

# INDIANA 15 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

# NEWS

## 2019 Year In Review

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### Executive Director's Notes

*T*hank you for another great year!



We wish to thank all those who have made 2019 a success. None of this would be possible without the cooperation among the local units of government, our Board of Directors and each of you.

Since 1973, Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission has assisted its local governments and communities in an effort to improve community and economic conditions in the six-county area. This newsletter reviews some of the projects we partnered on during the past year.

A sincere thank you to our Board of Directors, listed on the back of this newsletter, and especially Al Logsdon, appointed by Spencer County, for serving as Chair.

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. The majority of the board is local elected officials. Members are appointed annually with the terms expiring December 31 of each year. At our January meeting, a member is elected from each of our six-counties to serve as a representative on the Executive Board. We want to recognize the Boards' commitment to support the region and their respective communities. Regional governments continue to enhance relationships across boundaries with a collaborative purpose.

Again, thank you for a great 2019! Everyone at the Commission wishes you a happy and prosperous new year and look forward to serving you in 2020.

*Have  
a  
great  
year  
ahead!*

*Lisa Gehlhausen*

Executive Director

## CDBG Training

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission has four Community Development Block Grant certified grant administrators on staff—Lisa Gehlhausen, Nathan Held, Cheri Taylor, and Jenny Matheis. 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.



## EDA Planning Grant

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission receives \$210,000 in planning funds from EDA for a three-year period (\$70,000 annually). This will be matched with \$140,000 by the District. The per capita fees collected by each county are used toward the local share of 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 merits and long-term benefits of regional planning.

## 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. \*The process changed for 2018. The change included the need for a notarized letter designating an administrator of each SAM.gov account. Please check the status of your number well in advance of the grant application submission deadline since it may need to coincide with city/town/county meetings.

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.

## 2019 College Intern



Clay Zeigler, from Evansville, Indiana, attends Ball State University. He is majoring in Geography with a concentration in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Clay completed a 2019 summer internship with Indiana 15 RPC. During his internship, he obtained experience in performing traffic counts, using AutoCAD and ArcMap, and how local, state, and federal governments connect through mapping applications. Clay attended the Indiana Geographic Information Council Conference in May to see the effective applications of GIS in Indiana.

The Commission appreciates all of Clay's help and hard work this summer.

## C E D S

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. This planning provides the flexibility to utilize unique regional 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 soon be appointing a CEDS Strategy Committee to represent the main economic interests of the Region. 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 Office of Community and Rural Affairs offers additional scoring points to applications with projects identified in the CEDS document. The CEDS is used to assess where the region is economically, where we want to be, and how we get there. The 2020 Annual CEDS Performance Report is due April 2020. Each community is being requested to submit prioritized projects before February 2020.

## EPA Brownfields

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission is pleased to receive a 2018-2021 award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Commission has achieved impressive brownfield assessment and remediation, and witnessed substantial redevelopment in the recent past as a result of completed 2008-2011 and 2013-2016 EPA Brownfield Assessment programs.

We look forward to reaching redevelopment goals for underutilized properties by conducting Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments throughout the six-county region with this new award. To date 13 sites throughout the region are being assessed.

Lisa Gehlhausen can be contacted at 812-367-8455 for more information about assessing potential brownfields.

## Code Book Updates

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission offers a service to organize ordinances and resolutions in a codebook by topic for quick reference. These codebooks are a great resource to have at your fingertips and available to residents. Code Books are accessible on the Indiana 15 website: [www.ind15rpc.org](http://www.ind15rpc.org).

Birdseye, Cannelton, Chrisney, Ferdinand, Gentryville, Grandview, Jasper, and Orleans received updates to their respective code books by Indiana 15 in 2019.

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



## Revolving Loan Funds

The Tell City Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) exists to assist entrepreneurs in Perry County with starting, expanding or retaining businesses.



Indiana 15 RPC assists the Tell City RLF by working with potential clients, assisting in developing their project and meeting with the Loan Review Committee to potentially offer loan dollars to the business.

For more information on the Tell City RLF, please call the Mayor's office at 812-547-5511.



## Dale Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Dale is developing a Comprehensive Plan to identify objectives for development and to project future land use. The Comprehensive Plan will address economic issues and factors as well as any impediments to growth. The plan will address issues of the overall quality of life for the citizens and the continued improvement of those factors to insure a strong population by examining the infrastructure, transportation, public safety, education, medical facilities, other public facilities, housing, and environment of the community.

The Town was awarded a \$40,000 CDBG Planning Grant through the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, and is contributing a local match of \$5,000.

