

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 4th, 2024

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4th, 2024, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, October 21st, 2024.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan Collom, first Vice President; Bruce Hartman, second Vice President; Nick Sauter, Commissioners' Attorney; Susan Kramer, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also present were Beth Martin, Cyndi Todd, John Martin, Jessica Lancaster, Julie Lanzone, Kurt Lanzone, Pam Sanders, Luke Gill, Tony Stedman, Bobette Stedman, J. B. Butler, Nick Napier, Cameron Martin and Chester Crague.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, October 21st, 2024 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- IV. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$297,536.58 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$1,188.64 were approved for release on Monday, November 4th, 2024 on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Acknowledgement of receipt of Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for November 4th, 2024 in the amount of \$150,518.00 was approved on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$395,300.67 was approved on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Nick Napier, a Broker with Brown and Brown Insurance, explained the options for the 2025 Parke County Group Health Insurance Plan Renewal. He found the most reasonable plan to use the exact same networks and administering of the claims, however, the Stop Loss company will be different. Parke County would keep Anthem and the plan designs but use Evolution Risk Partners as the best Stop Loss company. We have the protections of no lasers now and into the future. Nick Napier explained that the high deductible will increase from \$3,200.00 to \$3,300.00 which has been mandated by the Internal Revenue Service. Dental renewal would change to Humana. This seems to be the most economical choice for the employees since this is paid fully by them. Nick Napier mentioned the Center of Excellence through Hendricks Regional Hospital for orthopedic surgeries. Four members have used this service and six other members have been evaluated by the Hendricks Regional Hospital team as of October 21st, 2024. This program offers zero dollars towards the deductible and gives a stipend of \$1,500.00 to the employee who used the Centers of Excellence program for their elected surgeries through Hendricks Regional Hospital. There has been \$101,000.00 in savings for our members utilizing this program offered through Hendricks Regional Hospital. They would like to see seven to ten surgeries a year. Another Center of Excellence program is offered through Ascension St. Vincent Heart Center and is very similar in nature. To date, no one has used the service at the Ascension St. Vincent Heart Center. Jim Meece and Nick Napier do recommend some increase in health insurance premiums to keep up with inflation. Bruce Hartman made the motion to accept the health and dental recommendations for 2025 Parke County Group Health Insurance Plan Renewal. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Health insurance is a major part of the budget each year. Insurance is not cheap. Dan Collom made the motion to accept the three percent increase to the Parke County Employees for the 2025 Parke County Group Health Insurance Plans. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Nick Napier and ProActive MD will be available for the Parke County employees on December 4th, 2024 to ask questions about any of the health-related programs offered for 2025.

- Cyndi Todd explained the TIF Note Resolution 2024-05. The Redevelopment passed the TIF Note Resolution in the last meeting. This allows Redevelopment to have additional notes on the old bank thus allowing them to go into debt with the TIF Revenues paying the additional debt that may occur. Bruce Hartman made the motion to accept the TIF Note Resolution 2024-05 which allows the Redevelopment to enter into debt with TIF money if needed in the future. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Cyndi Todd presented the proposed 2025 TIF Spending Plan to the Parke County Commissioners. This is only a budget estimate. Jim Meece made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the proposed 2025 TIF Spending Plan from Redevelopment. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Northwest Parke Sewer project will need to use ARP funds to help pay for another new PER that was requested. Jim Meece made the motion to use \$25,000.00 of ARP funds to pay for the new PER for the Northwest Parke Sewer Project. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Currently, Wessler Engineering is holding about \$75,000.00 in invoicing for the County. They are okay with holding the invoices.
- Beth Martin stated that American Rescue Plan (ARP) money is needed to resume the Comprehensive Master Plan for the Planning Commission. This plan cannot move forward with out having \$55,000.00 to \$65,000.00. Beth Martin is working on an RFQ or RFP and will get three more quotes before the next Parke County Board of Commissioners' meeting scheduled on Monday, November 18th, 2024.
- X-Soft Service Agreement for the Financials and the Cashbook will cost \$134,000.00, which will come out of the ARP funds. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve and sign the X-Soft Service Agreement. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- A proposal was presented to the Parke County Board of Commissioners for Codification of Ordinances and Digitizing Meeting Minutes through American Legal Publishing. The Board of Commissioners requested more quotes for these services from a couple of other companies for comparison.
- SDHMR Law Group sent a letter regarding a Tort Claim. This was for informational purpose only.
- Otterbein Church requested placing a Nativity Scene on the Courthouse grounds. Jim Meece made the motion to approve a Nativity Scene on the Courthouse grounds during the holiday season. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jim Meece had been looking into having a company refinish the inside doors of the Courthouse. The estimated cost would be around \$6,400.00 to \$7,200.00. Nick Brown from Brown's Revintage finished the outside doors of the Courthouse in the past. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the contract to use Brown's Revintage to refinish the inside Courthouse doors. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- There were five out of cycle checks that needed approval. Parke County CVC-Innkeepers Tax for \$33,167.13, Harmon Contracting LLC-2nd payment for the Parke County Sheriff Department's drainage project for \$10,000.00, Governmental Interinsurance Exchange-Tort Claim Attorney fees for \$3,036.00, RT Insurance-Cybersecurity Policy for \$13,725.00 and RT Insurance-Policy change to add a location for \$636.00. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the five out of cycle checks as presented. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- Core Facilities submitted quotes to replace the copper plumbing in the Parke County Jail in three phases over three years with \$28,000.00 due in 2024 and repair the Highway Department's roof for \$6,500.00. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the submitted quotes from Core Facilities in the amount of \$34,500.00. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Bruce Hartman and Susan Kramer, Auditor, attended the State Board of Accounts seminar during the 2024 Fall Conference in French Lick, Indiana. They brought back some useful information on the Obligation of ARPA that they shared with the other Commissioners. Deadlines to remember

