

**Minutes of the January 28, 2025
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.

Executive Director Nathan Held introduced himself and invited staff of the Commission to introduce themselves; Jessica Condra – Project Administrator, Jenny Matheis – Housing Administrator, Anthony Tarullo – Project Administrator, Lindsey Hoffman – Project Assistant, and Cheri Taylor – Financial Administrator.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Balaji Kashyab performed roll call; Larry Ingle, Shawn Scott, Mike Haverstock, Bill Byrd, Kerry Blessinger, Paul Lorey, Jerry Allstott, Beverly Schulthise, Melanie Barrett, Carl Anderson, Chad Hager, Dave Wolford, Randy Clark, Theron Owen, Pam Jamniczky, Balaji Kashyab, Cory Filley, Kelli Harding, Janice Hackbarth, Adam Hoffman, Jon Craig, Kullen Cook, Dorothy Julian, Joni Stafford, Heather Gries, David Gogel, Cathy Kirkpatrick, Don Wertman, and Angie Fischer were present. Nathan Held and Cheri Taylor of the Commission, Lisa Rostron-Town of Spurgeon and Jady Hill-French Lick Redevelopment Commission were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

Chair Jon Craig presented the minutes from the Full Board meeting held October 22, 2024. Kerry Blessinger made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Balaji Kashyab and motion carried.

AGENDA: ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Chair Jon Craig asked for any additions to the agenda. Mr. Held asked for Resolution 2025-06, Resolution 2025-07 and Errors and Omissions insurance renewal be added to the agenda. Paul Lorey made a motion to approve the additions to the agenda, seconded by Balaji Kashyab and motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Beverly Schulthise gave the Treasurer's Report. As of January 19th receipts were \$30,674.00 and disbursements were \$38,492.92. Since the report was printed, additional receipts were \$28,750.00 and disbursements were \$14,669.29. The actual total cash balance is \$683,243.57. The aging schedule total is \$102,089.00. There is one 12-month CD totaling \$250,000.00 and \$309,462.75 investment in TrustIndiana. The restricted savings has a balance of \$10,513.84. Bill Byrd made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit, seconded by Don Wertman and motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- Nathan Held welcomed and thanked all Board Members for attending the meeting and stated how important the Board is to the Commission and to their communities. If members hear of any funding opportunities they would like to pursue or would like more information on please reach out.
- Project Status Reports were distributed for members to review. These reports are a detailed listing of work in progress by Commission staff. Mr. Held highlighted a few projects:
 - In December, the City of Tell City was awarded a \$350,000 Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation grant. Jenny assisted the City in securing this grant. This funding is available through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs. Dubois County was awarded similar funding through the HELP program.
 - Nathan Held spoke about the reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) through the US Department of Commerce. Indiana 15 is a designated Economic Development District through EDA and receives planning funds. EDA had not been reauthorized in close to 20 years. EDA was reauthorized with more flexibility and an increase in the percent baseline of grant dollars received. There is also money set aside for coal impacted areas and funding available for disaster recovery.
 - Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is starting to conduct meetings in each county in the Vincennes District to discuss concerns and issues. They have an interactive map available to elected officials and highway departments to help address various concerns.

- Discussed at the last Indiana Association of Regional Councils (IARC) meeting – Purdue and Purdue Extension is doing an American Citizen Planner training for area advisory plan commissions or boards of zoning appeals, interested residents, elected officials, and municipal county or applicable non-profit staff. There is spring, summer, and fall sessions available.

OLD BUSINESS

- 2025 Summit – Invites for the 2025 Regional Summit have been sent out through email. An invitation flyer was distributed to board members also.