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 \$1,943,500 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 \$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 work with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission to administer and provide technical assistance to the fund. For more information about the program contact our office or the Crawford County Economic Development office at 812-739-4479.

## 2018 Return on Investments

County Investment		State/Federal Funds Awarded
\$ 4,821	Crawford	\$ 536,259
\$ 18,850	Dubois	\$ 704,438
\$ 8,928	Orange	\$ 84,438
\$ 8,702	Perry	\$ 604,038
\$ 5,780	Pike	\$ 124,438
\$ 9,428	Spencer	\$ 661,113
\$ 56,509	Total	\$ 2,714,724



## Map Deliveries

The Town of Milltown's base map was delivered in May 2019.

Indiana Department of Transportation grant funds and funds from Indiana 15 RPC were used for this project. The map shows the Milltown corporate limits, section lines and corners, lot numbers, platted streets, state roads, street names, vacated streets, subdivision names, and bodies of water.



Pictured are: Justin Barnes-Town Manager, Jeannie Melton-Council Member, Jerry Mackey-Vice-President, Monty Garrett-President, and Nick Goodwin-IN 15 RPC

Spencer County requested technical assistance to update the County Road Map.

The road map displays the county's roads, railroads, bridges, county boundary, townships, section lines, section numbers, and streams. The updated map replaced the existing map at the Spencer County Courthouse. The map was delivered in April 2019.



Pictured are: Nick Goodwin-IN 15 RPC, Jim Seiler-Commissioner, Gina Mullen-Highway Dept., Tom Brown-Commissioner, Dale Kenney-Highway Superintendent, Al Logsdon-Commissioner

## Crawford County Industrial Park

The Crawford County Industrial Park was awarded the designation of Indiana Site Certified Silver by Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs in March.

The certification will allow for better marketability and needed swift communication to site selectors. The Indiana Site Certified program validates sites that are ready for economic development.

The Crawford County Industrial Park is a 90 acre site 30 miles from Louisville, KY located within a mile of Interstate 64.



## New OCRA Community Liaison

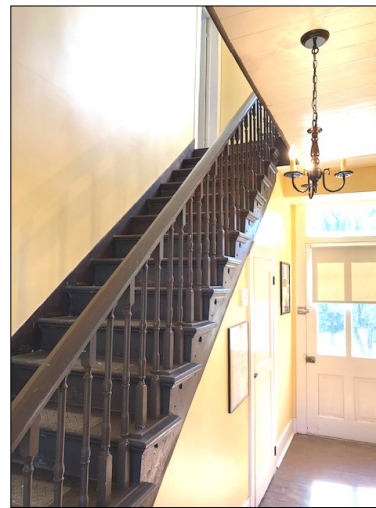


Welcome to our region's new OCRA Community Liaison!

Lisa Muench is the Southwest Community Liaison serving Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Pike, Perry, and Spencer Counties in our region, along with Daviess, Gibson, Harrison, Knox, Lawrence, Martin, Posey, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties.

She can be reached at (317) 504-6965 or [LMuench@ocra.IN.gov](mailto:LMuench@ocra.IN.gov).

## Proctor House Preservation



The Proctor House, a two story clay brick structure, was built in 1832. William Proctor and Abasalom Wood purchased the property from Malachi Monk in 1826. On January 12, 1835 William Proctor was appointed postmaster, changing the name of the location to Proctorville. The home operated as a post office, store and stage coach stop.

The Proctor House was occupied until 2004 when it was turned over to the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society from the Town of Marengo with the hope to preserve the aged home. In 2005, Indiana Landmarks deemed the house worthy of restoration efforts. After many fundraisers and CDBG funding, the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society started preservation work in 2018. Indiana 15 assisted the CCH&GS in the grant award \$324,000 plus \$45,000 local share. On October 14th, 2019, a ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the revival of the Proctor House, showing the beauty it once was. The first floor features a living room, hallway and kitchen. The staircase leads to two bedrooms. One is set up similar to a bedroom of the 1800's, the other will show case memorabilia from surrounding towns. Many of the furnishings for the house were donated from local families. This historical landmark is located on State Road 64, one mile east of Marengo.

### Chrisney Water &

The Town of Chrisney was awarded a \$45,000 planning grant through the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs to perform a Water and Wastewater Utility Study.

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 Town of Chrisney contributed \$5,000 local match to the project.

### Pike County

The Pike County Park & Recreation Master Plan is currently being updated for a submittal date to IDNR by January 2020. The public is encouraged to submit park and recreation needs to Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission at [staff@ind15rpc.org](mailto:staff@ind15rpc.org).





