

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 21st, 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 21st, 2025, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, April 7th, 2025.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Members present were Dan Collom, first Vice President; Bruce Hartman, second Vice President; Nick Sauter, Commissioner's Attorney; Susan Kramer, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also present were Kim Shorter, Jason Frazier, Ivan Loy, Cathy Loy, Pam Sanders, Jessica Lancaster, Patrece Dayton, Mandy Adams-Washburn, Kristi Whitacre, Stacie Conner, Chris O'Brien, Cyndi Todd and James Adams.
- III. MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, April 7th, 2025 were approved on a motion from Bruce Hartman. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- IV. PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$274,503.51 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$1,514.94 were approved for release on Monday, April 21st, 2025 on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Acknowledgement of receipt of Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for April 21st, 2025 in the amount of \$308,634.11 was approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- V. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - There were eight out of cycle checks to approve. Two claim vouchers were from CDI in the amounts of \$8,622.34 and \$603.15 for the ceiling repair at the Parke County Jail. Two more claim vouchers were from HFI in the amounts of \$215,500.00 and \$30,298.00 for the Parke County Jail Project. One claim voucher was from Fydea in the amount of \$25,600.00 for the Parke County Highway Garage Roof Project. The last three claim vouchers were from Core Facilities in the amounts of \$12,186.59, \$12,000.00, and \$6,500.00 for Project Management of the Parke County Jail Phase 1 and 2 Projects and Project Management for the Parke County Highway Garage Roof Replacement. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the eight out of cycle check requests from CDI, HFI, Fydea and Core Facilities. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Chris O'Brien presented Ordinance 2025-05 Local Disaster Emergency Declaration to the Parke County Board of Commissioners. This ordinance will help recoup some costs associated with the April 2nd and 6th, 2025 significant storm and flood damage in Parke County. Chris O'Brien stated that money from the State level will help support the needs of the community. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-05 Local Disaster Emergency Declaration. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Susan Kramer presented the Community Crossings Grant 2025-1 Bid from Milestone to the Parke County Board of Commissioners for approval. The project should take eighteen months to complete. This bid only required one signature. Dan Collom signed the contract with Milestone.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - None

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Jason Frazier, Parke County Sheriff:

- Jason Frazier reported that there are no current leaks at the Parke County Sheriff's Department/Jail and the water lines are doing fine. Jason Frazier wanted to discuss the Compensatory Time Ordinance. He was concerned with only having four months to use up Comp Time which to him seemed unreasonable in certain circumstances. One of his deputies, Ed Roach, has worked for the County for 27 years and has accumulated 30 hours of Comp Time each year. This is quite a bit of time to use up in four months and the Sheriff's Department cannot afford to do without him while using up the Comp Time. Also, Joshua Milbourn is experiencing a similar situation. Jason Frazier has been shortening Jason Milbourn's shift to help use up his accumulated Comp Time. Josh Milbourn was able to use up one hundred hours just by shortening his shifts with still having coverage for most of his shift. This has been difficult but doable. Dan Collom and Bruce Hartman were in agreement for Jason Frazier to do what he could to get the Comp Time used up the best he could.

Cyndi Todd, Parke County Redevelopment:

- Cyndi Todd is required to inform the Parke County Board of Commissioners about a report that the Redevelopment Commission has submitted to the State of Indiana. This report states the members of the Redevelopment Commission and the Central Tif's revenues and expenditures. This report states that all the members are the same as last year except for Susan Kramer as the Treasurer instead of the former Auditor, Mary Anne Wood. Cyndi Todd reported that the two active Tif districts' revenues were \$352,908.32 and expenses were \$388,573.60. These expenses included service charges, professional services, the sewer project for the Town of Rockville and the \$20,000.00 capital outlay and escrow for the purchase of the old bank building.

Chris O'Brien, Parke County Emergency Management:

- Chris O'Brien is seeking an exemption from the Comp Time Ordinance for his position. He is a department of one and is the department head as well. Frequently, Chris O'Brien is in the dispatch room fixing issues when they occur even on the weekends or at night. He is asking for flex-time to help him manage this extra accumulated time. He is not planning on carrying any hours as Comp Time. He will adjust his schedule to incorporate the extra time. Dan Collom is good with how Chris O'Brien needs to manage his time appropriately.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- James Adams from the Ferndale area stressed his concern with the road condition of a two and a half mile stretch of Ferndale Road from Walker Ramp Road. In the Fall, the County usually patches the road but some holes are not blown out properly and water is left in the hole that is filled. When a semi-truck comes down the road the patching is broken easily. Three semi-trucks jack-knifed on Ferndale Road this past winter because of the holes not being repaired correctly. These jack-knifed semis blocked the roadway for a couple of hours at a time. James Adams has witnessed a County Highway truck sitting on Discovery Road with the driver talking on a cell phone for an hour and a half. This roadway has become a truck route due to the Amish lumber businesses that are in the area. There are fifteen to twenty lumber trucks that travel on this roadway each day. James Adams is requesting that some attention be brought to the two and a half-mile stretch of Ferndale Road from Walker Ramp Road. James Adams suggested that any changes to the Parke County Roads need to be advertised on the County Website or Facebook page. Some people in the community do not receive the local newspaper. Dan Collom will speak

with the Highway Superintendent about Ferndale Road. Dan Collom will also follow-up with James Adams on this issue.

- Patrece Dayton, the newest representative with Thrive West Central, spoke about bringing a full-time transportation program to Parke County. Thrive West Central is looking forward to getting the Thrive buses up and running in January 2026. Connection Cafes are held every third Wednesday of the month at the Burnett Manor in Parke County. This involves cognitive strengthening activities for our senior community. Thrive serves as the area agency on aging for Parke County. They are seeking community input and are holding a community feedback session on April 22nd, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. This will also be held at Burnett Manor. Patrece Dayton was thrilled to see that Parke County had invested in a Housing Study and she looks forward to working with Parke County on Homes for the Future Project. This will be great for economic development. Finally, Thrive will be hosting a Housing Summit September 11th-12th, 2025 at the Terre Haute Convention Center.
- Kristi Whitacre introduced herself from Thrive West Central as the Director of Economic and Community Development. Her department houses the Community Development Department and the Transportation Planning Department which coordinates the traffic counting. Thrive West Central is here to support the community.
- Adam Wilson a Project Development Manager with Luminous Energy Renewables LLC had emailed Susan Kramer, Parke County Auditor and Beth Martin with Parke County Planning and Zoning an information packet discussing their battery energy storage systems they have to offer communities. Adam Willson was reaching out to see if their project may prove exempt from the Parke County Moratorium that is in place currently. This is a storage system and not a generation of renewable energy. The Parke County Board of Commissioners were provided the same informational packet to examine.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Dan Collom. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Absent

Jim Meece, President

Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President

Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST

Susan Kramer, Auditor