

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 7th, 2025

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 7th, 2025, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, June 16th, 2025.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; 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 Matt Romalia, Jason Frazier, Chris, O'Brien, Kim Shorter, Jessica Lancaster, Stephanie Laws, Mandy Adams-Washburn, Donnie Cottrell with VOMAC, Brenda Johnson and Steve Collisi.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, June 16th, 2025 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - I. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$283,157.60 and two Union Hospital Security payrolls in the amounts of \$2,808.26 and \$2,612.75 were approved for release on Monday, June 30th, 2025 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 June 30th, 2025 in the amount of \$460,498.30 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 \$917,449.50 were approved on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- II. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - There were three out of cycle checks that needed approval. The first out of cycle check request was from Area 30 Career Center in the amount of \$12,000.00 for the CDL Training offered to the Parke County Highway Department employees. There were six employees that took advantage of the CDL Training at Area 30 Career Center in Greencastle, Indiana. However, at this time Parke County will only get reimbursed \$8,000.00 from the State of Indiana. Susan Kramer, Parke County Auditor, will check into getting reimbursed the remainder \$4,000.00 once the two employees have completed their training and passed their testing for their CDLs. This may depend on whether we have a certain deadline to meet for any reimbursement from the State of Indiana. The second out of cycle check request was from V. S. Engineering in the amount of \$21,930.00 for regular bridge inspections throughout Parke County. The third out of cycle check request was from V. S. Engineering in the amount of \$1,230.45 for repair of Bridge #214. Dan Collom made a motion to approve the three out of cycle check requests from Area 30 Career Center and V. S. Engineering. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Chris O'Brien informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that he was seeking approval to request a grant application for the Parke County Emergency Management Agency through the Indiana Office of Technology. The Grant Title is Sowing Enriched and Enhanced Datasets (SEED). This grant is for \$18,500.00 and will reimburse Parke County for a contractor to improve the GIS data sets to meet current standards for NG911. Jim Meece made the motion to approve Chris O'Brien to request a grant application for the Parke County Emergency Management Agency through the Indiana Office of Technology. Dan Collom second the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Stephanie Laws with the Parke County Health Department informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that the Parke County Health Department had a replacement for Dr. Swaim as the Parke County Health Officer. She was asking for approval for Dr. Chobanov to be the new

Parke County Health Officer. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve Dr. Chobanov as the new Parke County Health Officer. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- Matt Romalia introduced Donnie Cottrell from VOMAC Truck Sales and Service, Inc. in Terre Haute, Indiana to the Parke County Board of Commissioners. Donnie Cottrell discussed a proposed lease agreement for two 2026 Mack tandem axle dump trucks costing \$258,923.16 each with the correct specs and upfitting for the Parke County Highway Department. This would be a lease with the option to buy. The duration of the lease will be 7 years. The annual lease payments will be \$92,382.25 which will include a warranty for 7 year/250,000-mile Engine Plan 2, Engine Aftertreatment and towing, 5 year/250,000-mile Chassis Plan 2 and towing for the cost of \$14,466.00 per year and the upfitting. The additional warranty will pay for itself. A repair of a turbo can run between \$8,000.00 to \$9,000.00. This warranty includes towing, engine, and electrical repairs. The chassis will have a 5-year warranty. Clark Equipment has quoted \$90,275.00 for the upfitting for each truck which is included in the annual lease payment. The lease payment will not take effect until we take possession of the vehicles. The VOMAC Repair shop is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to Midnight and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The services writers need to check a truck in within 15 minutes of arrival. Matt Romalia expressed that the Parke Highway Department's newest trucks are a 2023 Volvo-Truck #31 and Truck #33. Matt Romalia would like to replace two trucks every 2 years. Truck prices keep increasing. Service is key. Rahn Equipment is always behind. Nick Sauter asked if we could sell back a truck back on a new lease. Donnie Cottrell replied yes, the truck would be evaluated for pricing/trade-in purposes. VOMAC will be the company that will oversee the purchase for the Parke County Highway Department. Donnie Cottrell estimated that a \$300,000.00 truck would be worth \$65,000.00-\$75,000.00 after 7 years. A stainless-steel bed can increase the cost of the lease by \$9,899.84 per truck and that price is from Rahn Equipment. Donnie Cottrell did not know how much a stainless-steel bed would cost from Clark Equipment. The trucks would be ready in December 2025 so payments would begin in January 2026. The truck beds will be Rhino Lined by Clark Equipment and can match the color of the county trucks currently in use. NCL Government Capital will be the lease company. Dan Collom said this will be money wise spent in the long run. Bruce Hartman is good with trying a lease agreement. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the purchase of two dump trucks through NCL Government Capital contingent on the Parke County Council's approval. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Susan Kramer presented the Parke County Board of Commissioners with a quote from Gibson Teledata for the Parke County telephone and faxing services. The copper lines on which the telephone service is on now, will not be maintained any longer by AT&T. This will force us to go to fiber optic lines. Gibson Teledata will make the line and equipment changes for us. There is a monthly savings of around \$400.00 if we are to change from Bloomingdale Home Telephone to Gibson Teledata for our telephone and faxing services. The quote from Gibson Teledata is in the amount of \$9,988.57 which includes software, hardware, endpoints, miscellaneous equipment, and cabling. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the change to Gibson Teledata for Parke County's telephone service with the initial cost of \$9,988.57. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jim Meece read a letter informing the Parke County Board of Commissioners that Susan Freed, the Penn Township Trustee, will be resigning effective December 31st, 2025.
- Susan Kramer stated that Tami Smith, the Liberty Township Trustee, has found a replacement for one of her board members that has resigned. Tami Smith spoke with Erin McCoy and she is willing to step in and take the next two-year term. Jim Meece made the motion to approve Erin McCoy as the replacement board member on the Liberty Township Board. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Susan Kramer informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners of a letter that came Certified Mail from Fishbeck (previously Align CEC) regarding the completed Plat of Legal Survey of land owned by Parke County Trails Alliance (Parcel No. 61-11-18-000-104.000-001). This survey was recorded in Legal Survey Book 2, Page 12.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- Jim Meece inquired if Susan Kramer had a chance to investigate whether Parke County had an ordinance restricting the use of a TML for tattooing and piercing in Parke County. Susan Kramer did investigate this and found that Parke County does not have an ordinance restricting the use of a TML for tattooing and piercing. An ordinance was found for restricting the use of a TML for Synthetic CBD/Mushroom selling in Parke County. Dan Collom suggested that we revisit the use of a TML for Synthetic CBD products to keep ahead of the game before the Parke County Covered Bridge Festival. Jim Meece suggested that an ordinance be drafted restricting the use of a TML for tattooing and piercings in Parke County. Nick Sauter will work with Jason Frazier on updating and amending the ordinance for the use of Synthetic CBD products as well as tattooing and piercings.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Matt Romalia, Parke County Highway:

