

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2018

Commissioner Chairman Michael A. Baker called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Michael A. Baker, present
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present

Commissioner Rodney D. Ruddock, present

Also, in attendance were Solicitor Matthew T. Budash, Chief Clerk Robin Maryai and others. Members of the news media present were Josh Widdowson, Greg Reinbold and Chauncey Ross.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Baker led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVE MINUTES...APRIL 25, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of April 25, 2018 as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were none.

PROCLAMATION...NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

After a proclamation was read by Ms. Hess, a motion was made, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to proclaim the month of May, 2018 as National Bike Month throughout Indiana County and encouraged all county residents to participate in ongoing activities related to National Bike Month, such as the annual Bike to School Day. John Krug from the Office of Planning & Development was present and said the Bike to School Day will be at the KCAC parking lot near Miller Stadium at 7:30 a.m.

PROCLAMATION...NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to declare the week of May 6 – 12, 2018 as National Nurses Week in Indiana County, with the theme “Nurses Inspire, Innovate, Influence” in celebration of the ways in which registered nurses advocate for high-quality patient care and to map out the way to improve our health care system.

PROCLAMATION...NATIONAL SKILLED NURSING CARE WEEK

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to declare the week of May 13 - 19, 2018, as National Skilled Nursing Care Week, a week to honor both our vulnerable citizens who receive care and the dedicated ones give care.

PROCLAMATION...NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

After a proclamation was read by Ms. Hess, a motion was made, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to proclaim May 6 – 12, 2018 as National Travel and Tourism Week in Indiana County, and urged citizens to join them in this special observance with appropriate events and commemorations. Denise Liggett, Director of the Tourist Bureau along with her staff, were present to accept the proclamation.

PROCLAMATION...MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

After proclamation was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to proclaim the month of May 2018 as “Mental Health Awareness Month” and called upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private organizations, businesses and schools to recommit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services to promote recovery for all people with mental illnesses. Tammy Calderone from BDHP was present to accept the proclamation.

CHANGE ORDER #1...THOMAS R. HARLEY ARCHITECTS / EMA

Tom Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, explained that as part of the design and engineering process for the EMA building addition, he asked that Thomas Harley Architect’s review the HVAC system in the existing building. The county was recently informed by First Energy that our electric meter was providing incorrect readings and the new readings have caused an 1,000% increase in the monthly electric costs. The EMA building relies heavily on year-round air conditioning systems for the multiple rooms. Additionally, the building as built in 1999, did not provide for sufficient systems and over the years had to supplement the central air conditioning system with multiple single room units. The building addition project presented an opportunity to make changes to the HVAC systems by looking into alternative energy sources for the central air system as well as providing redundant systems for any failures. The heating systems are supplied by free natural gas from the county wellsite on Rose Street and the costs for heating are minimal. If the whole building system was upgraded to geo-thermal technology, the county would see a significant reduction in the electric consumption costs.

Commissioner Ruddock asked if there will be additional architect fees and Mr. Stutzman said no.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve change order #1 for Base Bid design of Geo-thermal HVAC for the entire building and the Alternate Bid design for new equipment and reuse of existing equipment as back-ups is an increase to the overall Architectural and Engineering agreement of \$29,000 increasing the total design costs to \$45,000.00.

ENERGY SERVICE CONTRACT (ESCO)...THE EFFICIENCY NETWORK / MAINTENANCE

Bill Sink, Director of County Facilities, presented an opportunity for the county to achieve significant energy savings and facility upgrades at all county buildings at no additional cost to the county tax payers. This would be achieved by taking advantage of PA Act 163 of 2016, which allows government entities, universities and schools to acquire the services of an approved energy services contractor, also known as an ESCO, to perform an investment-grade audit, engineering and implementation of energy conservation methods as selected. The project would be funded by reallocating the money saved by the reduced energy demand and applying those funds toward the cost of the audit, engineering and upgrades over a period not to exceed 20 years with a target of 15 years.

The county recently advertised for certified ESCO's to make presentations to the ESCO committee. Mr. Sink said after review, the committee selected The Efficiency Network (TEN), Pittsburgh, PA. They will use local vendors, which was an important factor in the selection process.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a contract, subject to solicitor review, with The Efficiency Network to provide ESCO services for Indiana County.

Mr. Sink said numbers will be available after they do the audit and the engineering and then they will give you what those energy conservation methods could be. We select the methods. Basically it is a menu and we can select whatever we want. At the point we will know the savings, the cost and the payback terms. When they come back after the audit and they say that by selecting these particular projects, you would have guaranteed X amount of dollars. If there is a shortfall, they make it up.

Commissioner Baker commended Bill Sink on his hard work and thinks a great choice was made in picking a company to perform the audit.

AGREEMENT...CHILD ACCOUNTING & PROFILE SYSTEM (CAPS) UPGRADE / CYS

At the request of Sarah Ross, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to approve an agreement for the Child Accounting & Profile System (CAPS) CWIS 1.3 Release 1 Upgrades. The total cost of the upgrade is \$112,9900 and will be proportionally allocated across all CAP counties based on the number of users in each county. The cost of the upgrade for Indiana County is \$1,385.36 and will be paid through the Information & Technology Grant.