## Jasper Waterline



The City of Jasper started water supply and pressure improvements along US 231, 6<sup>th</sup>, Newton, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Streets in October of 2018.

This project replaced four inch and six inch waterlines with eight inch and twelve inch mains. The total length of the new water main is approximately 13,000 linear feet. The line was upgraded for increased pressure; improved water supply; and improved fire flow. Construction was completed in September 2019.

Economic Development Administration funding of \$1,380,000 and Jasper City funds of \$3,250,000 provided the capital to complete this significant water improvement project. Indiana 15 prepared the grant application, administered the funds, prepared quarterly reporting and submitted the closeout package to EDA.



## Broadband Readiness Program

The Towns of English, Marengo, and Milltown were awarded a \$50,000 grant to study broadband solutions. The Town of Dale was also awarded a \$50,000 grant to study their broadband concerns.

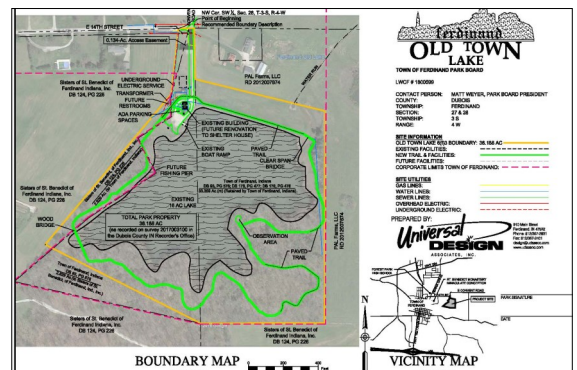
The Broadband Readiness Program is a pilot program from the State. The expected result is for each community to be certified as a Broadband Ready Community, which allows communities to fast-track permits and other community responsibilities if an Internet Service Provider wishes to provide service within the community. Internet Service Providers are encouraged to participate in the planning efforts. The communities are contributing \$5,556 in local funds for each of these two studies.

## Ferdinand Old Town Lake Trail



The Ferdinand Old Town Lake, located at East 14th Street, started park & recreation improvements in June 2019.

A one-mile, eight-foot wide, accessible path will circle the lake. Fundraising for future improvements, such as picnic shelter, restrooms, fishing pier, parking and trail amenities, are in process.



Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation is providing \$200,000 in grant funds through the Land & Water Conservation Program and local funds of \$275,000 are also contributing for this initial phase.

### Cannelton Stormwater



Construction started in March to improve the City of Cannelton's storm drainage system.

Three areas of the City received improvements, Pleasant Valley, Knight Street, and Dodge Street and Herzele Street. Improvements in these areas included new storm sewer, inlets, manholes, and restoration of curbing, sidewalk, asphalt pavement, stone and yard/grass areas and digging out and regrading existing ditches.

Construction was completed in October. This project was funded through an OCRA grant of \$5000,000, with \$157,100 in local funds.

### Grandview Water

The Town of Grandview was awarded a \$491,675 grant for water system improvements through OCRA.

Improvements will include construction of a new water production well, installation of upgraded well and treatment plant controls, 2-inch and 4-inch water main line replacement and new 6-inch water main for looping of system, replacement of 6-inch gate valves throughout system, replacement of 5 ¼ - inch Fire Hydrant Assemblies, and 2-inch and 8-inch road crossing directional bore for the water main.

The Town of Grandview is contributing \$123,600 in local funds to the project.



### Holland Water

The Town of Holland was awarded a \$600,000 grant for a new tank in the Town of Stendal and rehabilitation to a tank in the Town of Holland.

The existing, 51 year old 20,000 gallon tank at Stendal will be demolished, and an adjacent new 50,000 gallon multi-legged elevated tank will be constructed. At the Holland location, the existing 200,000 gallon tank will undergo major rehabilitation work consisting of replacing the interior and exterior coatings, replacing the interior ladder, installation of new vent, and the installation of a bolted manway.

The Town of Holland is contributing \$532,000 in local funds to the project through a loan from the Indiana State Revolving Loan Program (SRF).



### Paoli Wastewater



The Town of Paoli was awarded \$500,000 in CDBG funds to rehabilitate the East and West Wastewater Interceptor through OCRA.

The interceptor is divided into the West Interceptor and the East Interceptor, with the treatment plant between the two. The rehabilitation will be accomplished through the installation of Cured-in-Place Pipe liner, which is essentially installing a new pipe within the existing pipe. This project was completed in June 2019.