are that the funds must be obligated with a signed contract by December 31st, 2024 and the funds must be spent by December 31st, 2026.

- After the investigation was complete on the incident with Luke Moody, it was decided in the best interest of Parke County to terminate the professional relationship with Luke Moody as the Parke County Highway Superintendent. Jim Meece made the motion to terminate Luke Moody effective at the end of the day, November 4th, 2024. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Jason Frazier, Parke County Sheriff:

- Jason Frazier mentioned that Deputy McHargue retired Friday, November 1st, 2024. The Parke County Board of Commissioners thanked Eddie McHargue for over twenty plus years of service to the Parke County Community. The Parke County Sheriff's Department hired two new deputies as well. One deputy has ten years of experience and the other deputy has four years of experience

Julie Lanzone, Parke County EMS:

- Julie Lanzone presented the Parke County EMS Monthly Report for October 2024 to the Parke County Board of Commissioners. She further explained that the call volume was average and the Parke County EMS is fully staffed. They are self-sufficient. Revenues continue to increase. Julie Lanzone had turned in the Ambulance Service's Standard Operating Procedures for 2025 to Nick Sauter, the Parke County Board of Commissioners' Attorney. He questioned Vigo being a miss type, but it is supposed to be Vigo. The Standard Operating Procedures will be effective January 1st, 2025. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the Standard Operating Procedures for the Ambulance Service effective January 1st, 2025. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Kurt Lanzone, Parke County 4-H Extension Office:

- Kurt Lanzone announced that December 12th, 2024 is Youth in Government Day.

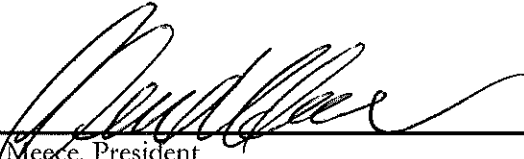
VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Tony and Bobette Stedman were present to discuss an incident that occurred during the 2024 Parke County Covered Bridge Festival in Bridgeton, IN. Bobette's Mother had a heart attack on the last Sunday of the Covered Bridge Festival and she had died on the front porch. She was revived in the Ambulance. Bobette stated that the Ambulance employees were great with her mother. Her only major complaint was the route the Ambulance had to take to leave the town of Bridgeton during the Covered Bridge Festival. They should have had a straight route through town and the barricades should have already been cleared for the Ambulance to go through. People were rude and would not move out of the way for the Ambulance. The Ambulance had to take many roads to leave the town. Bobette explained that the Ambulance took George St., Clark St., Allen St., Searing St., Beauman St., Crooks St., Webster St. and then on to Bridgeton Rd. just to get her mother out of the town of Bridgeton. There should have been a direct route out of town. She was not sure why the barricades were not moved. Julie Lanzone explained that the transporting ambulances stay on the EMS frequency and the police stay on dispatch frequency. This is where the communication breakdown occurred. Julie Lanzone stated that there was a malfunction with that Ambulance on communication. Hopefully, the incidents that

happened during the 2024 Parke County Covered Bridge Festival can be used as a learning experience and only improve procedures for years to come. An emergency plan needs to be taken very seriously. We are fortunate that nothing detrimental happened. Furthermore, Bobette explained that the residents currently come into Bridgeton on Allen St. during the Covered Bridge Festival. She requested that the residents come in on Beauman St. instead. The visitors during the festival are not very kind. It makes it very difficult to come and go as area residents of Bridgeton.

- Chester Crague reported that he was pleased with his end of Bridgeton during the Covered Bridge Festival. His main complaint was that Searing St. only has a 30-foot right of way and does not allow any area for people to stand except in the street once the vendors are set up. Dan Collom stated that the summer meeting for Bridgeton can hopefully address some of these issues that have been reported. Chester Crague would like a notification of when the meeting will be, so he can attend. All of the landowners should be notified. Parking lots do not have any facilities for customers to use. Chester Crague always has a portable facility for his parking customers. This is an important issue. Chester Crague also mentioned the alley closure that he has been working on for some time now. He is willing to sign a lease to use the alley, if need be. There is even a tree in the alley.


ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Dan Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.



Jim Meece, President

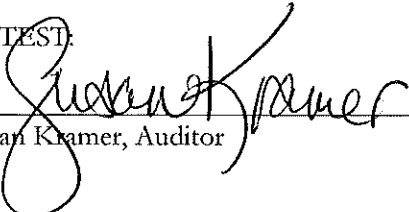


Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Susan Kramer, Auditor