

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 2nd, 2025

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 2nd, 2025, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, May 19th, 2025.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Bruce Hartman, second Vice President; Nick Sauter, Commissioner's Attorney; Susan Kramer, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also present were Matt Romalia, Pam Sanders, Kim Shorter, Jessica Lancaster, Mandy Adams-Washburn, April Steadman, John Steadman, Dante Fratturo, Jacob, Sam and Steve Collisi.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, May 19th, 2025 were approved on a motion from Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- I. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$279,792.79 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$3,656.65 were approved for release on Monday, June 2nd, 2025 on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Acknowledgement of receipt of Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for June 2nd, 2025 in the amount of \$189,592.70 was approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$1,463,040.98 were approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- II. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - West Central Solid Waste District submitted their 2026 Commitment Request for \$48,468.00 from Parke County. There is an increase from last year. But considering the state average of \$21.00 per person versus our county average of \$3.00 per person for recycling needs, Parke County is still benefiting from using West Central Solid Waste District for recycling programs. They provide recycling centers for Parke County, tox-away days and electronic recycling days. Jim Meece made the motion to approve and sign the Parke County 2026 Commitment request from the West Central Solid Waste District. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - The Parke County Board of Commissioners reviewed an appropriation request for Child Adult Resource Services for \$15,000.00 which is the same amount given last year. This C.A.R.S program helps the challenged residents of Parke County find necessary care and jobs. The Parke County Council has budgeted this amount. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the appropriation of \$15,000.00 to the Child Adult Resource Services program. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Jim Meece stated that Collom Excavating will be moving equipment this week to the Melcher Bridge. They will begin removing the abutments and preparing the work site for the new abutments to be poured next week, weather permitting. Surveyors have set the pins and the survey is complete.
 - Jim Meece also stated that repairs to the Jackson Bridge need to be made due to vandalism. The siding on the bridge had been kicked out. They are debating on the best way to repair the damage.
 - There were two out of cycle checks from the Parke County Highway Department that needed approval. The first out of cycle check request was from John Deere Financial in the amount of \$1,109.12 for the final payment on the excavator. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the John Deere Financial's out of cycle check request. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The second out of cycle check request was from V. S. Engineering in the amount of \$11,613.72 for travel reimbursement and field work. Jim Meece made the motion to

approve the V.S Engineering's out of cycle check request. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Matt Romalia, Parke County Highway:

- Matt Romalia informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that it will be 3-4 weeks for the delivery of materials for the Ferndale Bridge repairs.
- Matt Romalia introduced J.R. with Civilcon as the new Sales Representative. J.R. is working on putting together some truck leases and regular equipment leases for the Parke County Highway Department. Matt Romalia stated that he will get this lease quote from Civilcon to the Parke County Council at the June 12th, 2025 meeting.
- Matt Romalia reported that the Parke County Highway Department is working on patching and then they will begin chip and sealing in the middle of June.
- Jim Meece would like some numbers from Matt Romalia on paving the section of Valley Road that was still gravel. Matt Romalia will get this information to Jim Meece. There is a formula that the Parke County Highway Department uses to calculate this cost.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- April and John Steadman would like to see the speed limit reduced on Valley Road because the section of Valley Road they live on is gravel. The gravel starts at the Y between Mansfield Road and Bridgeton. There is always a lot of dust in that area when vehicles pass by. The vehicles are going at high speed from a paved road to a gravel road unexpectedly. This is dangerous for any vehicle, especially motorcycles. John Steadman would like to see the meeting minutes from when Luke Moody, a former Parke County Highway Superintendent, requested that this portion of Valley Road that is graveled, be chip and sealed this past Fall and the Parke County Commissioners approval of this. John Steadman requested that the speed limit be reduced and enforced the best that Parke County Sheriff's Department can do. The current Parke County Highway Department Superintendent, Matt Romalia, needs to see this section of Valley Road to determine what can be done to minimize the dust and the speed limit reduction. Whatever Matt Romalia decides to do with the speed limit will have to be written up as a county ordinance by Nick Sauter, the Parke County Board of Commissioners' Attorney. The ordinance will be advertised to the public and approved by the Parke County Board of Commissioners. Susan Kramer explained that just because the Parke County Board of Commissioners may have approved the chip and seal of Valley Road, it might not have been done due to lack of funds in the budget.
- Jacob with Enterprise Fleet Management requested to speak about their programs that would help manage Parke County's Fleet of Vehicles. Jacob also introduced a co-worker of his by the name of Sam. Enterprise Fleet Management works with Putnam, Fountain, and Warren counties. Jacob explained that their program uses the grant purchase price and Enterprise will sell the vehicle at retail. Enterprise will collect \$400.00 per vehicle picked up, inspected and listed on the website for sale. Any equity left in the vehicle sold will go back the Parke County. Parke County can pay the lease with any type of funding method. This is considered a market value finance lease. There are no mileage or damage constraints. Bruce Hartman asked what other counties use Enterprise Fleet Management for their Highway Department and Police Department as well as outfitting the vehicles. Sam stated that this is not a one size fits all program. It is curtailed to the

