

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

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.

ROLL CALL

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

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...SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of September 14, 2022.

COVID UPDATE

Thomas Stutzman reported that the CDC COVID Community level has returned to the "LOW" rating after spending a week at the "HIGH" rating. The "LOW" rating indicates decreased numbers in hospitalizations and case rates during the period. PADOH's early warning monitoring, for last week, indicated the PCR testing rates at 16.3%, which is a decrease from the previous week at 19.9%. Four new COVID related deaths have been reported by PADOH, bringing the total number of COVID related deaths in Indiana County to 380. CDC's website reported a 24.14% decrease in COVID Cases as of September 26th. They also reported a 35.19% decrease in COVID testing, as of September 20th. COVID Vaccinations throughout the region have slowed tremendously. Based on CDC data, updated to September 26th, the region has only seen a 0.016% increase in "Fully Vaccinated" and a 0% increase in "Booster Vaccinations". These are in the age groups currently eligible for these shots. Earlier this week, IRMC reported 14 in-patients testing positive for COVID. CDC's data on hospitalized patients, shows a 23.3% increase, over the 7-days ending, September 25th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Arlene Wanatosky made public comment regarding gun violence.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

PROCLAMATIONS

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to proclaim October 2 – 8, 2022 as Juvenile Justice Week. They called upon on citizens government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit increasing awareness and understanding of juvenile justice.

After a proclamation was read, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to extend best wishes and recognize and celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Indiana County Conservation District.

OPIOID LITIGATION...MCKINSEY AND COMPANY, INC.

Bob Marcus was present and explained that McKinsey and Company, Inc. played an integral role in creating and deepening the opioid crisis. In the years following Purdue Pharma's guilty pleas for misleading marketing OxyContin, McKinsey worked closely with Purdue to dramatically increase OxyContin sales to the benefit of McKinsey, Purdue and the Sackler Family. McKinsey specifically sought to maximize OxyContin sales by working around the requirements of the Corporate Integrity Agreement that Purdue entered as part of its guilty plea. Through the conduct described in the complaint, McKinsey participated in and helped orchestrate a broad scheme to deceptively market opioids. McKinsey's actions resulted in a surge in a surge in sales of OxyContin and other opioids that fueled and prolonged the opioid crisis. A motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to join with the consortium to file legal action against McKinsey.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE...CDW-GOVERNMENT / EMA

At the request of Tom Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an equipment purchase upgrading the computer aided dispatching servers in the amount of \$27,600.00. This purchase will be made under COSTARS contract pricing.

LEASE EXTENSION...MARK E. COLEMAN AND CYNTHIA J. COLEMAN / MDJ HOMER CITY

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a 5-year lease extension with Mark E. Coleman and Cynthia J. Coleman for the District Court 40-3-02 in Homer City. This is the first of three (3) five-year renewal terms of the original lease agreement.

GRANT APPLICATION...PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY / DISTRICT ATTORNEY

At the request of Lexi Rieger, a motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a grant application be submitted the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to provide funding for Public Safety Initiatives throughout Indiana County. The amount is yet to be determined.

CONTRACT...THE INDIANA GAZETTE, BLAIRSVILLE DISPATCH AND SHOPPER'S GUIDE / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

At the request of Lisa Spencer, Department of Human Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a contract with The Indiana Gazette, Blairsville Dispatch and Shopper's Guide to provide advertising services for Covid 19 vaccinations for residents in the amount of \$6,051.00.

CONTRACT...THE PUNXSUTAWNEY SPIRIT / DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

At the request of Lisa Spencer, Department of Human Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a contract with The Punxsutawney

Spirit to provide advertising services for Covid 19 vaccinations for residents in the amount of \$3,670.00.

CONTRACT AWARD – INDIANA COUNTY FOOD BANK WAREHOUSE RENOVATIONS PROJECT / PLANNING

Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, and on behalf of Stiffler-McGraw & Associates, Inc. and the Indiana County Community Action Program (ICCAP) Board of Directors requested that the Board of Commissioners enter into four prime contract agreements for the Indiana County Food Bank Warehouse Renovations Project Phase II. Total of the combined four contracts seeking approval is \$1,481,613.00. The four contracts are: General Construction, Electrical, Plumbing and HVAC. The work shall be performed at the new warehouse site for the Indiana County Food Bank located at 2131 Shelly Drive in White Township.

