

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**JULY 22, 2020**

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. 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  
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present via zoom

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Keith asked Sheriff Robert Fyock to lead in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**APPROVE MINUTES...JULY 8, 2020**

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of July 8, 2020.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gerald Smith asked that the County place on their website and advertisement from Indiana County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Resources Commission to assist with protection under the Civil Rights Act.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

There were no Executive Sessions.

**PROCLAMATION...K-9 DEPUTY BAK**

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Keith, a motion was made, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to honor the service of K-9 Bak who recently passed away due to health issues. Sheriff Fyock and office staff were present to accept the proclamation.

**PROCLAMATION...2020 CENSUS PARTNERSHIP AND INDIANA COUNTY COMMUNITIES COUNT DAY**

After a proclamation was read by Ms. Hess, a motion was made, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to adopt a proclamation declaring the County's partnership with 2020 United States Census and proclaiming July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Indiana County Communities Count Day. The Indiana County Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Decennial Census, facilitated by the Office of Planning & Development, would like to recognize and commend the efforts of our current top performers that are each above 70% self-response rates, including the townships of Black Lick, South Mahoning, Conemaugh, Cherryhill and Buffington and Homer City Borough – as well as the three most improved municipalities for the month of June; Armagh, Cherry Tree,

and Ernest Boroughs. Census takers have begun visiting homes in Indiana County this week, however residents may continue to self-respond through the month of October at 2020census.gov, by phone or the traditional mail in method, and we continue to encourage self-response to the 2020 U.S. Census.

**GRANT APPLICATION - PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DCED) BLIGHT REMEDIATION PROGRAM – INDIANA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE BLIGHT REMEDIATION PLAN /PLANNING**

At the request of Josh Krug, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by M requests that that the Board of Commissioners formally approve submitting a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Blight Remediation Program to fund the Indiana County Comprehensive Blight Remediation Plan.

The Office of Planning & Development is currently developing a Blighted Properties Inventory (BPI) in accordance with the Indiana County Housing Plan, adopted in 2014. The purpose of the project is to assess information on properties that are abandoned, overgrown, or unsafe in order to better understand the issue of blight in the County. Over the past four years we have collected data from thirteen municipalities across Indiana County as a pilot project. We need to assess the remaining 25 municipalities in the County.

The county-wide effort of the Comprehensive Blight Remediation Plan will further assess the existing blight in Indiana County and examine the wide array of blight remediation programs and policies available in Pennsylvania that can be applied in Indiana County to address and prevent blight and related issues in our communities. Working with our municipal partners, community leaders and through public input, the Office of Planning & Development will develop blight remediation actions for each area of the county to be incorporated into the Plan.

The total grant request is for \$25,000 and the match requirement is at least 10% of the grant request. The Office of Planning & Development requests that the Board of Commissioners formally commit a cash match in the amount of \$25,000 from the Indiana County Act 137 Local Housing Trust Funds. The total project cost is estimated at \$50,000.

**CONTRACT AGREEMENT – 2020 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve entering into an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) contract agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for \$105,618.00. Indiana County service provider for the contract is the Indiana County Community Action Program (ICCAP). This is an 18-month contract that will provide for Rapid Re-Housing assistance and services, data collection and administrative services. The original application request was for \$170,891.00 however due to the high volume of statewide requests for assistance DCED reduced the award amount by \$65,273. Approval also allows for the Commissioners to complete the required e-signature contracting process and for Commissioner Keith to sign all paperwork.

**CONTRACT AGREEMENT – EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT CARES ACT (ESG-CV) / PLANNING**

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve entering into an Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) contract agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for \$99,640.00. The CARES Act (ESG-CV) allocation is targeted to address local needs resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic impacting the Indiana County community. Assistance through the ESG-CV allocation is to aid Indiana County in preventing, preparing for and responding to Coronavirus issues among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Indiana County’s service provider for the ESG-CV allocation is the Indiana County Community Action Program (ICCAP). The ESG-CV funds will provide Rapid Re-Housing rental and financial assistance and services, data collection and administrative services. Approval also allows for the Commissioners to complete the required e-signature contracting process and for Commissioner Keith to sign all necessary paperwork.

**TITLE IV-D COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT / DRO**

At the request of Darren Divido, Domestic Relations Office, a motion was made by Ms. Hess and to approve the Title VI-D Cooperative Agreement between the Department of Human Services and Indiana County. The purpose of this agreement is to administer and optimize the effectiveness and performance of the Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Program in accordance with Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations and to ensure the securing of financial and medical support for minor children. It is also noted that Indiana County’s match will remain the same for this agreement beginning October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025.

