

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 12, 2020

Commissioner Robin A. Gorman 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, absent
Commissioner Robin A. Gorman, 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 Chauncey Ross, Josh Widdowson, and Greg Reinbold.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Gorman asked Francis Renosky to led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVE MINUTES...JANUARY 29, 2020

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of January 29, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gregory Cornman, Francis E. Renosky and Thomas D. Short asked the commissioners to consider passing an ordinance designating Indiana County as a Second Amendment Sanctuary. They are seeking support for citizens Second Amendment rights and pledging that the county would not enforce gun control legislation deemed to violate those rights.

Commissioner Gorman said the board would review any proposed ordinance and said "I am a pro-gun, Second Amendment supporter. I personally feel for everybody that has some sense of not liking where the Governor is standing and it is truly an infringement on our second amendment rights.

Commissioner Hess said "It's important for us to deliberate as a body of all three commissioners. We would do that for any kind of request and I'm sure we'll look into it. There are a lot of nuances to gun rights and the concerns around gun issues and I think its important to do it right."

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There was an executive session held on January 30, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss litigation with Burrell Township.

There was an executive session held on February 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the opioid litigation.

CHANGE ORDERS...ALICE PAUL HOUSE BUILDING / PLANNING

Dave Morrow, Office of Planning & Development, and on behalf of the Alice Paul House Board of Directors and Stiffler McGraw & Associates, Inc. requested the Board of Commissioners approve the following three prime contract change orders for the Alice Paul House Building Project. These change orders are to create additional office space above the garage area of approximately 1,100 square feet. We are seeking individual approval of the following change orders:

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #2 Mid-State Construction, General Construction Contractor an increase of \$8,527.76. The revised contract with Mid-State Construction, Inc. with approval of Change Order #2 will be \$2,393,653.76.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #1 MARC Service, Inc., Mechanical Construction Contractor an increase of \$15,299.00 to add a condensing unit, evaporator coil and fire rated duct work. The revised contract with MARC Service, Inc. with approval of Change Order #1 will be \$404,404.00.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #1 Mashan, Inc., Electrical Construction Contractor an increase of \$8,475.00 to complete the necessary electrical work. The revised contract with Mashan, Inc. with approval of Change Order #1 will be \$364,475.00.

The additional project costs will be covered from a multiple of available grant funds.

CHANGE ORDER #1 – NORMA BUILDING FIRE WALL AND DRIVERS ENTRANCE PROJECT / PLANNING

At the request of Dave Morrow, Office of Planning & Development, and on behalf of the Indiana County Development Corporation and Stiffler, McGraw & Associates, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #1 with BCS Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$9,640.00 on the NORMA Building Fire Wall and Drivers Entrance Project. Change Order #1 is to add an additional 10' wide x 9' high fire rated overhead rolling steel door in the existing masonry fire wall. The revised contract with BCS Construction, Inc. with approval of Change Order #1 will be \$235,690.00. The additional project costs will be covered by the Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program and funds from the Indiana County Development Corporation.

COUNTY EMPLOYEE MANUAL UPDATES

At the request of Melissa Miller, Human Resource Director, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the revised County Employee Manual that include regulatory changes and updated benefit information for county employees.

2019-2020 PCORP LOSS PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a 2019-2020 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program Application be submitted to CCAP requesting \$8,860.00 to help offset costs to put in a

sidewalk in Smicksburg. The proposed sidewalk will be used to connect to a historic election house that was relocated to the park in December 2019. The election house, which will serve as an interpretive feature for the park, will be opened to the public in 2020.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE...ELECTIONS SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE / ELECTIONS

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the equipment purchase a DS450 Digital Image Scanner from Elections Systems & Software in the amount of \$53,975.00. With the recent passing of Act 77, voters are now permitted to vote by mail-in ballot. Previously a voter could only get an absentee ballot if they physically were unable to go to the polls or were expected to be absent from their precinct on election day. Now anyone can vote by mail regardless of reason. Because of this change in the law, there could be a high volume of voters voting by mail and not at the polls. These ballots will be processed at the courthouse after 8 p.m. on election night.

BUDGET REVISION...ELECTIONS

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and unanimously carried to approve a budget revision moving \$21,590.00 from reserves to the 2020 General Fund Budget to help cover the cost of the purchase of the new DS450.

REVISED COUNTY APPLICATION...GRANTS FOR ELECTION MODERNIZATION AND SECURITY (GEMS) PROGRAM / ELECTIONS

Chief Clerk, Robin Maryai, explained that Act 77 authorizes the Department of State to apply to the Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority (PEDFA) for bond issuance up to \$90,000,000. These funds will be used to reimburse counties for up to 60% of allowable costs for replacing old voting machines with new systems that meet current security and accessibility standards by the 2020 primary. This reimbursement will include expenses associated with new ballot marking devices, scanners, system software, one year of licensing fees, and voting system storage cases. A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a revised County Application for the Grants for Election Modernization and Security (GEMS) Program to recoup 60% of the total costs incurred by Indiana County. The total cost of total cost to purchase the upgraded equipment is \$695,162.17.

BOARD APPOINTMENT...HIGHRIDGE WATER AUTHORITY

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the board appointment of Thomas Whitcomb to the Highridge Water Authority; term to expire January, 2023.

COURTHOUSE CLOSED...FEBRUARY 17, 2020 PRESIDENT'S DAY

Ms. Gorman announced that the courthouse will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2020 in honor of the President's Day Holiday

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...FEBRUARY 26, 2020 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 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. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

Robin A. Gorman, Vice-Chairman