

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

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

ROLL CALL

Chairman R. Michael Keith, present
Commissioner Robin A. Gorman, present
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present

Also, in attendance were Solicitor Matthew T. Budash and Chief Clerk Robin Maryai.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of August 14, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

PROCLAMATION...CONSTITUTION WEEK

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to proclaim the week of September 17 through 23, 2024 as Constitution Week and asked our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties.

PROCLAMATION...NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT WEEK

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to proclaim September 16 through 20, 2024, as "Transportation Demand Management Week" throughout Indiana County and commended the efforts of local government agencies, businesses, and community members that are advancing TDM measures throughout our communities.

PROCLAMATION...SUPPORTING OPERATION GREENLIGHT FOR VETERANS

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to bring observance of Operation Green Light in Indiana County and encouraged citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights at their residents or place of business each November.

PROCLAMATION...SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to designate September 8 through 14, 2024 as Suicide Prevention Week and September 2024 as Suicide Awareness Month in Indiana County and recognized suicide as a public health problem and suicide prevention as a community responsibility.

PRIVATE PROVIDER AGREEMENT FY 24-25

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an Addendum to the agreement with Justice Works Youthcare, Pittsburgh, PA for FY 24-25. This provider has agreed to be the facilitator and host for the Act 33, Child fatality/near fatality review meetings.

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Family Cares for Children and Youth, Milton, PA for FY 24-25 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with LifeSpan Family Services, Punxsutawney, PA for FY 24-25 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Professional Family Care Services, Inc., Johnstown, PA for FY 24-25 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Pentz Run Youth Services, Inc., Dubois, PA for FY 24-25 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with George Junior Republic in Pennsylvania, Grove City, PA for FY 24-25 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Vicki Weaver, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Altior Healthcare, Los Angeles, CA for FY 24-25 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services. This provider is willing to accept youths who have the Complex case label and have been hard to place due to their behaviors.

CONTRACT AWARD – PENNDOT ECMS – US ROUTE 22 PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLIST BRIDGE PROJECT / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, and in collaboration with Indiana County Parks & Trails, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to authorize PennDOT District-10 through the Engineer and Construction

Management System (ECMS) to award a construction project to Charles J. Merlo, Inc. from Mineral Point, PA for the US Route 22 Pedestrian-Bicyclist Bridge Project. Also, authorization allows the Chief Clerk to administer the ECMS award with support by the Office of Planning & Development. The contract award is in the amount of \$4,732,000.00 to construct the bridge over US Route 22 in Burrell Township. PennDOT District-10 will provide inspection services for the project at 12% of the construction costs at an estimated \$567,840.00. With the construction award and inspection fees, the total base project is \$5,299,840.00. The built-in-place bridge will be approximately 355' in length consisting of steel girders, a concrete deck and steel fencing plus two switch-back approaches on either end, as well as connectors to the park and ride and Cornell Road. The project costs will be covered by a PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) grant in the amount of \$1,702,044.00, a Federal grant through the Carbon Reduction Pollution Urban Funds in the amount of \$2,816,881.00, a \$230,000.00 grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (PA DCNR), and matching funds, including a \$300,000.00 grant through the Richard K. Mellon Foundation, various local donations collected and administered by the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy, with the balance of project costs from County funds, including through the Indiana County Parks & Trails, all of which have been outlined in resolutions, dated April 14, 2021, January 11, 2023, and April 17, 2024. Currently, there is no legal at-grade crossing for any bicycle or pedestrian crossing along the US Route 22 corridor in this project vicinity, thus this project provides safety and convenience to utilize nearby amenities, such as the Hoodlebug Trail and Ghost Town Trail, as well as future access to Pine Ridge Park. A total of five bids were received, with the low bid of Charles J. Merlo, Inc. of \$4,732,000.00 ranging up to \$5,354,492.65.

ENGINEERING TASK ORDER AWARD – US ROUTE 22 PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLIST BRIDGE PROJECT / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, and in collaboration with Indiana County Parks & Trails, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to authorize a Task Order to Gibson-Thomas Engineering with offices in Latrobe and Indiana for professional services related to the US Route 22 Pedestrian-Bicyclist Bridge Project. The Task Order requested amount is \$42,904.00 for Services During Construction. This was broken down into \$34,800.00 for Shop Drawing Reviews, \$6,360.00 for Construction Consultation, and \$1,744.00 for Site Survey/Control Refresh. Those estimates were based upon a prefabricated bridge that would have fewer shop drawings; the bridge ultimately selected is more complex. This Task Order would be on a Fee Not To Exceed basis. The costs of which will be covered by available project funds through local donations collected and administered by the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy, with the balance of project costs from County funds, including through the Indiana County Parks & Trails, all of which have been outlined in resolutions, dated April 14, 2021, January 11, 2023, and April 17, 2024.

GRANT APPLICATION...RIGHTS AND SERVICES ACT (RASA) / DISTRICT ATTORNEY

At the request of Meghan Foulk, District Attorney's Office, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a grant application for the Rights and Services Act (RASA) in the amount of \$71,151.00. This grant will cover the costs of the Victim Witness Coordinator, victim services, and supplies and operating expenses.

BOARD APPOINTMENT(S)...PARKS & TRAILS BOARD

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to appoint John Somonick and John German to the Indiana County Parks & Trail Board; terms expire August, 2029.

BOARD APPOINTMENT(S)...TRI-COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to appoint Mark Hilliard, Gladys Knox and Jack Nelson to the Tri-County Workforce Development Board; terms expire September 30, 2027.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board at this time, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Commissioner

R. Michael Keith, Chairman