- Matt Romalia received a quote for Truck #35 for a new bed. This is a good spare/plow truck. Higgs Welding in Effingham, IL can replace the old leaking bed with a new bed for \$19,218.00. This is in the Parke County Highway Department's budget. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the replacement of a new truck bed for Truck #35 for \$19,218.00. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Matt Romalia received a quote from Cintas for uniform shirts, hoodies, and coats for the Parke County Highway Departments employees. These uniform pieces will be made of high visibility materials and will cost the employee \$5.14 per paycheck. The Parke County Highway Department employees all agree on the purchase of uniforms and the cost per paycheck. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the purchase of uniforms for the Parke County Highway Department employees. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Matt Romalia stated that the Melcher abutment should be completed by the first week of August.
- Matt Romalia informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that the Ferndale Bridge should be finished by the first or second week of August.
- Milestone is wedging Strawberry Road currently and should be finished by Friday, July 11th, 2025. Ten O'Clock Road is finished.
- Jim Meece wanted to make sure that Fisher Road will be considered for re-paving. Matt Romalia stated that Fisher Road is third on the list of roads to be paved.
- Martin Road is next on the list for chip and sealing when the weather cooperates.

Jason Frazier, Parke County Sheriff Department:

- Jason Frazier informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that National Night Out will be Thursday, July 17th, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Parke County Fairgrounds.
- Jason Frazier stated that the Sheriff's Department has a 300-gallon fuel tank that they would like to get rid of. The Sheriff's Department is going with a Heritage fuel tank. Jason Frazier would like permission to list the 300-gallon fuel tank on the website, govdeals.com. Matt Romalia, from the Parke Highway Department, would like to look at the fuel tank because it might be something the Parke Highway Department could use. Dan Collom made the motion for Jason Frazier to list the 300-gallon fuel tank on govdeals.com if the Parke County Highway Department does not want the fuel tank. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

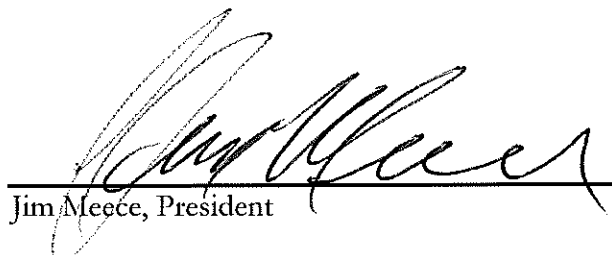
Raymond Leonberger, Parke County Veterans' Administration:


- Raymond Leonberger reported that a fundraiser has been scheduled to raise money for the Parke County Veterans' Administration on July 18th and 19th, 2025. The fundraiser will be from Noon to Noon at the 51 Bridges CrossFit. All the money raised and sponsorship will be coming to the Parke County Veterans Council. Jim Meece plans to speak at this event.
- Raymond Leonberger informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that he has raised enough money to receive a 3 to 1 matching grant available through the Parke County Foundation.
- Raymond Leonberger stated that he has been working with the Thompson's College of Cosmetology to have a free hair cut event once a month for the Veterans of Parke County beginning in September.

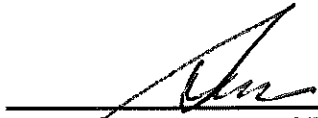
V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Brenda Johnson stated that she thought Beth Martin from the Planning Commission would have been at tonight's meeting, however, Beth Martin was not. Brenda Johnson was concerned about a piece of property that was near her home. This 5-acre piece of property is owned by Ronald Roberts/Bumble-Bee Enterprises LTD. It is not well kept and looks like a junk yard. The court date was cancelled and she was wondering if another court date had been re-scheduled. Nick Sauter, Parke County Board of Commissioner's Attorney, stated that it is in the process.

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 5:03 p.m.

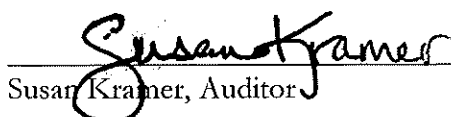


Jim Meece, President

Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President

Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Susan Kramer, Auditor