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has approved this Plan as submitted March 18, 2015. This Phase I Plan provides the background and scope of work for the Phase II Stormwater Management Plan which will be the guiding document for all policy and development efforts regarding stormwater management in Indiana County.

Stormwater planning is a top recommendation of the recently adopted Indiana County Comprehensive Plan, *Where We live...A Comprehensive Plan for Indiana County*. The Phase I Plan was developed over the last year by the Planning Section of the Indiana County Office of Planning & Development with guidance and oversight by the Watershed Planning Advisory Committee (WPAC) and the Indiana County Planning Commission. Development of Phase II is scheduled for 2016.

Commissioner Ruddock said there was an outstanding workshop regarding stormwater management held at the KCAC and it was supported by the League of Women Voters and the Office of Planning & Development which was well attended.

BIDS...INDIANA COUNTY PRISON EQUALIZATION TANK REVISIONS...031015

Upon review of the bids opened on March 10, 2015, and at the recommendation of Gibson Thomas Engineering, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve the low from R&B Contracting & Excavating Inc. in the amount of \$342,750.00 for the Indiana County Prison Equalization Tank Revisions. It is noted that two other bids were received ranging from \$342,750.00 to \$422,224.00. This project will eliminate the equalization tank through White Township and replace it with a small sewage treatment facility managed by the Indiana County Municipal Services Agency. This new facility will require less maintenance, lower overall maintenance costs and will also allow for future expansion if needed.

INJECTION WELL RESOLUTION

Commissioner Ruddock introduced a resolution urging state and federal environmental agencies to reject permits for disposing of hydraulic fracking waste from natural gas and oil drilling in underground injection wells in Indiana County. Grant Township has been in strong opposition to injection wells in their township despite the fact that EPA and DEP originally had found it satisfactory to allow this injection to take place. Because of a lot of vocal opposition, the strength of the community and the township supervisors rallying to the cause, the permits have been revoked allowing the natural gas and oil company to dispose of the fracking fluids in a remote area in Grant Township. The Department of Environmental Protection has set aside the General Energy Company permit for further review and has set no time line for deciding whether or not to restore the permit. Mr. Ruddock said it is our obligation as a county is to rally around what our municipalities need and that is a voice of strength. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Ruddock signed off on a letter with Senator Don White expressing our concern with the same issues that have happened in Grant Township to the EPA and DEP. In Senator White's follow up letter, he talked about that we understand that research says one thing but the needs of a community say another. We have to find a balancing act that is good for the research but is good for the community and that is the challenge we face today.

After the following Resolution was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made by Ms. Evanko, seconded by Mr. Baker and unanimously carried to approve the Resolution as presented.

INJECTION WELL RESOLUTION No. 2015-0325

WHEREAS, the protection of Indiana County's drinking water supplies are vital to the current and future residents of Indiana County; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities in Indiana County are not serviced by a public water supply and must rely exclusively on ground water for their living needs; and

WHEREAS, municipalities in Indiana County serve as our land managers and should have the right and responsibility to act appropriately on any imposition on personal rights, property rights and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), provides regulatory safeguards, while fully considering the impact of injection wells given the events which have occurred in neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, Indiana County, as a coal region is host to abundant subsurface web of caverns which if directly used as injection wells could threaten aquafers as potable water sources; and

WHEREAS, Indiana County hosts Pennsylvania State certified treatment facilities to treat conventional well disposal frack water, demonstrating real alternatives to the treatment of wastewater; and

WHEREAS, with appropriate DEP oversight our State certified water treatment facilities should be re-certified to also treat non-conventional well wastewater and return it to our streams and rivers in an environmentally friendly manner.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Indiana County Commissioners urges the rejection of permits for the purpose of disposing hydraulic fracking waste through underground injection wells in favor of other, more proven treatment options;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Indiana County will send copies of this resolution to our local, state and federal elected officials.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2015.

	INDIANA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
	Rodney D. Ruddock, Chairman
ATTEST:	Michael A. Baker, Commissioner
Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk	Patricia A. Evanko, Commissioner

Commissioner Evanko thanked Commissioner Ruddock for preparing the resolution and feels it speaks for itself. Mr. Ruddock said he is on the CCAP Oil & Gas Task Force and they met for three hours at the recent CCAP conference. He specifically wanted to know where Pennsylvania stood on injection wells, and he said there is not a lot of engagement yet in Pennsylvania. We want to make sure we are well protected as counties on how we do and move forward on waste water management.

COURTHOUSE CLOSED...FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2015 GOOD FRIDAY

Commission Ruddock announced that the Courthouse will be closed on Friday, April 3, 2015 in observance of the Good Friday Holiday.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Evanko said there is a mock weather exercise being held this date at the Emergency Management Agency to help prepare should there be a real emergency. She thanked

Jim Struzzi, Chamber of Commerce and Denise Liggitt, Tourist Bureau for their attendance at their meetings.

<u>NEXT REGULAR MEETING...APRIL 8, 2015 AT 10:30 A.M.</u>
The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	
With no other business to come before the 1	Board at this time, Commissioner Ruddock adjourned
the meeting at 11:01 a.m.	
Patricia A. Evanko, Secretary	Rodney D. Ruddock, Chairman