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the General Construction Contract with LMJ Contractors, Inc., Bedford, PA in the amount of \$1,147,300. Five eligible bids were received for the General Construction Contract ranging from low bid of \$1,147,300 to high bid of \$1,988,267.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the Electrical Construction Contract with Sheesley Electric, Indiana, PA in the amount of \$115,000.00. Five eligible bids were received for the electrical ranging from low bid of \$115,000.00 to high bid of \$181,400.00.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the Plumbing Contract with Hinkle Plumbing & Heating, Johnstown, PA in the amount of \$60,500.00. Six eligible bids were received for the Plumbing ranging from low bid of \$60,500.00 to high bid of \$119,000.00.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Mr. Keith and carried unanimously to approve the Mechanical Contract with MARC Service, Inc., PA in the amount of \$158,813.00. Three eligible bids were received for the Mechanical ranging from low bid of \$158,813.00 to high bid of \$188,490.00.

The work includes but is not limited to the construction of and finishes for administration office space, new bathroom facilities, electrical upgrades, HVAC systems, warehouse freezer and cooler installation, concrete slab work and other incidental work. Project costs will be covered by Keystone Communities Program (KCP) and 2021 CDBG Funds.

CONTRACT MODIFICATION – 2018 CDBG INDIANA COUNTY / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve a contract modification to the 2018 CDBG Contract. The contract modification request is to add the Indiana County Food Bank Warehouse Rehabilitation Project activity and allocate unexpended funds from the Peg Run Reservoir Project. The Peg Run activity was completed as originally proposed under estimated costs. It is proposed that the Peg Run activity budget line be decreased by \$29,717.49 from \$232,000.00 to \$202,282.51 and the Food Bank Warehouse activity allocated the \$29,717.49. This request includes the approval of a 3-Year activity extension for the Food Bank activity until April 30, 2023 as had been in place for the Peg Run Reservoir Improvements

Project. All citizen participation requirements have been completed. If approved, the necessary paperwork will be submitted to DCED for final approval.

AGREEMENT – 2022-2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to enter into a contract with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation for the 2022-2024 Unified Planning Work Program. The total amount of the contract is \$28,850.00 which is to be used for administration and support of transportation planning within Indiana County. The contract requires that \$7,212.00 or 20% of equivalent staff time be provided as match towards the contract. The contract period is retroactive to July 1, 2022, and runs through June 30, 2024.

LIQUID FUELS – COUNTY AID – CANOE TOWNSHIP / PLANNING

At the request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made Mr. Keith, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to authorize the Chief Clerk to submit the necessary Liquid Fuels funding encumbrance to PennDOT District-10 for an Application for County Aid on behalf of Canoe Township for an allocation of \$11,724.00 to partially offset eligible project costs for Winter Maintenance expenditures, including anti-skid material, salt and stone. The total estimated project costs are \$23,448.00. The proposed County Aid allocation represents approximately 50% of the total project costs. The remaining project funding sources have been expended by Canoe Township for safety improvements to install guiderail for Bridge T-900 Church Road. The guardrail was deemed unsafe and had to be replaced.

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

At the request of Matthew Budash, County Solicitor, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, PC to represent Indiana County in the Republican National Committee Litigation.

BOARD APPOINTMENT...TRI-COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the appointments of Jennifer Eckels and Denise McQuown-Hatter to the Tri-County Workforce Development Board; terms will expire September 30, 2025.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Gorman announced IUP Homecoming is October 1st. There will be a Courthouse open house on October 20th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. including an ICCAP Food Drive. Commissioner Keith announced the Courthouse will be closed on Monday October 10th in observance of the Columbus Day Holiday.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...OCTOBER 12, 2022 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 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 Mr. Keith to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Secretary

R. Michael Keith, Chairman