

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Commissioner Chairman Michael A. Baker called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:34 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, Greg Reinbold and Chauncy Ross.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVE MINUTES...SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of September 11, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

ANNOUNCEMENT...VET FEST / AIRPORT

Rick Fuellner and Chris Calhoun from the Airport were present to announce Vet Fest which will be held at the County Airport on September 12, 2020. The event will include a breakfast, car/motorcycle show and evening entertainment and will help raise money for the Parsonage for Homeless Vets and the Western Pa Veterans Relief Fund. Mr. Fuellner said they are estimating that about 5,000 – 7,500 will attend the event.

AGREEMENT...UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI RESEARCH INSTITUTE SERVICES AGREEMENT/ PROBATION

At the request of Mike Hodak, Probation Office, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with the University of Cincinnati Research Institute. This agreement will provide training of Probation and Jail Staff in the use of the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) and case-planning training at the rate of \$8,750.00. ORAS is used to determine the risk and needs of an offender, and provides a probation officer the ability to assess an offender at various decision points across the criminal justice system, such as pre-trial, re-entry and community supervision. Case planning is designed for criminal justice staff, and the development supervision of the probationer and parolee, and addresses methods for engaging the offender, motivating the offender, building motivation and continuous quality improvement. ORAS and case planning are both essential tools used in the field of probation, parole and corrections, and are recognized nationally as part of the evidence-based practice approaching working with the offenders. Mr. Hodak said 42 other adult probation offices in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have used the system and eight more will follow

ORAS later this year or in 2020. Probation Officers and Jail Officials in the surrounding counties will be offered the opportunity to join the session.

CONTRACT EXTENSION...FEDERAL ENGINEERING / EMA

At the request of Tom Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess to approve Amendment #4 to the current agreement with Federal Engineering (FE) at the rate not to exceed \$10,000.00 for fiscal year 2020. The County maintains an agreement with FE to assist with lease agreements and engineering for non-public safety use of the county facilities and have provided assistance in FCC Licensing and renewals. Over the past several years, FE has assisted with various site leases, most recently with the T-Mobile Wireless lease at Haven Drive.

CONTRACT EXTENSION...MOTOROLA / EMA

At the request of Tom Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an extension of the Indiana County Maintenance and SUA-II agreement with Motorola through December 31, 2033. Butler County, who is the newest partner county, is contracted through 2033, therefore, the other members requested that Motorola provide a proposal equal to this period. The contract covers maintenance on all tower sites, console equipment and back room electronics. This extension will provide a cost savings to the county in the amount of \$126,074.40 annually over the 8-year extension.

At the request of Tom Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an extension of the ICORRS Maintenance and SUA-II agreement with Motorola through December 31, 2033. The overall savings to the seven partners will be \$15,323.83 annually over the 8-year extension.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS...TRI-COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

A motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried to approve the following appointments to the Tri-County Workforce Investment Board:

J.P. Habets representing the Business Category (reappointment); term expires September 30, 2020

Mark Hilliard representing the Business Category (new appointment; term expires September 30, 2021

ORDINANCE – KOEZ EXTENSION – WHITE TOWNSHIP PARCELS / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an Ordinance authorizing exemptions, deductions, abatements, and credits for real property, earned income tax, net profits, mercantile and business privilege taxes within a specific geographic area in White Township, Indiana County, within the Windy Ridge Business & Technology Park, to extend designation as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (“KOEZ”), in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial, and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration within areas of White Township, for the following parcels:

Parcel Numbers:	Acreage:
42-018-102	138.37

If approved by DCED, the KOEZ extension shall begin on January 1, 2020 and terminate on December 31, 2029 (a ten-year period).

Mr. Stauffer explained the intent of the program is to take vacant parcels and buildings and try to incentivize businesses to invest in our community thus creating new job opportunities and tax base. This Ordinance does remove Urban Outfitters and Creps United Publications from the KOEZ. Indiana Area School District and White Township will have this Ordinance on their agendas for approval in the near future.

RESOLUTION – KOEZ – AUTHORIZATION TO FILE DCED APPLICATION / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a Resolution authorizing the filing of an application on behalf of the County of Indiana to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) to extend Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) properties within a defined geographical areas within the Windy Ridge Business & Technology Park, White Township, consisting of approximately 138.37 acres.

RESOLUTION - REDEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE CAPITAL PROGRAM (RACP) GRANT AMENDMENT – INDIANA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (IRMC) / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development and on behalf of the Indiana Regional Medical Center (IRMC), a motion was made by Mr. Ruddock seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve a Resolution to amend the contract of an existing \$500,000.00 Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for an additional \$1,250,000 RACP grant for partial funding associated with various improvements to IRMC facilities and authorizes the filing of any required applications and submission of documentation. The Resolution also authorizes entering into a revised Cooperation Agreement with the IRMC to manage and administer the RACP grant funding for this project through the Indiana County Office of Planning and Development. It is noted that the Office of Planning & Development is only administering the grant on behalf of IRMC and there is no reimbursement back to the county for the project for administrative costs.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IS OCTOBER 7, 2019

LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR A CIVILIAN ABSENTEE BALLOT IS OCTOBER 29, 2019

Robin Maryai, Chief Clerk, announced that the last day to register to vote is October 7, 2019 and the Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot is October 29, 2019. Individuals may contact the Voter Registration Office by phone or by stopping in the Office. They can also complete the applications online at www.votespa.com.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Hess announced the Ghosttown Trail is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and a ceremony will take place on the trail near Eliza Furnace on September 27th at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Hess announced the Sustainable Economic Development Summit III, Reinventing Rural America will be held October 4th at Rustic Lodge.

Commissioner Ruddock announced the Conservation District held a Junior Environmentalthon at Blue Spruce Park and was well attended by students from Indiana County. The Emergency

Management agency had on hand the mobile-command post available because of the lack of cellular service at the park. Senator Pittman has been working with the state regarding the issue of a lack of broadband and cellular service specifically in the rural areas. Commissioner Ruddock and Hess attended the Institute of Politics to observe a panel talking about the unique differences between urban and rural sectors of Pennsylvania. One of the main issues talked about was the lack of broadband service.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...OCTOBER 9, 2019 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 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 11:11 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

Michael A. Baker, Chairman