

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 26, 2020

Commissioner R. Michael Keith called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:34 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room. It is noted that because the courthouse is closed during the Corona Virus Pandemic, the meeting was open to the public via Zoom.com.

ROLL CALL

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

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...AUGUST 12, 2020

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of August 12, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

PROCLAMATION...SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Keith, a motion was made seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to designate September 6 – 12, 2020 as National Suicide Prevention Week and September 1 – 30, 2020 as National Suicide Awareness Month in Indiana County. Lisa Spencer thanked the board for their continued support and announced that the 8th Annual Walk for a Wonderful Life will be a virtual walk from September 1st through the 30th.

ORDINANCE...HIGHRIDGE WATER AUTHORITY

At the request of George Sulkosky, Highridge Water Authority, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an ordinance that will provide for the refunding of its prior Series of 2012 Bonds and certain other debt obligations consisting of prior PENNVEST loans incurred in 2002, 2009 and 2011 and a prior 2018 Bank Loan. The Authority intends to finance a Refunding Project by the issuance of its Guaranteed Water Revenue Note, Series of 2020 in the principal amount of \$6,540,00.00 under the Ordinance, with said Note being guaranteed under the provisions of the 2020 Guaranty Agreement. Mr. Sulkosky explained that to issue the note, it is necessary for Highridge Water Authority to enter into a 2020 Guaranty Agreement with the County of Indiana.

PENNDOT POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES GRANT FY 21-22 / DISTRICT ATTORNEY

At the request of Brad Shields, District Attorney's Office, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously approve that an application be submitted for PennDOT Police Traffic Services Grant for FY 2021-2022. This is a two year \$10,020.02 per year allocation that will assist with patrolling for impaired driving, aggressive driving, occupant restraints and pedestrian safety. This grant is 100% reimbursable and will be used by local police departments administered through the District Attorney's Office.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASES / MAINTENANCE

At the request of Mike Yanity, Director of County Facilities, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an upgrade to the Courthouse HVAC by replacing two air handling units. The units will have HEPA Filters and ionizing equipment that will purify the air in the Courthouse. The total costs of this upgrade is \$329,140.00 and will be purchased from Huckestein Mechanical, Pittsburgh, PA.

At the request of Mike Yanity, Director of County Facilities, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a full capacity emergency generator for the Courthouse from Palco, Norvelt, PA in the amount of \$115,850.00.

At the request of Mike Yanity, Director of County Facilities, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve the upgrades to the Courthouse and two Annex Buildings with automatic doors and openers in the amount of \$50,195.00 from Eastern Door Controls, Inc., Jeanette, PA.

Mr. Yanity also explained that these projects will be funded from CARES Act Funds and all are under state contract pricing with COSTARS.

HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE UNIFIED GRANT PROGRAM / EMA

At the request of Tom Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Grant Program in the amount of \$45,000.00. This grant request will cover the costs for re-promulgation of the plan when its due for renewal in 2022.

SALSGIVER TELECOM, INC. CHANGE ORDERS / EMA

Thomas Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, presented the following change orders to the current Salsgiver Telecom, Inc. agreement to provide the extension of public access broadband services in areas of no service or limited service availability.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the change order for BB Cherry Hill Twp, Penns Manor Schools. This is an approximately 3.7-mile path, extending from Route 403 near the Clymer Tower Site and continuing along Route 403 S, crossing Manor Rd and continuing to Route 553, then proceeding west on Route 553 to Pine Tree Rd. Salsgiver's has named this the "Penn Run Extension". This path also includes one (1) WiFi tower site. The fiber optic path passes a small number of homes and the primary purpose will be to access the WiFi site. There is a onetime cost of \$78,419.00 for the build with no recurring costs.

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the change order for WiFi Penns Manor. This is a WiFi site installation in near the intersection of Route 553 and Pine Tree Rd, in Cherryhill Township. There is a potential to use a tower site offered by ARIN IU-28 in this area for installation. Salsgiver's has named this the "Penn Run WiFi Extension" There is a onetime cost of \$23,000.00 for either of these builds with no recurring costs.

A motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the change order for WiFi Buffington Extension. This is a WiFi installation in the area of Cameron's Rd and Route 403 in Buffington Township. Salsgiver's has named this Brush Valley Phase 2 WiFi project. Total onetime cost is \$23,000.00 with no recurring costs.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the change order for Wifi Clymer Rd Extension. This is a WiFi installation near the intersection of Airport Rd (SR 1006) and Allen Bridge Rd (SR 1005). Salsgivers has named this Airport Rd Extension WiFi. Total onetime cost is \$23,000.00 with no recurring costs.

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the change order for WiFi Northern County Cross Path. This is a total of four (4) WiFi installations at the following locations, Site #1 - Whitesell Rd, approximately 3,000' south of Route 85, Site #2 — Johnston Rd, between the intersections with Steele Rd and Lee Rd.; Site #3 — Deckers Point Rd, near the intersection with Lowman Rd; Site #4 — Near Mumau Rd and Donahey Rd; Each of those sites has a onetime cos of \$23,000, for a total of \$92,000.00 with no recurring costs.

The total costs of these change orders is \$239,419.00 and will be covered by consolidation of grant funds for Broadband and CARES Act funding.