The Town contributed a local match of \$151,100.



### NSOFAR Traffic Counts

In 2018 the Commission partnered with the Indiana Department of Transportation to provide traffic count data on the non-state-owned federal aid route stations. The contract will run through December 31, 2021 and Indiana 15 will receive \$28,290 for traffic count collection. From 2019-2021, all six counties will receive traffic counts through this contract.

Year 1 - 2019 traffic counts were completed in Orange, Perry and Spencer Counties.

Year 2 - 2020 traffic counts will be conducted in Dubois County.

Year 3 - 2021 traffic counts will be conducted in Crawford and Pike Counties.

The vehicle volume and classification data is used for state planning and other activities. This traffic data can be viewed on the interactive map at <http://indot.ms2soft.com/tcds/>

### INDOT Transportation Planning

In the spring of 2019, traffic counts were completed on locally maintained roads on the functional classification system in Crawford County. In total, 46 counts were completed. Also, 13 at-grade railroad crossings received a railroad inventory, and a collection of data about the rail safety features. Six of the 13 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. Traffic Counts will be conducted in Perry County for the 2019-2020 grant.

In addition, planning support to local governments is included with the 2019-2020 grant.

### Community Crossings Matching Grant

In October, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) announced 229 Indiana cities, towns, and counties received a combined \$99.2 million in state matching funds for local road projects through the Next Level Roads: Community Crossings Initiative. 21 Communities in the Indiana 15 region were awarded \$10,431,170 of the \$99.2 million available. To participate in the CCMG program, developing and submitting a Road Asset Management Plan to LTAP is required.

Congratulations to the following communities in the Indiana 15 RPC region:

Cannelton	\$ 242,134	Leavenworth	\$ 168,810
Chrisney	\$ 66,274	Orange County	\$ 975,604
Crawford County	\$ 838,838	Paoli	\$ 392,492
Dale	\$ 905,425	Perry County	\$ 1,127,658
Dubois County	\$ 938,876	Petersburg	\$ 290,220
English	\$ 69,398	Pike County	\$ 960,208
Ferdinand	\$ 638,274	Santa Claus	\$ 131,070
Gentryville	\$ 84,393	Spencer County	\$ 1,000,000
Grandview	\$ 59,740	Tell City	\$ 417,761
Huntingburg	\$ 268,326	West Baden	\$ 638,795
Jasper	\$ 216,875		



### Indiana Association of Regional Councils

Through the Indiana Association of Regional Councils, Executive Directors find value in discussing current topics, the benefits of regional planning, and state wide collaboration. IARC meets monthly. The Executive Director is Brian Long. The September 2019 - September 2020 IARC officers are James Turnwald, President; Lisa Gehlhausen, Vice President; and Neil Stevenson, Secretary-Treasurer.

## Petersburg Downtown Clearance

The City of Petersburg was awarded a \$406,000 grant through OCRA to eliminate blight at 608/606 Main Street in downtown Petersburg.

The buildings were constructed before 1886. The front facades will not be demolished to maintain the integrity of the downtown. Work includes demolition and disposal of the rear of the buildings, basement walls and floor, foundation and support for the existing facade. The clearance will require precise demolition and remediation by hand and small machinery because of the location and existing adjacent buildings.

The City is contributing \$46,000 in local funds to the project.



## Perry County Rome Courthouse



The Perry County Rome Courthouse was awarded a \$20,000 grant for historic preservation study through OCRA.

The historic preservation study will examine the current physical

conditions of the building, and interior and exterior structural issues. The study will look at what the next steps are in the implementation of the preservation plan, cost estimates for the necessary work, and potential uses of the building.

Perry County is contributing \$3,500 in local funds.

## Cannelton Old Gym

The City of Cannelton was awarded a \$20,000 grant through OCRA to perform a feasibility study on the Old Cannelton Gym.

The current physical conditions of the structure will be studied, including structural issues, known environmental hazards, ADA accessibility, and mechanical, electrical, and plumbing. The historical significance of the building will be outlined. Based on community input, a future use will be presented, as well as a preliminary design.

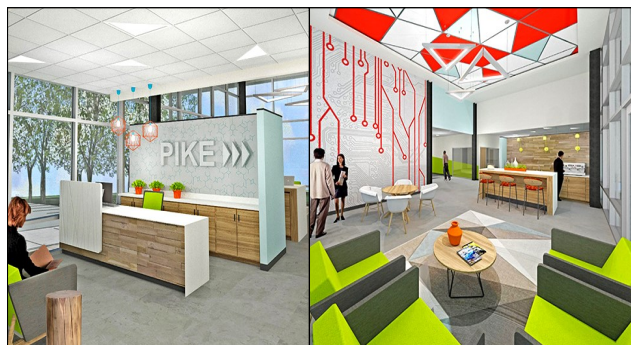
The City of Cannelton contributed \$3,500 local match to the project.



