



**2017**

**Indiana 15 Board Members for 2017**

**Crawford County**

Mr. Morton Dale, County 812-739-2415  
Mr. Bill Breeding, County 812-633-4493  
Ms. Patricia Hahus, Alton 812-719-9245  
Mr. Michael Benham, English 812-338-2800  
Mr. Whitney Timberlake, **Chair**, L'Worth\* 812-739-4528  
Mr. Michael Haverstock, Marengo 812-365-2121  
Mr. Bill Byrd, Milltown\* 812-633-4494

**Orange County**

Mr. Don Brewer, County 812-936-4491  
Mr. Rudy Freeman, County\* 812-936-2249  
Mr. Matt Henderson, County 812-723-0010  
Mr. Jim Springer, French Lick 812-936-4101  
Mr. Mike H. Fields, Orleans 812-865-2547  
Mr. Gary Barnett, Paoli 812-723-2491  
Ms. Ann Pinto, West Baden Springs 812-401-0473

**Pike County**

Mr. Brian Davis, County 812-354-3760  
Mr. Edwin Boyd, County 812-354-8893  
Mr. Mike Goodpaster 812-354-6584  
Mr. Todd Meadors, County 812-354-7650  
Ms. Fran Lewis, Petersburg\* 812-354-9791  
Mr. Ronald Beadles, Spurgeon 812-789-3054  
Mr. Jeff Bolin, Winslow 812-789-2160

**Governor's Appointee**

Stephen Bartels, Indiana\* 812-446-1326

**Dubois County**

Mr. Nick Hostetter, County 812-661-7397  
Ms. Charmian Klem, County 812-683-4265  
Ms. Timothy Lehr, Huntingburg 812-827-3105  
Mr. Greg Schnarr, Jasper 812-630-8744  
Mr. Clyde Huff, Birdseye 812-389-2419  
Ms. Beverly Schulthise, **Treasurer**, Ferdinand\* 812-367-1470  
Mr. Michael V. Ellis, Holland\* 812-536-5800

**Perry County**

Mr. Larry James, County 812-719-8447  
Mr. Calvin Cash III, County 812-836-4709  
Mr. Thomas Hauser, County\* 812-836-2312  
Ms. Tara Damin, **Secretary**, County\* 812-608-0617  
Mr. Joe Hermann, Cannelton 812-547-5503  
Mr. Chris Cail, Tell City 812-547-3109  
Mr. Bernard Linne, Troy 812-772-2746

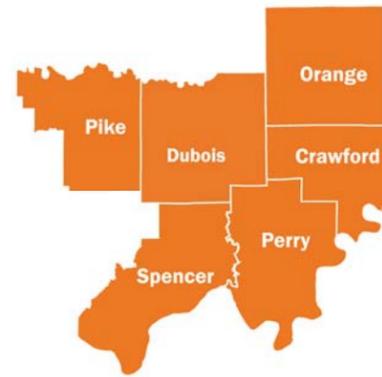
**Spencer County**

Mr. Al Logsdon, **Vice-Chair**, County\* 812-544-2898  
Mr. Todd Ruxer, County 812-357-2650  
Ms. Gay Ann Harney, Rockport\* 812-649-2242  
Mr. Mason Seay, Chrisney 812-686-3797  
Mr. Don Wertman, Dale 812-937-2613  
Mr. Angie Fischer, Grandview 812-686-1403  
Mr. Michael Johannes, Santa Claus 812-544-2127

\*Executive Board Member

**STAFF MEMBERS**

Lisa Gehlhausen	Executive Director	lisa@ind15rpc.org
Nathan Held	Senior Project Administrator	nathan@ind15rpc.org
Cheri Taylor	Project Assistant	ctaylor@ind15rpc.org
Sarah Kinder	Financial Administrator	sarah@ind15rpc.org
Nick Goodwin	Technical Services Specialist	ngoodwin@ind15rpc.org



**2017**

**Year In Review**

*In this Issue*

**Page—Item**

- 2—New Employee College Intern CEDS
- 3—Paoli Wastewater Proctor House Preservation Rockport Preservation
- 4—IARC Award EDA Planning Grant Save the Date!
- 5—Pike County Entrepreneurship & Technology Center Perry County Port & Rail Efficiency Capacity & Efficiency Project (PRECEP) Marengo Wastewater Study Huntingburg Market Street Park
- 6—Rockport Art Park Dale Wastewater Plan Cannelton Stormwater Parklands of Jasper
- 7—GIS User Group Hosted INDOT Transportation Planning Traffic Counts
- 8—Community Crossings SAM Code Book Updates Income Surveys
- 9—Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund CDBG Training Leavenworth Police Car Ferdinand Old Town Lake Trail
- Back—Board Members Staff

**Executive Director's Notes**



Thank you to those who have made 2017 a success!

The Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission strives to strengthen local governments and communities related to community and economic development. This newsletter reviews some of the projects we partnered on during the past year. None of this would be possible without the cooperation among the local units of government, our Board of Directors and you.



A sincere thank you to all our Board of Directors and especially Whitney Timberlake, appointed by the Town of Leavenworth, for serving as Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission's Chairperson for 2017.

The Board of Directors is made up of 43 members appointed by units of local government in the counties of Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry, Pike, and Spencer Counties. (The 2017 Board of Directors are listed on the back page of this newsletter). Members are certified annually with the terms expiring December 31 of each year. The majority of the board is local elected officials.

We want to recognize the Board of Directors' unique commitments to helping Indiana 15 and their respective communities. We see many reasons to be hopeful about the future of this region and look forward to serving you in 2018.

Everyone at the Commission wishes you a happy and prosperous new year!

*Lisa Gehlhausen*  
Executive Director



**New Employee**



The Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission has a new Technical Services Specialist. Nick Goodwin joined Indiana 15 RPC in March.

Nick is responsible for performing traffic counts and preparing/ updating base and zone maps of communities within the region utilizing our in-house GIS software. He also performs administrative and financial management duties relative to the transportation grants.

Prior to his arrival at Indiana 15, Nick worked as a GIS Analyst. He graduated from Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois with a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Geography.

Nick is a life-long St. Louis Cardinals fan. Welcome to the team Nick!

**CEDS**

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is prepared by Indiana 15 RPC to analyze the economy of the region. This strategy is used to define goals and objectives of our communities. The CEDS is designed to develop a regional plan of action by integrating the region’s human and physical capital planning in the service of economic development. This planning provides the flexibility to utilize regional unique advantages to maximize economic opportunity for residents.

A CEDS must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process developed with diverse public and private sector participation, and must set forth goals and objectives necessary to solve economic development problems of the region and clearly define the metrics of success. Indiana 15 will be appointing a CEDS Strategy Committee to represent the main economic interests of the Region soon. Private sector, public officials, community leaders, workforce development, higher education, minority and labor groups, and private individuals are being sought to represent the Region. Please give us a call if you are willing to serve on the CEDS Strategy Committee.

Various funding agencies look at the CEDS for a prioritization process of regional needs. The CEDS is used to assess where the region is economically, where we want to be, and how we get there.

The 2018 Annual CEDS Performance Report is due April 30, 2018. Each community is being requested to submit prioritized projects before February 14, 2018.

**2017 College Intern**

Cameron Mendel, from Jasper, attends Indiana University in Bloomington. He is majoring in Human Resource Management through the School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Cameron completed a 2017 summer internship with Indiana 15 RPC. During his internship, he drafted an update to the Indiana 15 Personnel Manual. He also assisted with the Orleans Code Book project.

Cameron also helped with traffic counts and gathering traffic data for Indiana 15.



**Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund**

The Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has assisted 24 loan clients in creating or saving an estimated 92 jobs within Crawford County. Since the RLF was founded in 1999, the fund has loaned out more than \$1,118,500 and has leveraged over \$2 million in private investment.

The RLF exists to help entrepreneurs start, expand, or retain businesses in Crawford County. RLF loan recipients are expected to increase investment and disposable revenue in the county and further enhance possibilities for related industry and job opportunities. All RLF loan recipients are required to produce or retain at least one job for each \$10,000 to \$20,000 of RLF investment.

The RLF usually provides the “gap” financing needed to induce local financial institutions to complete a financing package. RLF clients must contribute at least 10% equity, and working capital loans are limited to 50% of total project cost. RLF financing is in the form of a direct loan to an individual or business at variable rates.

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners works with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission to administer and provide technical assistance to the fund. More information about the program can be found at:

[www.selectcrawfordcounty.com/business/incentives](http://www.selectcrawfordcounty.com/business/incentives)

**Ferdinand Old Town Lake Trail**

Indiana 15 RPC assisted the Ferdinand Park Board in securing \$200,000 in grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund program. The Park Board is also providing a \$200,000 match.

The Ferdinand Park and Recreation Board will construct a one-mile walking path around the Ferdinand Old Town Lake, add new restroom facilities, a shelter and parking area. The Old Town Lake is located at East 14th Street.

**CDBG Training**

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission has three Community Development Block Grant certified grant administrators on staff—Lisa Gehlhausen, Nathan Held, and Cheri Taylor. Our continued accreditation ensures proper implementation and administration of the Office of Community & Rural Affairs’ federally-funded CDBG program and benefits the six-county region.



