

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 24, 2018**

Commissioner Chairman Michael A. Baker called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:33 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 Rienbold and Chauncey Ross.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVE MINUTES...OCTOBER 10, 2018**

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of October 10, 2018 as submitted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

There were no Executive Sessions.

**PROCLAMATION...OCTOBER 25, 2018 LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY**

After a proclamation was read by Ms. Hess, a motion was made, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to proclaim October 25, 2018 as Evergreen After School Club Day in Indiana County and encouraged all citizens to join them in recognizing and commending Evergreen After School Club for providing the young people with comprehensive and effective youth development programming and services.

**PROCLAMATION...HONORING OUR INDIANA COUNTY VETERANS**

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to proclaim Saturday, December 8, 2018, as Honor Our Indiana County Veterans Day by asking Indiana County residents to support this effort. Wesley Wertz, American Legion Post 141 was present to accept the proclamation and said the goal is to place a fresh evergreen wreath at the entrance of each Indiana County cemetery to honor our Indiana County Veterans who sacrificed so much. Mr. Wertz said that a ceremonial wreath will be laid at the Indiana County Courthouse Veteran's Wall and Churches throughout Indiana County are encouraged to ring their church bells at noon on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**CHANGE ORDER NO. 2...MARC-SERVICES, INC. / JAIL**

At the request of Gibson-Thomas Engineering, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #2 for Marc-Service, Inc., in the amount of \$9,029.25 to install a chemical feeding system for the geothermal cooling tower at the Indiana County Jail to manage water quality.

**PRIVATE PROVIDER AGREEMENTS FY 18-19 / CYS**

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with Centre County Youth Service Bureau, State College, PA for FY 18-19 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA for FY 18-19 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION SUBMISSION – 2018 PHARE FUNDS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY (PHFA) / PLANNING**

At the request of Tina Coleman, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for the 2018 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Fund Grant. The request also includes approval for Commissioner Baker to sign all necessary application documents. The application will request up to \$300,000.00 of PHARE funds to continue the 55+Roof and Heating Systems Replacement Program. The program will target income eligible Indiana County homeowners age 55 and over with roof and/or furnace replacements. The program will be conducted on a countywide basis and will not be a first come first serve program. The applications will be prioritized according to need by the Housing Committee.

**RESOLUTION...2018 INDIANA COUNTY CDBG PROJECT SCOPE AND 3 YR-PLAN / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a resolution approving the project scope and three-year plan of the County-wide needs priorities for the 2018 Non-Entitlement CDBG application. Indiana County will submit the Peg Run Reservoir Improvement Project for ICMSA to address water quality issues for the Borough of Cherry Tree and the community of Uniontown in Green Township. The 2018 Indiana County Non-Entitlement is \$282,341.00 and is due to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development by November 2, 2018. All citizen participation requirements for project development and selection were completed as required.

**FILING RESOLUTION...2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ENTITLEMENT APPLICATIONS / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of the 2018 Community Development Block Grant Entitlement application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development by the deadline date of November 2, 2018. The application submission includes Indiana County's CDBG Entitlement and the three entitlement communities of Indiana Borough, and the Townships of Burrell and

Center. The total application amount is \$654,852.00. This request includes approval for Commissioner Baker to sign all necessary forms to complete the application process.

**RESOLUTION...COOPERATION AGREEMENT 2018 INDIANA COUNTY CDBG NON-ENTITLEMENT – ICMSA / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a resolution for the 2018 CDBG Indiana County Non-Entitlement Program. The resolution approves entering into a Cooperation Agreement with the Indiana County Municipal Services Authority to undertake activities funded by the County's 2018 CDBG allocations at the Peg Run Reservoir. The Cooperation Agreement identifies the roles and responsibilities between ICMSA and the County for the undertaking the CDBG funded activity.

**2013 INDIANA COUNTY CDBG MODIFICATION #2 / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to approve a modification to the 2013 CDBG Indiana County contract. The requested modification is to enable DCED to approve a contract activity extension for the 2014 CDBG activity, the Fulton Run Alternative Sewer System Project. The Fulton Run project was allocated an additional \$10,000.00 from the 2013 contract due to unexpended funds. However, due to delays with the construction of the project a contract activity extension for the 2014 CDBG is needed and cannot be approved with the 2013 CDBG allocation. This is due to different contract deadline dates. The requested modification is to eliminate the Fulton Run activity from the 2013 CDBG contract and add the Housing Accessibility/Modification Rehabilitation Program to the contract. The amount of CDBG funds to be deleted from Fulton Run is \$10,000.00 with the same amount reallocated to the housing activity. The required citizen participation requirements to undertake this modification have been completed and no adverse comments were received. The request also includes approval for Commissioner Baker to sign all required documents to complete the modification process as required by PA DCED.

**3 YEAR-ACTIVITY EXTENSION – 2014 CDBG / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to approve a request to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Indiana County's 2014 Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Contract. The request is for an extension to the 3-Year Project Activity completion date requirement from August 4, 2018 to December 30, 2019. The request also allows Commissioner Baker to sign the necessary paperwork for the submission to DCED. The extension is for the following activities; the Fulton Run Alternative Sewer System. The contract expiration date is August 4, 2020.

