

**Minutes of the May 27, 2025
Executive Board Meeting of the
Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jon Craig called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Balaji Kashyab performed roll call; Jon Craig, Randy Clark, Balaji Kashyab, Beverly Schulthise, Shawn Scott, Paul Lorey, Theron Owen, Kullen Cook and Heather Gries were present. Nathan Held and Cheri Taylor of the Commission and Eric Whittaker from the newspaper were also in attendance.

AGENDA: ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Chair Jon Craig called for additional agenda items. None were presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Chair Jon Craig presented the minutes from the Executive Board meeting held March 25, 2025. Beverly Schulthise made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Heather Gries and motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Beverly Schulthise gave the Treasurer's Report. As of May 19th, receipts were \$41,945.85 and disbursements were \$33,549.11. The actual total cash balance is \$735,480.42. The total aging schedule was \$41,550.05. There is one 12-month CD totaling \$250,000.00 and \$310,717.02 investment in TrustIndiana. The restricted savings has a balance of \$12,515.86. Randy Clark made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Theron Owen and motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- State Board of Accounts (SBOA) conducted an audit for 2020 to 2023 with no findings. The report is available on the SBOA website.
- The French Lick Owner Occupied Rehab application was submitted by Jenny Matheis to the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) on May 16th. Awards will be announced June 26th.
- The planning grant application for the Winslow Comprehensive Plan was submitted by Jessica Condra on May 16th. This application was a resubmittal; this is a competitive program and it was not awarded the first time it was submitted. Awards will be announced June 24th.
- Jessica Condra is also working on an application to OCRA for Birdseye wastewater improvements. Nathan Held is working on an application for Grandview for wastewater improvements. Both projects have had proposals submitted and site visits conducted. Applications are due June 20th.
- Nathan Held and Lindsey Hoffman attended a traffic count training in Seymour, Indiana on May 6th hosted by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT).
- The Commission is keeping an eye on State and Federal funding changes. The most critical right now is funding at the federal level. The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) is working on advocacy materials. Primarily, funding for Economic Development Administration (EDA) is critical. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds also come from the federal level. Both programs have the potential to be eliminated. If communities could advocate to legislators for this funding to be continued, please do so. These funding sources have historically made up the bulk of what the Commission has participated in for the last 50 years. Another targeted funding source is EPA. Over the last four rounds of EPA Brownfields Assessments, about \$2 million in grant funds have been awarded for the assessment of 50 to 60 sites in the region.
- The COPS hiring grant through the Department of Justice funding is open for applications. This program funds a new officer not currently included in the budget. This will cover up to 75% of the officer's salary and fringe benefits over a period of three years up to \$125,000. This is a two-step process. First, submit a form on grants.gov due June 25th, and then the application due July 1st on JustGrants.
- Nathan Held plans to send out his Director's Report to all Full Board members following Executive Board meetings to increase communication and information distribution.
- Nathan Held reminded the Board that his performance evaluation is due. Jon Craig proposed an executive session after the June Executive Board meeting to conduct the evaluation.

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- Anthony Tarullo has decided to pursue other employment. The Commission will advertise the open position when the time is right.
- The Commission submitted an application to EDA for a three-year Partnership Planning Program planning grant. This grant is for Economic Development Districts. These funds go towards developing the CEDS and developing projects throughout the region. Awards will be announced mid-June.

OLD BUSINESS

- Summit feedback session – final report. Nathan Held distributed action items discussed. There were three top items - developing a committee structure, developing a master grant database, and blight elimination. After discussion, it was decided that blight elimination could become a committee. The Executive Board will head the committee structure item and the staff will head the database item. These will be reported on at the August Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None presented

Resolutions for Approval

- Authorization to purchase seven workstations; Resolution 2025-08
Paul Lorey made a motion to amend the resolution to remove the vendor and brand, seconded by Heather Gries and motion carried. Heather Gries made a motion to approve amended Resolution 2025-08, seconded by Paul Lorey and motion carried.
- Rescinding Resolution 97-4 – Billing Policy; Resolution 2025-09
Beverly Schulthise made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-09, seconded by Randy Clark and motion carried.
- Replacing Resolution 96-12 – Performance Review; Resolution 2025-10
Heather Gries made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-10, seconded by Theron Owen and motion carried.
- Authorizing local match of \$140,000 for EDA Partnership Planning; Resolution 2025-11
Paul Lorey made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-11, seconded by Kullen Cook and motion carried.
- Authorizing local match of \$7,138.74; Resolution 2025-12
Paul Lorey made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-12, seconded by Kullen Cook and motion carried.

Contracts for Approval

- INDOT 25-26 SURP; sum of \$30,229.95
Paul Lorey made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Kullen Cook and motion carried.
- Tell City OOR; sum of \$28,000
Beverly Schulthise made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Theron Owen and motion carried.

Other

None Presented

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion or business to come before the Executive Board, Chair Jon Craig called for a motion to adjourn. Motion for adjournment was made by Randy Clark, seconded by Kullen Cook and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm. The Executive Board will meet next on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,



~~Balaji Kashyab, Secretary~~ Randy Clark, Vice Chair
BK/lh