**Leavenworth Police Car**

The Town of Leavenworth received \$50,000 in funding from the United States Department of Agriculture—Rural Development for a new police car. The grant funds were matched with \$17,482.47 in local funds and \$1,275 in Department of Justice grant funds. The new car replaces a 2003 car that had high mileage and steering issues, and had also been used by two previous police departments before coming to Leavenworth.



### Community Crossings

The six-counties that make up the Indiana 15 RPC region were awarded nearly \$7.8 million in Community Crossings funds. The total funds received for use on roads and bridges are:

- Chrisney—\$139,464
- Dale—\$15,483
- Dubois Co.—\$631,347
- Ferdinand—\$445,440
- French Lick—\$670,000
- Gentryville—\$76,061
- Grandview—\$65,481
- Huntingburg—\$396,198
- Jasper—\$1,000,000
- Leavenworth—\$86,527
- Orange Co.—\$477,962
- Orleans—\$387,534
- Paoli—\$229,898
- Perry Co.—\$572,893
- Pike Co.—\$566,318
- Richland—\$188,332
- Rockport—\$410,380
- Santa Claus—\$130,556
- Spencer Co.—\$670,000
- Tell City—\$693,242
- Troy—\$126,282



Pictured are: Joe McGuinness-INDOT Commissioner, Jim Seiler-Spencer County Commissioner, Governor Eric Holcomb and Al Logsdon-Spencer County Commissioner

### System Award Management

**SAM numbers are FREE and extremely important!**

Applications for grant funds require communities to have a System for Award Management (SAM) number. SAM.gov is the official *free*, government-operated website to obtain this number. **There is NO charge to register your entity on SAM.gov.**

If your community already has a SAM number, it needs to be updated annually. Please check the status of your number well in advance of the grant application submission deadline.

Not sure if your community has a SAM number? A search engine is available on the official website - <https://www.sam.gov>. Please have your DUNS number readily available before you start the registration process.

For help registering for a SAM number, please contact the Federal Service Desk at <https://www.fsd.gov/> or call 866-606-8220, or call our office.

### Code Book Updates

Cannelton, Jasper, Orleans, Petersburg and Spurgeon received updates to their respective code books by Indiana 15 in 2017.

If your community would like a quote on Indiana 15 RPC updating your Code Book, please call Lisa Gehlhausen at 812-367-8455.

### Income Surveys

Income surveys by various communities are used to determine eligibility for CDBG Grant Funding. If you have received an income survey, please complete and return to our office for tabulation. These surveys are very important!

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission prepared income surveys for the communities of Birdseye/Jefferson Township, Chrisney, Grandview, and Tell City in 2017.

### Rockport Historic Preservation

The City of Rockport was awarded \$500,000 to historically preserve the former auto parts building located along it's Main Street. The building was constructed in 1870 as a grocery during the time of the emerging interurban railroad. Rockport matched the funds with \$53,719 in local funds and \$2,781 from the Spencer County Community Foundation.

The City of Rockport has watched four buildings torn down within two blocks of this building since the fall of 2015 due to the threat of public safety. They had a feasibility project to investigate whether this building was salvageable and was so excited to find out that it could be saved.

The building has always held a retail establishment where the community gathered and the City wants to give an entrepreneur the opportunity to bring it to life again.



Pictured are: Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Connie Hargis-Rockport Council President, Gay Ann Harney-Mayor, Cheri Taylor-Indiana 15 RPC, Jodi Golden-Executive Director-OCRA



### Paoli Wastewater

The Town of Paoli was awarded \$500,000 to rehabilitate a main sewer line connecting the collection system to the treatment plant. The Town of Paoli will use Cured-in-Place Pipe liner for 4,250 linear feet of pipe, replace two manholes to grade, rehabilitate another manhole, raise two manholes to grade and inspect problem areas with CCTV.

This project will allow the Town to remain on course with an agreed order with Indiana Department of Environmental Management concerning Combined Sewer Overflows.

### Proctor House Preservation

Crawford County and the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society was awarded \$324,000 to historically preserve the Proctor House in Marengo. The Proctor House is the only building in Crawford County on the National Register and is in need of preserving. The Historical Society matched the funds with \$16,000 from the Crawford County Community Foundation and \$20,000 from fundraising.

The Federal-style house was built in the 1830's. The limestone and log timber floor joists used for the house were harvested from the property. Clay bricks were also fired on-site for the house. William Proctor (one of the families) also operated a post office, Leavenworth-Indianapolis stage coach stop and a store business out of the house throughout the years. The house sits along the New Albany-Vincennes Trace, the most popular travel route at the time it was built.