APARTMENT LEASE CONTRACTS – INDEPENDENT LIVING GRANT / CYS

At the request of Sarah Ross, Director of Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an Apartment Lease Contract #1 with Westgate Terrace Associates to provide a two-bedroom apartment for a homeless youth. These youths have been involved with the child welfare system and frequently have no support system. While in the apartment, an independent living worker will work intensely with the youth and focus on skills that will move them to independence. The term of the lease is May 22, 2018 to May 20, 2019 at a cost of \$695.00 per month plus electric. Costs will be paid out of the Independent Living Grant budget.

At the request of Sarah Ross, Director of Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an Apartment Lease Contract #2 with Westgate Terrace Associates to provide a two-bedroom apartment for a homeless youth. These youths have been involved with the child welfare system and frequently have no support system. While in the apartment, an independent living worker will work intensely with the youth and focus on skills that will move them to independence. The term of the lease is June 7, 2018 to June 3, 2019 at a cost of \$664.00 per month plus electric. Costs will be paid out of the Independent Living Grant budget.

PRIVATE PROVIDER AGREEMENTS FY 17-18 / CYS

At the request of Sarah Ross, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with C.A. Hughes and Associates, Greensburg, PA for FY 2017-2018 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide non-placement services.

At the request of Sarah Ross, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with Adelphoi Village, Inc. Latrobe, PA for FY 2017-2018 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Sarah Ross, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with Family Pathways, Butler, PA for FY 2017-2018 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

RESOLUTION...URGING THE PASSAGE OF RECLAIM (REVITALIZING THE ECONOMY OF COAL COMMUNITIES BY LEVERAGING LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND INVESTING MORE ACT OF 2017) ACT

After a resolution was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION URGING THE PASSAGE OF RECLAIM (REVITALIZING THE ECONOMY OF COAL COMMUNITIES BY LEVERAGING LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND INVESTING MORE ACT OF 2017) ACT – H.R. 1731

WHEREAS, Substantial coal mining has occurred in Pennsylvania for more than 140 years, and the industry has been a significant employer of our citizens for most of these years; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is #1 in the nation with the most abandoned coal mined lands and streams; and

WHEREAS, abandoned mines pose hazards in Pennsylvania of dangerous shafts, mountains of black waste, scarred landscapes, acidic drainages polluting more than 5,500 miles of our streams and other hazards threatening human's health and safety and depressing local economies; and

WHEREAS, at least 44 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties are affected by abandoned coal mines; and

WHEREAS, at least 1.4 million Pennsylvanians live within one mile of abandoned mine lands; and

WHEREAS, abandoned mines and abandoned mine lands create negative impacts on local economic by hampering recreational opportunities, lowering land values, leaving communities desolate once the mines are exhausted and ruining sites for further residential,

forestry, commercial or agricultural uses, and threatening the human health and safety of people living in our coal field communities; and

WHEREAS, Reclamation of abandoned mine sites can add to the economy by creating jobs, increasing community pride, increasing property values, decreasing stress-related costs through stream—based recreation, restoring the health of the environment and providing future sites for commercial or industrial endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Congress established the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund under Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to reclaim areas abandoned before 1977 and the modern environmental standards requiring mine operators to reclaim their sites; and

WHEREAS, the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 assessed per ton fee on coal operators to provide a source of revenue for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund to help finance the reclamation and remediation of lands mined prior to 1977; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the abandoned mine problems continues to far outpace available resources, and the AML Fund has been impacted by sequestration, meaning less restoration money is being distributed to the states and tribes; and

WHEREAS, the AML Fund fee collection is set to expire in 2021 if it is not reauthorized; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has relied upon the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund as a primary source of money to clean up toxic mine pollution in our water supplies, restore impaired lands, extinguish mine fires and eliminate other dangerous abandoned mine hazards; and

WHEREAS, the RECLAIM Act (H.R. 1731 releases unspent funds within the AML Fund to compensate for reduced funding caused by sequestration to spur job creation, improve economic conditions, and facilitate restoration; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania would receive \$253 million over the next 5 years to accelerate the creation of new jobs to clean up impacted lands and streams if the RECLAIM Act becomes law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that Indiana County urges the United States Congress to pass the RECLAIM Act (H.R. 1731), which will enable us to restore our mining-impacted lands and streams, assist with job creation, and ensure a more vibrant future economy for our coal impacted communities.

Dated this 9th day of May, 2018.

INDIANA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Michael A. Baker, Chairman

ATTEST: Rodney D. Ruddock, Commissioner

Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk Sherene Hess, Commissioner

A copy will be sent to Congressman Bill Shuster.

OFFICIAL RETURN BOARD

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve the following to the Official Return Board for the May 15, 2018 General Primary Election:

Democratic

Kimberly L. Fatula, Margaret J. Karp, Margaret Preite, Michelle Forsha

Republican

Phyllis C. Spicher, Darla Coble, Leona Wynkoop, Debra L. Streams

ANNOUNCEMENT...POLLING PLACE ROOM CHANGE WHITE #3/2 – INDIANA CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Chief Clerk Robin Maryai announced there will be a room change at White #3/2, Indiana Church of the Brethren. Voters will be voting in the main lobby of the church instead of the activity room. The reason for the change is because of the long distance the voters had to walk to vote within the building.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Hess announced that the Indiana County Sustainable Economic Development Task Force will hold its final meeting at 6:30 p.m. on May 16th at the Indiana County Technology Center. The public is invited to attend.

Commissioner Ruddock commented that he traveled to Blairsville this morning for a program hosted by the National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machinery. There were about 500 individuals in attendance and was pleased and honored to offer opening comments.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...MAY 23, 2018 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board at this time, Commissioner Baker adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

Michael A. Baker, Chairman