## Pike County Entrepreneurship and Technology Center

In 2019, the Pike County Progress Partners, Inc. was awarded \$2,060,000 from the Economic Development Administration to construct a new 8,775 square foot Entrepreneurship and Technology Center, near Interstate 69. September of 2019, bids were opened for construction. Pike County Progress Partners, Inc. is contributing local funds of \$515,000 for a total project cost of \$2,575,000.

The center will include co-working space, makers space, and training center with offices and a conference room. The center will be used for start-up companies, transition employment and entrepreneurship.



## Perry County Port & Rail Efficiency & Capacity Enhancement Project



The Perry County Port Authority was awarded \$2,037,600 from the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration to make improvements to Hoosier Southern Railway Lamar Industrial spur; reconstruction of the Santa Claus Industrial Lead; replace spur track 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 included. 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 \$2,413,149 in local matching funds to this project. All three components, water, port and rail, are under construction.



## Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates

Counties in the region have or are in the process of updating their Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans. Having these plans up to date is essential to be eligible for funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and US Department of Homeland Security for natural disaster preparedness projects. The plan needs to be updated every five years to stay current. The plans for the counties in the region will expire as follows: Dubois County - 1/9/24; Orange County - 10/2/23; Perry County - 2/9/21; and Pike County - 9/12/23. Spencer County submitted their plan in August and Crawford County will submit their plan in November to FEMA for review.



# INDIANA 15 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Ferdinand, IN 47532  
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staff@ind15rpc.org



## 2019

### Board Members

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY

Mr. Morton Dale  
Mr. Bill Breeding  
Vacant Appointment  
Mr. Michael Benham  
Mr. R. Whitney Timberlake\*  
Mr. Michael Haverstock  
Mr. Bill Byrd

#### DUBOIS COUNTY

Mr. Nick Hostetter  
Ms. Charmian Klem  
Mr. Larry Altstadt  
Mr. Paul Lorey\*  
Ms. Mary Ann Cummings\*  
Ms. Beverly Schulthise\*  
Mr. Michael V. Ellis

#### ORANGE COUNTY

Mr. Marshall Noble  
Mr. Carl Anderson\*  
Mr. Jack Hinkle County  
Vacant Appointment  
Mr. Mike Fields  
Mr. Gary Barnett  
Mr. John Harrison

#### APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners  
County Council  
Town of Alton  
Town of English  
Town of Leavenworth  
Town of Marengo  
Town of Milltown

#### APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners  
County Council  
City of Huntingburg  
City of Jasper  
Town of Birdseye  
own of Ferdinand  
Town of Holland

#### APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners  
At-large  
Council  
Town of French Lick  
Town of Orleans  
Town of Paoli  
Town of West Baden Springs

#### PERRY COUNTY

Mr. Tom Hauser\*  
Ms. Tara Damin \*  
Mr. Larry James  
Mr. David Etienne  
Mr. Joe Hermann  
Mr. Chris Cail  
Ms. Sharman Jarboe

#### PIKE COUNTY

Mr. Mark Flint  
Mr. Ryan Coleman  
Mr. Jon Craig\*  
Mr. Todd Meadors  
Ms. Fran Lewis  
Ms. Pam Coberly  
Ms. Debra Lamb

#### SPENCER COUNTY

Mr. Al Logsdon\*  
Mr. Todd Ruxer  
Ms. Gay Ann Harney  
Mr. Mason Seay  
Mr. Don Wertman  
Ms. Angie Fischer  
Mr. Michael Johannes\*

#### APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners  
At-large  
At-large  
County Council  
City of Cannelton  
City of Tell City  
Town of Troy

#### APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners  
At-large  
At-large  
County Council  
City of Petersburg  
Town of Spurgeon  
Town of Winslow

#### APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners  
County Council  
City of Rockport  
Town of Chrisney  
Town of Dale  
Town of Grandview  
Town of Santa Claus

\*Executive Board member

#### GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE

Mr. Stephen Bartels \*

### STAFF

Lisa Gehlhausen  
Nathan Held  
Cheri Taylor  
Jenny Matheis  
Lindsey Hoffman

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