Once the house is restored, the Historical Society plans to stage it as it would have been in the 1800's and operate it as a museum for tours.



Pictured are: Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Bill Piper Crawford County Historical & Genealogical Society-President, Carol Tomlinson-CCHGS-Secretary Cheri Taylor-Indiana 15 RPC, Jodi Golden-Executive Director-OCRA

### IARC Award

Indiana 15 RPC was awarded the 2017 Improving the Quality of Public Infrastructure Award at the Indiana Association of Regional Council's (IARC) Annual Conference. Indiana 15 RPC was recognized for their efforts in assisting the Town of Paoli with their infrastructure needs. The Town of Paoli worked with Indiana 15 RPC and Commonwealth Engineers to identify and prioritize the needed improvements for all three town utilities.

Indiana 15 RPC also assisted the town to secure funding to pay for all the needed improvements. Since 2009, the Town has undertaken almost \$3 million in utility projects and has multiple projects planned through 2019. Indiana 15 RPC realizes that the individual projects in Paoli are no different than any other small community in Indiana; however the cumulative impact is significant.

Region wide, Indiana 15 RPC can lift the Town of Paoli up as an example of community momentum and how knowing the needs, prioritizing those needs and staying focused will allow a community to accomplish a great deal in a short amount of time.



Pictured are: Greg Jones-Chairman of IARC; Nathan Held-Sr. Project Administrator-Indiana 15 RPC; Eric Parsley-Commonwealth Engineers; Mike Harkness-Town of Paoli; Jeanette Tamayo-Chicago Regional Director-Economic Development Administration; Amy Morris-Paoli Clerk-Treasurer; and Lisa Gehlhausen-Executive Director-Indiana 15 RPC.

### Huntingburg Market Street Park

The Huntingburg Market Street Park Steller Project held a groundbreaking on September 26, 2017. Construction is set to be completed by July, 2018.



Pictured are: Ted Seger; John Mundy; Cory Menke; Clayton Boyles; Mayor Denny Spinner; Jodi Golden; and Rachel Steckler.

### EDA Planning Grant

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission receives \$192,628 in planning funds from EDA for a three-year period (\$64,209 annually). This must be matched dollar for dollar by the District. The per capita fees collected by each county are used to match the EDA award. These funds are used to prepare the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), write grant applications for our member governments, pay mileage to board meetings, training, and other economic and community planning activities.

The citizens and their officials in the region realize the quality and long-term benefits of regional planning.

### GIS User Group Hosted

Indiana 15 hosted the Southwest Indiana GIS User Group on August 22, 2017. Twenty-six people attended the meeting which centered around drones and how they relate to Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Live demonstrations were given outside the building. Presentations included persons from: Epic Imagery, Precision Capture, Frontier Geospatial and Vanderburgh County EMA.

Kent Park with Woolpert, also gave an update on the progress of the statewide imagery and Lidar across the State of Indiana.



### Traffic Counts

The Commission partnered with the Indiana Department of Transportation to provide traffic count data on the non-state-owned federal aid route stations. This year, 19 counts were completed in Pike County and 32 counts were completed in Dubois County. This was the final year of this 3-year contract.

The vehicle volume and classification data is used for state planning and other activities. All our traffic count data can now be viewed on the interactive map at:

<http://indot.ms2soft.com/tcds/>

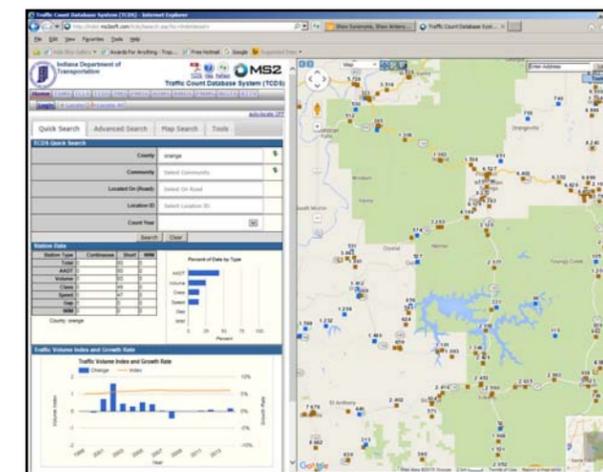


### INDOT Transportation Planning

In the spring of 2017, Nick Goodwin with the assistance of fellow staff, conducted 29 traffic counts on locally maintained roads on the functional classification system in Pike County. Also, 31 at-grade railroad crossings received a railroad inventory, a collection of data about the safety features of the rail. Twenty of the 31 railroad crossings also received a traffic count.

