

**Minutes of the June 27, 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. Paul Lorey, Jon Craig, Balaji Kashyab, Beverly Schulthise, Bill Byrd, Randy Cole, and Joni Stafford were present. Nathan Held and Cheri Taylor of the Commission and Eric Whittaker, media were also in attendance.

**AGENDA: ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Chair Paul Lorey called for additional agenda items. None were presented.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA**

Chair Paul Lorey presented the minutes from the Executive Board meeting held May 23, 2023. Jon Craig made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bill Byrd and motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Beverly Schulthise gave the Treasurer's Report. As of June 16<sup>th</sup> receipts were \$11,500.00 and disbursements were \$33,637.29. Since the report was printed, additional receipts were \$23,259.07. The actual total cash balance is \$764,299.62. The total aging schedule was \$56,013.66. There is one 12-month CD totaling \$250,000.00 and \$404,500.00 investment in TrustINDiana. The restricted savings has a balance of \$8,502.21. Bill Byrd made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit, seconded by Joni Stafford 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:

- Staff are busy preparing OCRA applications to submit by the end of this week.
- Jessica Condra is assisting Pike County Economic Development with an application through the Department of Labor for a Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant. They will be applying for a \$2 million grant. No match is required. If awarded this fall the Commission will administer the grant.
- There is a new program called Economic Recovery Corp through the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), Economic Development Administration (EDA), and National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). The goal of this program is to place up to 65 fellows in regions throughout the nation. These are early to mid-career professionals who would assist a region with a significant idea/need to solve. They will not be staff of the host organization but are a contracted employee of IEDC. It is a 2.5-year commitment. There is no cost to a host organization, all costs are covered through the program. The only expectation is a member of the host organization spends seven to eight hours a week with the fellow. Nathan Held submitted a letter of interest last week. Discussion among Board members proceeded.
- In May it was announced the Commission was awarded a \$500,000 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. The Commission is providing \$10,000 in-kind funds towards this grant. Four counties were required to be named as Coalition Counties for the grant. These include Crawford, Orange, Dubois, and Pike. Although not named as part of the Coalition Counties, Perry and Spencer Counties will be part of the assessments conducted in the region. October 1<sup>st</sup> is the actual award date; at that time a Brownfields Committee will be established to go through the process of selecting a consultant. This is a four-year grant for Phase I and Phase II assessments. Nathan Held will be attending the Brownfield Conference in August in Detroit.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Cyber Security – An application was previously completed for the Traveller's cyber insurance. Additional items were requested for review.
- Building improvements – Universal Design has completed the HVAC design and are starting on the exterior wall details. Plans should be ready in the next couple of weeks to advertise for quotes.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

- Report on Executive Session. The Commission continues to move in the right direction under Nathan Held's leadership. Another Executive Session is scheduled before the July Executive Board meeting at 5:45 eastern time to discuss compensation.

Resolutions for Approval

None presented

Resolutions to Recommend to the Full Board

None presented

Contracts for Approval

None presented

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 Randy Cole, seconded by Balaji Kashyab and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm. The Executive Board will meet next on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 with Executive Session prior to regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Balaji Kashyab, Secretary  
BK/lh