individual county needs. Sam said that Enterprise works with Fountain, Warren and Putnam counties for their Highway trucks and Sheriff vehicles. Jacob is the Client Strategy Manager. He comes in twice a year and goes over the maintenance expenses, odometers and the mileage patterns of each vehicle. When these three lines intersect, it is time to sell the vehicle. This prevents getting into a maintenance nightmare on a vehicle. Matt Romalia had talked with Clint from Putnam County about how their leasing program was set up through Enterprise Fleet Management. Jim Meece would be interested in seeing what Enterprise Fleet Management can do for Parke County. Jacob stated that he can work up a proposal. He would need an accurate fleet list from the Auditor's Office and this would decide what needs to be replaced. He will put together a Risk Analysis. Ultimately, Enterprise's goal is to do it at the same cost as Parke County is paying now, if not lower. Enterprise will put together a proactive cycle that will help with the budget and disposal of vehicles. Nick Sauter would like to see their legal information and paperwork regarding their fleet management program. Jacob referred to the Proof of Concept that he had passed out to the Parke County Board of Commissioners earlier and explained that Enterprise would put a fair market value on all of Parke County's vehicles. This will become the base in which we will create a budget for the fleet management program. Jacob will send Jim Meece contact information for Commissioner Tim Shumaker, Commission Clay Andrews and Commissioner Tom Helmer so Jim Meece can talk with other counties that are using Enterprise's Fleet Management program.

- Dante Fratturo with Energy Harness currently works with Green, Brown and Tipton counties on saving on utility costs by using LED lighting throughout county owned buildings. Energy Harness makes all of their own bulbs with a 5-6 years lifespan. Jim Meece stated that currently Parke County Sheriff's Department/Jail uses all LED lighting but it is through a company called Future Energy Solutions. This was implemented back in 2020. Jim Meece is unsure of how long the agreement is between Future Energy Solutions and the Parke County Sheriff's Department/Jail. Jim Meece will follow up with Jason Frasier, the Parke County Sheriff, to see if Jason Frasier would be interested in changing companies to handle their lighting needs. Dante Fratturo will call next week to follow up with Jim Meece. There is the old bank building that Parke County is purchasing and they might need to update to LED lighting. Energy Harness has their own install team as well.


ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

*** However, there was more business to be discussed, so the adjournment was rescinded on a motion made by Jim Meece and seconded by Bruce Hartman to reopen the meeting. ***


Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.



Jim Meece, President

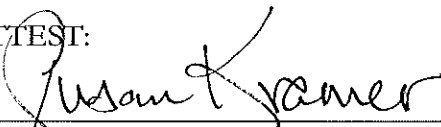


Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Susan Kramer, Auditor