

**Minutes of the February 28, 2023  
Executive Board Meeting of the  
Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Paul Lorey called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Balaji Kashyab performed roll call; eight members were present. Nathan Held and Cheri Taylor of the Commission were also in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

Chair Paul Lorey presented the minutes from the Executive Board meeting held October 25, 2022. Melanie Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Beverly Schulthise and motion carried. Randy Cole abstained.

**AGENDA: ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Chair Paul Lorey called for additional agenda items. Mr. Held asked for a discussion on how meeting information is distributed to the Board – electronic/hardcopy be added to the agenda.

Vice-Chair Jon Craig proposed an electronic option only be available to members wanting to receive meeting information via email. After discussion it was determined Board members could “opt-in” to receive only electronic meeting information.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Beverly Schulthise gave the Treasurer's Report. As of February 21<sup>st</sup> receipts were \$88,436.45 and disbursements were \$20,006.11. Since the report was printed, additional receipts were \$11,093.60 and disbursements were \$23,859.71. The actual total cash balance is \$810,776.77. The total aging schedule was \$32,551.64. There is one 12-month CD totaling \$250,000.00 and \$400,000.00 investment in TrustINdiana. The restricted savings has a balance of \$6,500.89. Tom Brown made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Randy Cole and motion carried.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Chair Paul Lorey called for the Director's Report from Executive Director Nathan Held. Mr. Held reported on projects as follows:

- Lindsey Hoffman submitted the INDOT SURP FY2024 grant proposal last week totaling \$39,844.00. Our local match is \$9,179, these funds come from our per capita fees. This planning grant allows the Commission to perform traffic counts in our region. This year counts will be conducted in Dubois County. The award will be announced mid-summer.
- The Commission submitted a region-wide Brownfields application to EPA in the amount of \$500,000. This is a competitive program. If funded, a consultant will be selected to conduct Phase I and Phase II studies of identified brownfield sites. These could turn into a clearance project through OCRA. This is a four-year grant with no local match required. The Commission does contribute in-kind funds to this project. We will know more in April or May 2023. If funded, a Brownfields committee will be created to assess sites in the region.
- Lisa Gehlhausen submitted an \$11.5 million RAISE application to USDOT on behalf of the Perry County Port Authority for rail replacement. A request was made to the State to cover the local match for the project. This request was committed before the application was submitted so no local funds will be used for the project. This program is very competitive.
- Leah Hawkins is working on a \$1.2 million EDA application to extend Steel Road by Waupaca.
- Nathan Held submitted a \$1.1 million EDA application to add a back-up water supply in Jasper. Additional information was requested and has been sent. Awards will be announced in the next couple months.
- We have two OCRA Round 1 applications under development. Proposals are due in April and applications are due in June. Leah is working on the Huntingburg Senior Center and Nathan is developing Chrisney Wastewater. Orleans and Paoli applications submitted last round were not funded. There will be follow-up site visits with OCRA to determine why they were not funded. We have requested a member of OCRA staff in addition to our community liaison attend this meeting.
- CEDS update – five chapters have been received for review from Taylor Siefker Williams. Projects are also being scored. The CEDS document will be open for 30-day public review before it is submitted to EDA.

## Executive Board Meeting

February 28, 2023

Page 2

- OCRA is starting a new program – Owner Occupied Rehabilitation (OOR). This program was taken over from IHDC. Dubois County/Jasper Help is using ARPA funds as the local match and have selected OOR as their project for \$700,000 and \$300,000 to Tri-Cap for childcare. The Commission met with SIDC to discuss the program requirements for personnel. A discussion followed on continuing this program on a region-wide basis.
- Nathan continues to meet with County's and Communities. He started with 39 meetings on his calendar and has 12 left. The office continues to have bi-weekly staff meetings. The Executive Director evaluation will be discussed in April at the Full Board meeting.
- READI update – projects are moving along. On March 10<sup>th</sup> at VUJC there will be a presentation and overview of what READI projects have been funded. The Commission is administering READI funds for Indiana First. READI 2 is coming soon, it is in the State legislature now.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Cyber insurance –  
Amtrust Cyber Services is a Cleveland based company that focuses on small businesses. They have an aggregate limit of \$250,000. The annual cost is \$945. This covers direct loss and third-party liability with a \$2,500 deductible. Evolve is a Lloyd's of London backed company. They provide \$1 million total liability. The annual cost is \$3,116. The Commission will determine equipment requirements for Amtrust and report in March.
- Employee Errors & Omission insurance –  
The Commission has obtained two quotes, one from CNA and one from Traveller's. CNA is for \$1 million with a deductible of \$2,500. The annual cost is \$1,715. Traveller's is for \$1 million with a \$1,000 deductible. The annual cost is \$1,626. The Commission is waiting on clarification in the wording of the Traveller's quote. The Commission will look into comparing a quote with similar deductibles.
- Building study update – Universal Design took measurements of the building. Hopefully a recommendation will be ready in March.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Dinner meeting update – The date is set for October 24<sup>th</sup>. The Governor has been invited to speak. The Commission will be asking for sponsorships. There will be around 300 giveaways in the form of a notebook and pen. Melanie Barrett made a motion to approve the purchase of notebooks and pens not to exceed \$4,000, seconded by Beverly Schulthise and motion carried.

### Resolutions for Approval

None Presented

### Contracts for Approval

- Ferdinand Code; sum of \$1,951.92  
Beverly Schulthise made a motion to approve the Ferdinand Code contract seconded by Melanie Barrett and motion carried.

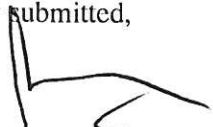
### Other

None Presented

### ADJOURN

There being no further discussion or business to come before the Executive Board, Chair Paul Lorey called for a motion to adjourn. Motion for adjournment was made by Tom Brown, seconded by Balaji Kashyab and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm. The Executive Board will meet next on Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Balaji Kashyab, Secretary  
BK/lh