

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2014

Commissioner Chairman Rodney D. Ruddock called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:33 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Rodney D. Ruddock, present
Commissioner Patricia A. Evanko, present

Commissioner Michael A. Baker, present

Also in attendance were Solicitor Michael T. Clark, Chief Clerk Robin Maryai, and others. Members of the news media present were Randy Wells, Greg Reinbold and Josh Widdowson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Ruddock asked John C. (Jack) Hammerle to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVE MINUTES...JANUARY 22, 2014

A motion was made by Ms. Evanko, seconded by Mr. Ruddock and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of January 22, 2014 as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Walter Schroth and Vicki Smith were present and told those present about the progress of the Challenger Program in Indiana County. Mr. Schroth thanked everyone in the community for their support of the Challenger Program and their recognition that this type of stem education program is needed. He explained that they have been raising local funds and have been successful but still have a long way to go. Vicki Smith said that the Indiana County Technology Center has donated 10 acres of land with a 50 year lease in order to build Challenger at ICTC. They have combined the Challenger and will use it as a portal into the Stem education and will create a Stem Institute at ICTC. This will be a K-16 curriculum when finished. She said what everyone is doing when they help Challenger out is investing in the education of our kids. It will be a great boom to the economy as well as the education. The children in this area do not have the ability to get to some of the higher technologies and higher education as easily. She thanked the Board for their support.

Commissioner Ruddock commended them for what they have done for putting this together. He said it is obvious that a lot of work has been done in a very short amount of time. He said the Commissioners recognize the criticality of the educational piece for students who are developing their career plans. The emphasis of the program is on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Then on top of that you have the capability of creating jobs opportunities with an emerging gas plan and harvesting in Indiana County that is going to probably take another step forward. We need to be prepared for that and have the right people in place to do it. He said we have a responsibility to try to support what we can for the development of the job base particularly in the area of science and technology. Mr. Schroth said once this center is developed there will be a great opportunity for the current workforce to develop further skills necessary to meet the requirements that modern industry and businesses require.

PROCLAMATION...THE RESCHINI GROUP

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Mr. Baker and unanimously carried to approve a proclamation recognizing the achievements of The Reschini Group. The Reschini Group will be receiving on March 11, 2014 the 2014 Distinguished Family Biasness Award from Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Center for Family Business at the Eberly College of Business.

PROCLAMATION...JOHN HAMMERLE

After a proclamation was read by Mr. Ruddock, a motion was made, seconded by Mr. Baker and unanimously carried to approve a proclamation recognizing John Hammerle recognizing his service to Indiana County. Mr. Hammerle has served 18 years on the Indiana Area School Board, 23 Years on the Housing Authority and 36 years on the Redevelopment Authority. He also served is country as a staff sergeant in the Air Force during the Korean War from March 17, 1951 through March 16, 1955. This is a total of 81 years of service to his community, county and country. Mr. Hammerle said when he returned home from military service in 1955 he started and for many years operated One-Hour Downtown Dry Cleaners in Indiana.

CONTRACTS...DATABASE SHARING / HUMAN SERVICES

On behalf of Dr. Bonni Dunlap, Mr. Baker explained that at previous meetings the Board approved contracts supporting a shared data base showing what services agencies are providing in Indiana County. The following two contracts will be added to the Database Sharing:

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve a contract with United Presbyterian Church of Blairsville to be on the shared database.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve a contract with Penn Run Church of the Brethren to be on the shared database.

With the addition of these two contracts, there will be 22 partners on the database.

RIGHT OF WAY...PEOPLES TWP, LLC / JAIL

Mr. Ron Dillon from Peoples TWP, LLC was present and asked to Board to approve 20' wide right of way adjacent to Fyock Road on property owned by Indiana County located at the jail. A 10' x 15' site is needed in which they would place regulating and metering equipment within a fenced area. Mr. Dillon explained that currently Peoples Natural Gas has a right of way on Fyock Road to a meter on the Jail property. They need to bring another line on Fyock Road to connect to the current line with the additional equipment. The county would be compensated for the easement in the amount of \$1,250.00.

Mr. Ruddock said the Board wants to work under advisement of our Solicitor Michael Clark. He said they have concerns of use of the site for regulating and metering equipment and they would like to know more of the details such as what environmental conditions it produce, sound and the neighbors in the area that would be affected. They need to protect the integrity of the location. Solicitor Michael Clark suggested a meeting with the Warden and the Maintenance Director at the jail and the agreement needs some language modifications regarding security issues.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to table action on the right of way until there is further discussion with the Warden and also the compensation being offered to the county.

2014 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT APPLICATION / EMA

At the request of the Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$16,900.00. This will provide assistance for planning and education of hazardous materials response activities. There is a 20% match and it will come out of Act 165. The performance period of this grant is September 30, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

APPOINTMENTS...LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMISSION / LEPC

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to appoint Carson Greene, Richard Gibbons, John Bertolino, Milt Lady, James Dickson, Patricia A. Evanko and Michael A. Baker (alternate) to the Local Emergency Planning Commission with terms to expire February, 2016.

Commissioner Ruddock commented that this is a critical board in regards to safety and security in the residential areas.

CONTRACT..WESSELL & COMPANY

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Evanko and unanimously carried to approve a contract with Wessell & Company to complete the final audit of the Blairsville Borough Tax Collector. They could not complete the first audit because of timing. The cost is approximately \$1,500 and will be prorated between Indiana County, Blairsville Borough and Blairsville-Saltsburg School District.

OTHER BUSINESS

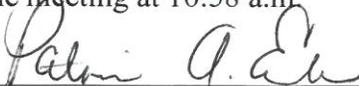
Commissioner Ruddock said he received a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development regarding the close out materials for the 2008 CDBG Program. The letter from Donna Enrico said "My compliments to the county and other local officials for the successful use of funds provided through the Community Development Block Grant Program". He thanked Luann Zak and Dave Morrow for their work in the program.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING...MARCH 12, 2014 AT 10:30 A.M.

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Board at this time, Commissioner Ruddock adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.



Patricia A. Evanko, Secretary



Rodney D. Ruddock, Chairman