CYS SOLICITOR FY 20-21 / CYS

At the request of Terrence Redd, CYS, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a contract with Carmella Law Offices, William J. Carmella, Esquire as Solicitor for Indiana County Children & Youth Services at a rate of \$150.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will represent the agency in dependency hearings, attend meetings for case reviews, prepare for termination proceedings, appeal hearings and agency concerns or issues.

At the request of Terrence Redd, CYS, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a contract with Thomas Rivosecchi, Esquire as Solicitor for Indiana County Children & Youth Services at a rate of \$120.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will represent the agency in dependency hearings, attend meetings for case reviews, prepare for termination proceedings, appeal hearings and agency concerns or issues.

CYS GUARDIAN AD LITEM FY 20-21 / CYS

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 20-21 with Thomas Kauffman for Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at a rate of \$100.00 per hour for GAL plus travel time when needed. He also represents CYS as a juvenile Defender for status offenders at the rate of \$900 per month. Attorney Kauffman will also be assigned as solicitor at the rate of \$120.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He represents the agency in dependency hearings, attends meetings for case reviews, prepares for termination proceedings, appeal hearings and concerns or issues.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 20-21 with Zubin F. Billimoria, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 20-21 with Joelyssa Johnson, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 20-21 with Katrina Kayden, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

CYS LEGAL COUNSEL FOR PARENTS FY 20-21 / CYS

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a contract with Marshall Chriswell, Esquire. Attorney Chriswell will be assigned as legal counsel to parents for dependency matters at the sum of \$55.00 per hour not to exceed \$1,750.00 per month.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and unanimously carried to approve a contract with Erica Dussault, Esquire. Attorney Dussault will be assigned as legal counsel to parents for dependency matters at the sum of \$55.00 per hour not to exceed \$1,750.00 per month.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Mr. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a contract with Gina Ryen-Force, Esquire. Attorney Force will be assigned as legal counsel to parents for dependency matters at the rate of \$1,750.00 per month.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a contract with Katrina

Kayden, Esquire. Attorney Kayden will be assigned as legal counsel to parents for dependency matters at the sum of \$55.00 per hour not to exceed \$1,750.00 per month.

PRIVATE PROVIDER AGREEMENTS / CYS

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve Shippenville Project Point of Light, Inc., Shippenville, PA for FY 20-21 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide non-placement services.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Families United Network, Inc., Muncy, PA for FY 20-21 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

FILING RESOLUTION – INDIANA COUNTY / INDIANA BOROUGH / BURRELL TOWNSHIP / CENTER TOWNSHIP – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – CORONAVIRUS PROGRAM (CDBG-CV) / PLANNING

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a resolution authorizing the submission of the Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus Program (CDBG-CV) application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. The application submission includes the CDBG entitlement communities of Indiana Borough, Burrell Township and Center Township. The application will request a total of \$378,119.00 of CDBG-CV funds. All assistance provided through the CDBG-CV program must relate directly to the prevention, preparation or be in response to the Covid-19 virus. All CDBG required public hearings and citizen participation requirements have been met for the application submission and no objections have been received.

GROUND LEASE – INDIANA COUNTY EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY CENTER PROJECT / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to enter into a Ground Lease with the Joint Operating Committee of the Indiana County Technology Center for the purpose of the construction and development of the Indiana County Education & Technology Center (ICETC). The ICETC project, consisting of a 26,402 square foot building, will be located on the campus of the Indiana County Technology Center in White Township to provide a state of the art education facility for the expansion of Westmoreland County Community College (WCCC) and the proposed Challenger Learning Center at Indiana Pennsylvania, a regional science learning facility with a focus on middle and high school students, providing hands on, experimental activities that will augment traditional classroom work efforts to simulate real world applications in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM. WCCC is committed to helping area business and industry develop and maintain a skilled workforce to remain competitive in an ever-changing world. The Ground Lease will be for a 27-year term with a one (1) time payment of \$50,000 and provide for annual maintenance payments to offset shared Common Areas.

APPROVAL TO WITHDRAW APPEAL ON THE BURRELL TOWNSHIP SALDO RELATED TO THE ROUTE 22 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE / PLANNING

Solicitor Matthew Budash explained that the prior Board of Commissioners Authorized the filing of an appeal to the Court of Common Pleas from the denial by the Burrell Township Supervisors of the Land Development Plan Review for the Route 22 Pedestrian Bicyclist Bridge Project and is presently pending before the court of common pleas. The appeal and some of the information that the county needed to collect and present at the appeal has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related shut down. After consideration and consultation with the Office of Planning & Development, it is his opinion that the Commissioners should withdraw the appeal and asked for the boards consent. Mr. Budash said this is not the end of the project and the county will still pursue the project but will do so in another form with updated information. A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to withdraw the appeal in the court of common pleas related to the Route 22 Pedestrian Bridge Project.

2020 PCOMP SAFETY IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve the submission of the 2020 PComp Safety Improvement Grant Application to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania in the amount of \$5,180.00. The grant will be used to purchase seven (7) bullet proof vests for probation officers.

2020-2021 PCORP LOSS PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the submission of the 2020-2021 PCorp Loss Prevention Grant Program Application to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania in the amount of \$4,950.00. This grant will be used to replace 300 square feet of sidewalk and parking lot apron at the courthouse annex.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Hess announced that this date, August 26th is the 100th Anniversary of Women's Equality Day and the adoption of the 19th Amendment.

Commissioner Keith announced that the courthouse will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2020 in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 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. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

R. Michael Keith, Chairman