NEW BUSINESS

- Election of Officers for 2025 –
 - Bill Byrd made a motion to elect **Jon Craig as Chair** of the Commission, seconded by Melanie Barrett and motion carried.
 - Chad Hager made a motion to elect **Randy Clark as Vice-Chair** of the Commission, seconded by Paul Lorey and motion carried.
 - Paul Lorey made a motion to elect **Beverly Schulthise as Treasurer** of the Commission, seconded by Melanie Barrett and motion carried.
 - Paul Lorey made a motion to elect **Balaji Kashyab as Secretary** of the Commission, seconded by Kerry Blessinger and motion carried.
- Election of County Appointments to the Executive Board – The Board gathered with their fellow county representatives to select a representative to serve as an Executive Committee member. The Executive Board consists of eleven members and meets monthly. The Full Board meets quarterly.
 - **Crawford County** appointed **Shawn Scott** as their representative.
 - **Dubois County** appointed **Paul Lorey** as their representative.
 - **Orange County** appointed **Theron Owen** as their representative.
 - **Perry County** appointed **Adam Hoffman** as their representative.
 - **Pike County** appointed **Kullen Cook** as their representative.
 - **Spencer County** appointed **Heather Gries** as their representative.
 - **Governor's Appointee** is **Stephen Bartels**.Bill Byrd made a motion to approve the County Appointments to the Executive Board, seconded by Larry Ingle and motion carried.
- The Executive Board meeting dates were set for the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. The Full Board meeting dates were set for the 4th Tuesday of January, April, August and October at 6:00 p.m. Heather Gries made a motion to approve the dates of the Executive and Full Board meetings, seconded by Kelli Harding and motion carried.
- Restricted Vehicle Savings Account transfer – Carl Anderson made a motion to transfer \$2,000 from checking into the restricted savings account for the future purchase of a vehicle, seconded by Chad Hager and motion carried.
- Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund (CCRLF) Board – Nathan Held is a member of the CCRLF Board as Executive Director of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission. Shawn Scott made a motion to appoint Bill Byrd and Mike Haverstock to the CCRLF Board, seconded by Larry Ingle and motion carried.
- Appoint CEDS Committee members – This committee will draft a 2025 Annual Report document that prioritizes projects and fulfills a requirement of the Economic Development Agency directing the District. Chad Hager made a motion to appoint the Full Board as CEDS Committee members seconded by Paul Lorey and motion carried.
- Approval to pay 2025 dues for the National Association of Development Organizations \$3,000, Indiana Association of Regional Councils \$2,000, and Indiana Geographic Information Council \$125. Kerry Blessinger made a motion to approve paying the 2025 dues, seconded by Joni Stafford and motion carried.
- Approval to attend Conferences – IARC Summit in fall 2025, IGIC Conference in Indianapolis in May 2025, and National Brownfields Conference in Chicago in August 2025. Paul Lorey made a motion to approve attendance to these conferences, if they occur, for appropriate staff, seconded by Mike Haverstock and motion carried.

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- Employee Errors and Omissions insurance renewal – Beverly Schulthise made a motion to approve the Employee Errors and Omissions insurance renewal, seconded by Paul Lorey and motion carried.

Resolutions for Approval:

- Authorization for German American Bank as the depository for funds and authorizing agents to exercise the powers granted (Checking Account) (Resolution 2025-01).
- Authorization for German American Bank as the depository for funds and authorizing agents to exercise the powers granted (Restricted Savings Account) (Resolution 2025-02).
- Annual authorization of investments (Resolution 2025-03). Paul Lorey made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-01, 2025-02 and 2025-03 seconded by Beverly Schulthise and motion carried.
- Authorization to add Anthony Tarullo to payroll (Resolution 2025-04). Melanie Barrett made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-04, seconded by Kerry Blessinger and motion carried.
- Authorizing revisions to the Personnel Manual and Administrative Procedures Handbook (Resolution 2025-05). Melanie Barrett made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-05, seconded by Randy Clark and motion carried.
- Authorizing Disposal of Office Equipment (Resolution 2025-06).
- Authorizing Disposal of Office Equipment (Resolution 2025-07). Paul Lorey made a motion to combine and approve Resolution 2025-06 and 2025-07, seconded by Chad Hager and motion carried.

Contract for Approval:

- Ferdinand Code update; sum of \$1,150
Kerry Blessinger made a motion to approve the Ferdinand Code contract, seconded by Pam Jamniczky and motion carried.
- Ferdinand Zone Map update; sum of \$650
Paul Lorey made a motion to approve the Ferdinand Zone Map contract, seconded by Carl Anderson and motion carried.
- GSA & Holland SS4A amendment with Commonwealth Engineers; sum of \$5,000
Heather Gries made a motion to approve signature at a later date pending contract approval by legal counsel, seconded by Dorothy Julian and motion carried.
- Tell City SRF Labor Standards; sum of \$15,000
Paul Lorey made a motion to approve the Tell City SRF Labor Standards contract, seconded by Kerry Blessinger and motion carried.


Other:

- Treasurers Bond
Paul Lorey made a motion to approve the Treasurers Bond, seconded by Bill Byrd and motion carried.

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 Chad Hager, seconded by Kerry Blessinger and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Balaji Kashyab, Secretary

BK/lh