**INDIANA COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN FOR FY 2020-2021 / BDHP**

At the request of Tammy Calderone, Armstrong-Indiana Behavioral and Developmental Health Program (BDHP), a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the Indiana County Human Services Block Grant Plan for FY 2020-2021. This is an annual plan required by all counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to complete in order to identify local needs, develop goals and identify and track outcomes that support the implementation of services. Counties are responsible to complete the planning process and submit plans which describe how services are delivered in the areas of mental health, intellectual disabilities, homeless assistance, substance abuse disorder and the human services development fund. The plan also describes the coordination and cooperation efforts of all services and agencies. The agencies included in the block grant are Indiana County Department of Human Services, Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug & Alcohol Commission, BDHP and Armstrong County Community Action Program. The Indiana County Human Services Budget that will be submitted with the plan includes Homeless Assistance - \$223,106.00, Substance Abuse Disorder - \$381,556.00, Human Services Development Fund - \$88,585.00, and Indiana County’s Match Fund - \$155,448.00. The application is alternately submitted between Indiana and Armstrong County. The total for both counties for Mental Health Services - \$4,823,217.00

and Intellectual Disabilities - \$1,649,658.00. Ms. Calderone thanked Lisa Spencer, Department of Human Services and Cami Anderson, Drug and Alcohol for their assistance in completing the application.

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT...ICCAP FY 2020-2021 / DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES**

At the request of Lisa Spencer, Department of Human Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve a Cooperation Agreement between the Indiana County Community Action program and the County of Indiana in the amount of \$16,000.00. ICCAP will use these funds for the Homeless Assistance Program's Homeless Case Management Program (HCM) to offset the cost of an HCM position in accordance with the instructions and requirements for the Human Services Development Fund.

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT...CARE CENTER FY 2020-2021 / DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

At the request of Lisa Spencer, Department of Human Services, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a Cooperation Agreement between the CARE Center of Indiana County and the County of Indiana in the amount of \$20,000.00. the CARE Center will use these funds to pay for a portion of a staff member's wages and benefits working with The Incredible Years program in accordance with the instructions and requirements of the Human Services Development Fund.

**GRANT APPLICATION INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT TREATMENT PROGRAM FY 2020-2021 / PROBATION**

At the request of Amanda Schroeder, Drug & Alcohol Commission, and in cooperation with the Probation Office, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve a grant application be submitted to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency in the amount of \$135,000.00. This grant supports the cost of treatment and supportive services for individuals that do not qualify for medical assistance and supports the probation officers that supervise participants to ensure their compliance in the program.

**GRANT APPLICATION...VICTIM NOTIFICATION PROGRAM FY 2021-2022 / DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

At the request of Linda Callihan, District Attorney's Office, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a grant application be submitted to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency in the amount of \$135,105.00. This program notifies and provides services to all victims of crime who have a case in the Indiana County Criminal Court system.

**PRIVATE PROVIDER AGREEMENTS / CYS**

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Alternative Community Engagement Solutions, LLC Indiana, PA for FY 19-20 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 Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Beacon Day Care, Inc., Indiana, PA for FY 19-20 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 Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Westmoreland County Regional Youth Services Center (Detention), Greensburg, PA for FY 19-20 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. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Westmoreland County Regional Youth Services Center (Shelter), Greensburg, PA for FY 19-20 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 Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, The Center for Hearing and Deaf Services, Inc. Pittsburgh, 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 Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Family A.C.T.S., Inc., Ford City, 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 Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Family Psychological Associates, Kittanning, 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 Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Menta Psychological, Indiana, 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 Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Sign Language Specialist of Western PA, Inc Center, Johnstown, 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 Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, The Children's Aid Home Programs of Somerset County, Inc., Somerset, PA for FY 20-21 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 Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and unanimously carried to approve a Private Provider Contract with, Edmund L. Thomas Adolescent Center, Erie, PA for FY 20-21 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

**APPLICATION...PCORP LOSS PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FY 2020-2021**

At the request of Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the 2020-2021 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program Application in the amount of \$11,200.00. The grant money will be used to install a snowmelt system in the front entrance to the County Courthouse. This system will keep the front walk clear of snow and ice even after hours reducing the risk of falls.

**AGREEMENT...BABST, CALLAND, CLEMENTS AND ZOMNIR**

At the request of Matthew Budash, County Solicitor, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir to represent Indiana County in United States District Court and Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. Indiana County along with all 67 counties in Pennsylvania and Secretary of State Kathy Boockvar are being sued by Donald J. Trump for President. Both lawsuits are challenging law related to absentee/mail-in ballots as implemented by the Commonwealth and individual counties. Indiana County will join 14 other counties in the agreement in both lawsuits. The effective rate of representation is \$73.33 per hour. If other counties join the cost per hour will be lowered.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING...AUGUST 12, 2020 AT 10:30 A.M.**

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 12, 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 Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

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Sherene Hess, Secretary

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R. Michael Keith, Chairman