**CONTRACT AWARD...SALTSBURG WALKABILITY ASSESSMENT / PLANNING**

At the request of Josh Krug, Office of Planning & Development and on behalf of the Indiana County Planning Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to enter into a contract with Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. for the completion of the walkability assessment in Saltsburg Borough as part of the Indiana County 2018 *WalkWorks* Program. *WalkWorks* is a collaboration between the Office of Planning & Development, the University Of Pittsburgh Graduate School Of Public Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health to increase opportunities for physical activity in Indiana

County. The contract award is \$2,500.00 for professional services necessary to complete the project. Funding for the project comes from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Community Conservation Partnerships Program, Peer-to-Peer Technical Assistance Project. This award is the result of a consultant selection process overseen by the project Steering Committee and County Planning Staff.

### **GRANT AGREEMENT...INDIANA COUNTY JIMMY STEWART AIRPORT**

At the request of Rick Fuellner, Indiana County Airport Authority, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to accept a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation grant proposing Federal and State funds in the amount of \$180,000.00 for the acquisition of snow removal equipment at the Airport. The local share of costs for this equipment is \$10,000.00. The motion also allows for the Chairman and Chief Clerk to sign all legal documents related to the project.

### **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL LIMITED RELEASE BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND AVANCO**

At the request of Matthew Budash, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement and mutual limited release between the County Avanco regarding the Child Accounting Profile System (CAPS), under which the County will waive certain rights and claims it has against Avanco in connection with the dispute under the contract between the County and Avanco, under applicable laws already in use, and the security of the system and data. In exchange, Avanco will be remitting \$2,462.69 on behalf of the County, to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) for costs incurred by CCAP on behalf of the County in investigating and resolving this dispute.

### **2018 HAVA ELECTION SECURITY GRANT**

Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, explained that early this year the federal government appropriated funds to the states via the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, also known as 2018 HAVA Election Security Grants, to improve election systems. A total of \$14,149,964 will be dispersed to the counties to use towards voting equipment replacement and upgrades.

The Department of State has implemented a funding formula based on total voter registration as certified by county boards of elections for the 2018 Primary Election. Each county is eligible to receive a portion of the 2018 HAVA Election Security Grant that is equal to their portion of the state voter registration total. Indiana County will receive \$84,792.06.

Also, earlier this year Governor Tom Wolf directed all counties in Pennsylvania to purchase new voting system by the spring election of 2020. The systems must be the type that employs a voter-verifiable paper ballot or a voter-verifiable paper record of the votes cast by a voter.

When the directive came out, we assumed the system we currently have met those standards. However, all systems purchased prior to 2020 are going to be decertified by the Governor's Office.

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the Notice of Intent-Requesting HAVA Grant Funds to be used for the purchase or lease of new HAVA-compliant voting systems that are certified in accordance with the Pennsylvania Election Code, meet current state and federal security and accessibility standards and employ a voter-verifiable paper record.

Ms. Maryai also reassured voters that we have the utmost confidence that our voting systems are secure and that your vote will be properly counted. Our voting machines do not and cannot connect to the internet in any way and there is nothing to suggest our machines have ever been tampered with. All of our county's 69 voting machines and spares are maintained by a strict chain of custody from beginning to end. Before each election, the machines are programmed, tested and sealed. We will continue to maintain the strictest security standards for our elections to make sure every vote is accurately counted.

Commissioner Ruddock said we are one of 14 counties that adopted that kind of system. He also said our machines could last a number of years more. The fact that they're decertifying the machines is a little bit...it's not correct, because our machines always were and still are certified. There's nothing wrong with our machines. But Pennsylvania is under an edict to try to get the systems functional, operational and secure. The new system will be very similar in design and will look almost exactly to the one used in the past. There will be no disruption in the process for Indiana County. The approximate cost for the new machines will be about \$750,000.00.

Commissioner Baker said it's been a year or two ago since Ms. Maryai came to us and said we need to set aside \$2 million in case we had to replace voting machines. So, we are prepared financially to do this. But there has never been a compromise to our system and would have to disagree with anyone who says that going to a paper ballot is a step backward. No matter what the machine tells you digitally or electronically, you can always go back and hand count them when you need to. It's the right thing to do.

Commissioner Hess said when you think of per costs of voting machines and the enormous importance of having confidence in those is not an insignificant amount of money but it is a reasonable amount of money per capita. We do have a safe chain of custody and it is taken seriously with checks and balances, we should have the utmost confidence in our voting systems and we do.

#### **OFFICIAL RETURN BOARD...NOVEMBER 6, 2018 GENERAL ELECTION**

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the Official Return Board for the November 6, 2018 General Election as follows:

Democratic – Margaret J. Karp, Margaret Preite  
Republican – Phyllis C. Spicher, Darla Coble

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS...TRI-COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the following appointments to the Tri-County Workforce Development Board:

Walter Schroth, J. P. Habets, Katherine Monko; terms to expire September 30, 2020  
Jack Nelson, III, James Struzzi, Gladys Knox; terms to expire September 30, 2021

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENT...SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Michael Foote to the Solid Waste Authority; term to expire January, 2021.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Ruddock announced that there will be a marker dedication in honor of the wrestling and football career of Jim Nance in front of the Courthouse on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING...NOVEMBER 14, 2018 AT 10:30 A.M.**

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 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 11:19 a.m.

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Sherene Hess, Secretary

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Michael A. Baker, Chairman