

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 24, 2019

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 Rodney D. Ruddock, present
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVE MINUTES...APRIL 10, 2019

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of April 10, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

SAVIN MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE AGREEMENT / DISTRICT ATTORNEY

At the request of Patrick Dougherty, District Attorney, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the PA SAVIN Maintenance and Service Agreement. This is a no cost agreement through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency that provides a free service of around the clock access to the custody status of offenders in county jails, state prisons, or under state parole supervision in the Commonwealth. PA SAVIN also provides automated telephone, email and/or text message notification of any change in an inmate's incarceration status; including release, transfer to other prisons, escape, and any custody changes, for all victims.

AGREEMENTS...PROJECT SHARE / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

At the request of Lisa Spencer, Department of Human Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and unanimously carried to approve adding the Office of Planning & Development, Children and Youth Services and Catholic Charities to the Project SHARE listing. Project SHARE is a collaborative effort by organizations and the faith community to share resources and information to help residents of the county in need.

TERMINATION OF THE MATP CONTRACT / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Lisa Spencer, Director of Human Services, read a letter address to the Board recommending the County terminate the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) contract with the state. Ms. Spencer explained that last summer the state Legislature directed the state Department

of Human Services to phase in a series of regional brokers to operate MATP beginning January 1, 2019. The new network has not yet been established, and state lawmakers are considering a delay on the transition. Ms. Spencer said “I don’t want to see us get pulled into the middle of what the legislators might be doing versus what DHS is looking to do and the federal government which favors this regionalization. One thing I can’t afford to allow the commissioners to do, if we overextend our budgets, is to have the county pick up the extra money and we’re trying to avoid that. If the State comes back and changes our contract, there’s nothing I can do about that. I’m looking out for the best fiscal interests of the county at this time.”

Ms. Spencer said the county’s withdrawal from the agreement will not result in adverse impact to current or future users of the MATP system. Her office will ensure that all MATP clients will be assisted through this transition. It is mandatory that a letter be mailed out to clients to explain all changes to the program and her office is going to comply with that mandate. In addition, MATP staff members will field all phone calls regarding the enrollment process of the designated broker identified by the commonwealth.

Commissioner Ruddock said “The assurance of a seamless changeover for clients meant the most to him. Financing is one part, but the other part is what impact it does have on the clients and we have a had great support and service.

Commissioner Hess said “We didn’t take this decision lightly. I trust what you say that those clients are going to be assisted.”

Commissioner Baker said “I think it was unfair to most of the Legislature that this was dumped into the budget. I don’t think anybody there had an opportunity to really see what this was about and it just got pushed through.”

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to terminate the Medical Assistance Transportation Program contract with the state.

Representative Jim Struzzi was present and told the Commissioners he supports pending legislation to put the brakes on the changeover.

RESOLUTION BY MUNICIPALITY CERTIFYING PROVISION OF LOCAL MATCH FOR STATE OPERATING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / TRANSIT AUTHORITY

At the request of John Kanyan, Transit Authority, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a resolution certifying that Indiana County will provide a local match the Indiana County Transit Authority in the amount of \$74,462.00.

CONTRACT AGREEMENT – BUILDING TESTING SERVICES / ALICE PAUL HOUSE BUILDING PROJECT

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Planning & Development, and on behalf of the Alice Paul House Board of Directors and Stiffler McGraw & Associates, Inc., a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to enter into a contract agreement with Construction Engineering Consultants, Inc. of Pittsburgh, PA. The contract agreement is for building testing services for the construction of the Alice Paul House Building at a cost not to exceed \$7,381.00. Testing services to be provided include footer compaction/concrete samples, block mortar/grout testing, and interior pad compaction testing. The contract will be paid from the financial package compiled for the project.

CONTRACT AGREEMENT – CONCRETE TESTING SERVICES / ALICE PAUL HOUSE BUILDING PROJECT

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, and on behalf of the Alice Paul House Board of Directors and Stiffler McGraw & Associates, Inc., a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to enter into a contract agreement with Keystone Inspection and Testing Services, LLC of Indiana, PA. The contract agreement is for concrete testing services for the construction of the Alice Paul House Building at a cost not to exceed \$4,438.00. The contract will provide for testing of the interior and exterior concrete testing. The contract will be paid from the financial package compiled for the project.

OTHER BUSINESS

Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, reminded those present that the last day to apply for an absentee ballot is May 14, 2019 and the deadline to return the voted ballots is May 17th. Ms. Maryai also reminded voters the special election race for the 41st Senatorial District will appear on the same ballot as the state, county and local races. Those registered other than Democratic or Republican will also have the opportunity to vote on the special election. Ms. Maryai also reported that the new equipment has been received and the logic and accuracy testing has been completed.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...MAY 22, 2019 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 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 11:36 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

Michael A. Baker, Chairman