

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Commissioner R. Michael Keith called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room.

ROLL CALL

Chairman R. Michael Keith, present
Commissioner Bonni S. Dunlap, present
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present

Also, in attendance were Solicitor Matthew T. Budash and Chief Clerk Robin Maryai.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Keith led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of February 12, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

There were no Executive Sessions.

RESOLUTION...BLACK LUNG

After a resolution was read, a motion was made by Commissioner Keith, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously urging U.S. Senators Dave McCormick and John Fetterman, along with U.S. Representatives Guy Reschenthaler and Glenn "GT" Thompson, to support and vote for legislation to assist disabled miners, including legislation to increase monthly black lung benefit rates.

RESOLUTION – PENNDOT MTF AMENDMENT – ROUTE 22 PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLIST BRIDGE PROJECT / PLANNING

At request of Byron Stauffer, Office of Planning & Development, and in collaboration with Indiana County Parks & Trails, a motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously authorizing an amendment of the agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to combine the construction and inspection funds on Exhibit A02 for the Route 22 Pedestrian-Bicyclist Bridge Project located in Burrell Township. This amendment will allow PennDOT to utilize the \$2,816,881 Federal Carbon Reduction Pollution Urban (CRPU) funds for both eligible project purposes. Approval also allows for Commissioner Keith to be authorized to sign the PennDOT funding agreement amendment is requested, as well as any amendments and associated documents on behalf of the County of Indiana related to this project.

CONTRACT AWARD – DIXONVILLE COMMONS BUILDING FLOOR STRUCTURE DEMOLITION PROJECT / PLANNING

At the request of LuAnn Zak, Office of Planning & Development, and on behalf of Platinum Visual Solutions, a motion was made by Commissioner Keith, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap and carried unanimously to enter into a contract agreement with Bloxdorf Contracting from Mahaffey, PA for the Dixonville Commons Building Floor Structure Demolition Project. The contract award request in the amount of \$59,382.78 is to remove approximately 5,000 sf of existing flooring and floor joist in the East Building office space. Project costs will be covered by a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant and Platinum Visual Solutions funds.

INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT GRANT APPLICATION MODIFICATION / PROBATION

At the request of Amanda Leonard, Probation, a motion was made by Commissioner Hess, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap and carried unanimously to approve the Intermediate Punishment Grant Application Grant awarded by PCCD in July of 2024 in the amount of \$78,101.00. These funds will be used for scam monitoring, drug testing, sweat patch testing for drug use and addition treatment services through the Drug & Alcohol Commission.

AGREEMENT...SOAR PEDIATRIC DEVELOPMENTAL THERAPY, LLC / BDHP

At the request of Tammie Calderone, BDHP, a motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously to approve a provider contract with Soar Pediatric Developmental Therapy, LLC for purchase of mandated services through BDHP.

BOARD APPOINTMENT...ARMSTRONG-INDIANA BEHAVIORAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

A motion was made by Commissioner Hess, seconded by Commissioner Keith and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Bonni Dunlap to the Armstrong-Indiana Behavioral and Development Health Program Board; term expires December 31, 2027. Commissioner Dunlap abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Kimberly Rode to the Armstrong-Indiana Behavioral and Developmental Health Program Board; term expires December 31, 2027.

BOARD APPOINTMENT...CAREER T.R.A.C.K. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Commissioner Keith, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Brad Shadle to the Career T.R.A.C.K. Board of Directors; term expires June 3, 2027.

RESOLUTION #1...INDIANA COUNTY TREASURER AS TAXING AGENT FOR CHERRY TREE

At the request of Matthew Budash, Solicitor, a motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously to approve a Resolution naming the Indiana County Treasurer as the taxing agent for Indiana County Real Estate Taxes for Cherry Tree Borough. This appointment shall expire at 11:59 PM December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Hess commented that tax collectors play an important roll and are the closest level to the citizens and are an example of how local government can be the most responsive to

its citizens. If someone is elected to this position at the November 4, 2025 Municipal Election that this activity will be turned back over to the municipality and that is why she is support this. Solicitor Budash noted that this is a vacancy that was not anticipated and the resolution expires at 11:59 PM on December 31, 2025.

RESOLUTION #2...AGREEMENT WITH CHERRY TREE BOROUGH TO APPOINT THE INDIANA COUNTY TREASURER AS THE TAXING AGENT FOR CHERRY TREE BOROUGH

At the request of Matthew Budash, Solicitor, a motion was made by Commissioner Keith, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap and carried unanimously to approve a Resolution entering into an agreement with Cherry Tree Borough and to appoint the Indiana County Treasurer as the taxing agent for Cherry Tree Borough. This agreement shall expire at 11:59 PM December 31, 2025.

TAX COLLECTOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF INDIANA AND CHERRY TREE BOROUGH

At the request of Matthew Budash, Solicitor, a motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement between the County of Indiana and Cherry Tree Borough. The borough desires to appoint the County to collect and remit real estate, fire protection and per capita taxes on behalf of the Cherry Tree Borough. This agreement shall expire at 11:59 PM December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Dunlap commented that while we all agree that the best resolution is to collect taxes at the local level, this is an effort by the county to recognize and especially in the future there may times when are no local tax collectors running for office and if there are vacancies that occur the county wants to be in a position to be able and assist and do that tax collection. We are not looking to replace tax collectors but we are there to serve if it needs to be done.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...MARCH 12, 2025 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business coming before the Board at this time, a motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Hess to adjourn the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Sherene Hess, Commissioner

R. Michael Keith, Chairman