

**Minutes of the August 27, 2024
Full Board Meeting of the
Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jon Craig welcomed the Full Board members and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Balaji Kashyab performed roll call; Bill Breeding, Jim Uland, Bill Byrd, Nick Hostetter, Meredith Voegerl, Kerry Blessinger, Jerry Allstott, Beverly Schulthise, Melanie Barrett, Zach Brown, Tony Kendall, Randy Clark, Theron Owen, Randy Cole, Balaji Kashyab, Kelli Harding, Janice Hackbarth, Todd Meadors, Jon Craig, Kullen Cook, Tom Brown, Cathy Kirkpatrick, Angie Fischer and Michael Johannes were present. Nathan Held and Cheri Taylor of the Commission and Jeff Nelson, Pike County Commissioner, were also in attendance.

AGENDA: ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Chair Jon Craig asked for any additions to the agenda. None were presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

Chair Jon Craig presented the minutes from the Full Board meeting held April 23, 2024. Randy Clark made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Nick Hostetter and motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Beverly Schulthise gave the Treasurer's Report. As of August 19th there receipts were \$11,470.47 and disbursements were \$17,780.74. Since the report was printed, additional receipts were \$16,794.00 and disbursements were \$14,053.41. The actual total cash balance is \$620,914.23. The total aging schedule was \$42,407.15. There is one 9-month CD totaling \$250,000.00 and \$311,197.25 investment in TrustINDiana. The restricted savings has a balance of \$10,510.14. Melanie Barrett made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit, seconded by Zach Brown and motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chair Jon Craig turned the meeting over to Nathan Held for the Director's Report as follows:

- Project Status Reports were distributed to all board members for review.
- Four COPS hiring grants were submitted. Cheri Taylor submitted one for Rockport, Jenny Matheis submitted one for Dale. Jessica Condra submitted applications for Petersburg and Santa Claus. Awards will be announced this fall.
- A few applications are under development through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA). An application for ADA accessibility upgrades for the Huntingburg Library is targeted for Round 2 of this year.
- The Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program has been taken over by OCRA from Indiana Housing. After going through several years of pilot programs they are opening up this program with regular funding. These applications will be accepted on a quarterly basis whereas construction project applications are twice a year. Tell City will apply in quarter four of 2024 as long as the timing works with their current clearance project. The Commission is looking for additional applications. The hope is to expand this level of service. If communities would like to apply, please contact the office. Counties can apply for up to \$500,000 with a limit per house of \$25,000.
- Winslow is seeking to apply for a Comprehensive Plan in quarter four of 2024 or quarter one of 2025.
- The Commission continues to administer the READI 1 program for Indiana First and will administer READI 2.0 as well.
- Nathan Held has been working with Darrin Fleener, Economic Development Representative for Indiana with EDA. Darrin is researching options for a project in our region. Six EDA projects are currently being administered. Some will close out soon and new ones will need to be sought after.
- Nathan attended the Stand-Up Rural America Summit on August 1st at French Lick. A national group hosts this summit each year. The next one in 2025 will be held in Amarillo, Texas.
- The Indiana Association of Regional Councils (IARC) Conference is in October. It is a combination of the IARC and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Conferences together. Nathan Held and Lindsey Hoffman will be attending.
- Nathan made members aware he has only been invited to the Perry County budget hearing but has not received invitations from other counties. Per Capita Fees will not increase for 2025. Nathan is planning to attend all County Council and Commissioner meetings in January and February 2025 to give an annual update

of what the Commission has been working on the past year. If anyone has questions on any grants or programs let the Commission know and we will assist the best we can.

- There is one position still being advertised for.
- Cheri Taylor distributed the 2025 proposed budget for board members to review before the October meeting.
- For those not on the Executive Board, our minutes and agendas are available on our website to review what is happening throughout the year.
- Bill Byrd inquired about the Brownfields Assessment grant. The Commission is still accepting site to be assessed and is looking for possible sites in Orange County in particular.

OLD BUSINESS

- Executive Board Update-discussion was made under resolutions for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

- Joe Hermann-in memory and dedication. Nathan Held will be presenting a certificate of appreciation at a future Cannelton Council meeting.
- Mid-Year Budget discussion. Nathan Held went through the 2024 Mid-Year Budget revision and answered questions from the Board.

Resolutions for Approval:

- Joe Hermann-In memory and dedication; Resolution 2024-14
Randy Cole made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-14, seconded by Kelli Harding and motion carried.
- Mid-year budget update; Resolution 2024-16
Beverly Schulthise made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-16, seconded by Michael Johannes. A roll call vote was conducted for approval with 23 members in favor.
- Title changes for staff; Resolution 2024-17
- Salary adjustment for staff; Resolution 2024-18
Jon Craig discussed the open position and what was discussed during the wage committee meetings. Committee members were given packets showing other planning commission salaries and benefits. These were discussed and recommendations for staff salary increases were determined and the impact to the budget. Nathan discussed changes in staff titles and positions.
- Add staff to payroll; Resolution 2024-19
- Schedule of fees update; Resolution 2024-20
Kelli Harding made a motion to combine approval for Resolution 2024-17, 2024-18, 2024-19, and 2024-20, seconded by Melanie Barrett and motion carried. Kullen Cook made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-17, 2024-18, 2024-19, and 2024-20, seconded by Tom Brown and motion carried.

Other:

- None presented.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussions or business to come before the Full Board, Chair Jon Craig called for a motion to adjourn. Motion for adjournment was made by Nick Hostetter, seconded by Michael Johannes and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. The Full Board will meet next on Tuesday, October 22, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Balaji Kashyab, Secretary
BK/lh