The traffic counts are part of a grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation's Small Urban and Rural Transportation Planning Grant. Counts are underway in Dubois County for the 2017-2018 grant.

In addition to traffic counts, planning support to local governments as well as a base map of the Town of Milltown is included with the 2017-2018 grant.



### Rockport Art Park

The City of Rockport was awarded a \$50,000 Place Based Investment Fund grant to construct a park in their downtown. The park will include a gazebo, sidewalks, benches, public art installations, a water feature, lighting and electrical.

The City and the Association for a Better Rockport worked with an artist on a mural last year that serves as a backdrop for the park. Upon completion, the Art Park will be a go-to place for hosting community events, parties and celebrations. With these improvements, the City is hoping to create a stronger social connection to increase and lengthen downtown visitation which will positively impact the local economy and enhance the historic area where Rockport began.

The City is matching the grant funds with \$62,579.30 cash match and \$25,000 in-kind.

### Dale Wastewater Plan

The Town of Dale received a \$35,000 grant to study their entire wastewater collection system. The study will evaluate the current system and processes, offer alternatives along with cost estimates, and give a recommended course of action for the Town.

The wastewater plant was built in 1989 with some upgrades in 2003. The system has old clay pipes installed in 1964 that are broken allowing ground water to intrude during rain events. The Town is seeking solutions through this study.

The Town contributed \$5,000 to the study.

### Cannelton Stormwater

The City of Cannelton was awarded a \$35,000 grant to perform a Stormwater Utility Study. The study will focus on areas that experience regular flooding.

Areas of the city are experiencing flooded roads and yards and collapsed drainage tiles.

The study will detail the existing facilities and their condition, health and safety concerns, the current system operation and management and any future growth concerns. After studying current issues, the plan will detail alternatives along with costs estimates of each alternative.

The City of Cannelton contributed \$5,000 local match to the project.

### Parklands of Jasper

The Jasper City Park and Recreation Board received a Indiana Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund Program grant in the amount of \$200,000. The funds will be used to construct multi-use pedestrian and bicycling paths.

This project is a priority in the five-year Park and Recreation Master Plan. The City of Jasper contributed a local match of \$200,000 for this project.



**Pike County Entrepreneurship and Technology Center**

The Pike County Progress Partners, Inc. was awarded \$787,500 from the Economic Development Administration to construct a new 9,400 (approximately) square foot Entrepreneurship and Technology Center. The center will include co-working space, makers space, and training space with offices and a conference room. Construction will also include storm sewer, water main, sanitary sewer improvements, parking lot, access roadways and related appurtenances.

The center will be used for start-up companies, transition employment and entrepreneurship. Progress Partners, Inc. is also contributing \$537,500 in local funds to this project.

**2017 RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<u>County Investment</u>		<u>State/Fed Funds Awarded</u>
\$4,821	Crawford	\$506,624
\$18,850	Dubois	\$3,053,408
\$8,928	Orange	\$518,950
\$8,702	Perry	\$2,090,950
\$5,780	Pike	\$806,450
\$9,428	Spencer	\$1,262,284
<b>\$56,509</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,238,666</b>

**Marengo Study**

The Town of Marengo was awarded \$30,000 for a study on the wastewater utility. The treatment plant was built in 1983, with additions in 1996 and improvements in 2000. The collection system was also installed in 1983.

The engineers gathered residential input during two public meetings and studied the entire wastewater system.

The study resulted in the recommendation of five alternatives to be considered. The Town is proceeding with an application to make improvements to the treatment plant and one of the pump stations.

**Perry County Port & Rail Efficiency Capacity & Efficiency Project**

The Perry County Port Authority was awarded \$2,037,600 from the Economic Development Administration to make improvements to Hoosier Southern Railway Lamar Industrial spur; remove and reconstruction of the Santa Claus Industrial Lead; replace two spur tracks near Waupaca Foundry; installation of a “Y” at the Santa Claus interchange; construction of a new Pestalozzi Street spur; construct additional length of track to the Tell City Industrial Park; construct rail near the Tell City River Port; construct a new 600’ spur at the Tell City River Port; and the reconnection and resurfacing of 4.5 miles of the main Hoosier Southern Railway at the new spur improvement locations.

This EDA project also includes water supply improvements and a rail transload facility. Tell City River Port unloading/loading and storage enhancements are also proposed. These improvements will enable the economic climate to continue to strengthen and grow in Perry and Spencer Counties. The Perry County Port Authority is contributing \$2,037,600 in local matching funds to this project.

