

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 18th, 2025

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 18th, 2025, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, August 4th, 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 Kim Shorter, Jessica Lancaster, Jacob Roddy, Stacie Conner, Stephany Dowd, Amanda Adams-Washburn, Ray Leonberger and Matt Romalia.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, July 21st, 2025 were approved on a motion from Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, August 4th, 2025 were approved on a motion from Bruce Hartman. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- I. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$288,692.92 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$2,578.14 were approved for release on Monday, August 25th, 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 August 25th, 2025 in the amount of \$366,036.36 was approved on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- II. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - There was one out of cycle check, however, Matt Romalia explained that this is part of the lease agreement from MacAllister Machinery. The out of cycle check request was from MacAllister Machinery in the amount of \$18,750.00 for Parke County Highway Department's purchase of a Liberty trailer for the excavator. Matt Romalia further explained the check request should be denied because at the end of the lease Parke County can purchase the trailer for \$80.00.
  - Nick Sauter, the Board of Commissioners' Attorney, presented Ordinance 2025-09 amending the original 2009-12 Ordinance to include prohibiting TML usage for invasive tattooing during Parke County Events. This amendment prohibits invasive tattooing unless you are an established tattooing business in Parke County. TMLs cannot be used for tattooing booths during events held in Parke County. Ordinance 2025-09 prohibiting the use of TMLs for invasive tattooing during Parke County events was approved on a motion made by Jim Meece. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Meece made the motion to amend the approval to include as same day, same meeting for Ordinance 2025-09 an amendment to prohibit the use of TMLs for invasive tattooing during Parke County events. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
  - Nick Sauter presented Ordinance 2025-10 to reduce the speed limit to 35 miles per hour on Raccoon Road and Valley Road. Dan Collom made the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-10 to reduce the speed limit to 35 miles per hour on Raccoon Road and Valley Road. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Meece made the motion to amend the approval to include as same day, same meeting for Ordinance 2025-10 reducing the speed limit to 35 miles per hour on Raccoon Road and Valley Road. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
  - Susan Kramer, Parke County Auditor, presented information to the Parke County Board of Commissioners on a tort claim from Madelyn Goodwin. Nick Sauter explained that this claim has been passed onto insurance for further investigation.

- Jacob Roddy from Enterprise Fleet Management presented the Parke County Fleet Profile Analysis. After compiling Parke County's Fleet information, Jacob Roddy stated that the fleet is not in bad shape. Thirty-seven vehicles were used in the analysis. The average age of Parke County's fleet is eight and a half years to ten years old. Typically, he would like to see the average age of the fleet to be around three to six years. He also explained that we can fund through grant money, if available. Enterprise Fleet Management is flexible on how we can pay for our leasing agreements. Parke County could have sustainable savings of \$67,290.00 each year. Jim Meece stated that this will have to be presented to the Parke County Council for their approval. The Parke Highway Department and the Parke County Sheriff's Department are very interested in leasing equipment and vehicles for Parke County.
- The 2026 Thrive West Central Local Match request was presented to the Parke County Board of Commissioners. This match is for \$39,005.00 from Parke County. Thrive is an asset to our community because they offer transportation for Parke County residents to appointments. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the 2026 Thrive West Central Local Match of \$39,005.00. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jim Meece mentioned that Thrive is sponsoring a two-day event on housing development in Vigo and Parke Counties. This seminar is from 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 11th, 2025 and on Friday, September 12th, 2025 from 8:15 a.m. to Noon at the Terre Haute Convention Center. Registration can be completed online.
- The 2024 Thrive Annual Report was presented to the Parke County Board of Commissioners for review.
- Stephany Dowd with LCC presented two Opioid Fund requests. The first request is for Southwest Parke Community School Corporation to receive \$20,000.00 to provide support services for students for the 2025-2026 school year. The second request is for the Crossroads Recovery Services, who is offering courses at the Parke County Jail. Both LCC and JRAC have approved \$4,000.00 for to provide life skill services to the inmates through December 2025. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the two Opioid Fund requests to be distributed by LCC. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS:**

- None

### **IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

#### **Ray Leonberger, Parke County Veterans' Administration:**

- Ray Leonberger reported that he has been collecting donations from organizations in Rockville for the purchase of a laptop computer for the Parke County Veterans' Administration Office. This laptop will be the property of Parke County for insurance purposes.
- Volunteer drivers have made forty-nine trips over the past month and a half. The new vehicle has made ten trips in the last month. These volunteers drive Parke County Veterans to their medical appointments.
- Ray Leonberger has been talking with the Veterans Administration in Danville, Illinois to possibly have them purchase another vehicle for Parke County to use to transport Parke County Veteran resides only to the Veterans Administration in Danville, Illinois.
- The Thompson's College of Cosmetology will be offering free haircuts to our Parke County Veterans on the last Thursday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning on September 25th, 2025.
- The VFW will be offering free food during the September 7th, 2025 free concert in the park from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This is a benefit for Riverton Parke FFA program. Donations will be appreciated.

- Jim Meece has a scooter that was his brother's. Jim Meece would like to donate it to someone. He was not sure if Ray Leonberger could direct him on donating the scooter. Ray Leonberger will look into finding a home for the scooter.

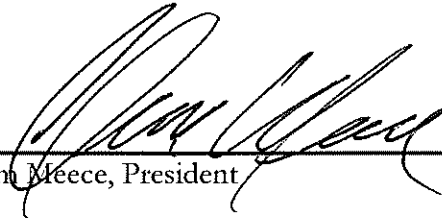
**Matt Romalia, Parke County Highway Superintendent:**

- Matt Romalia presented a quote from Barney Carroll to paint and letter the State Santorium Covered Bridge for \$7,300.00. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the quote from Barney Carroll to paint and letter the State Santorium Covered Bridge. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Matt Romalia explained to the Parke County Board of Commissioners that the Interim Parke County Highway Superintendent had originally order a dump bed from Rahn Equipment. It has taken eight months to get the dump bed. After waiting all this time, the bed is incorrect. It would take some changing of the subframe to make this dump bed work on our chassis. This would be an additional \$6,200.00 to make this dump bed work. Matt Romalia talked with Higgins Welding, LLC and they had a bed in inventory that would work. Matt Romalia would like to refuse the dump bed from Rahn Equipment. He presented an estimate from Higgs Welding, LLC to the Parke County Board of Commissioners to replace the dump bed on truck #24 of the Parke County Highway Department for \$24,652.50 but this cost could be less. There is money in the budget for Higgs Welding, LLC to replace the dump bed with a 10 foot Warren AR Dump Body. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the dump bed from Rahn Equipment to be rejected and the estimate from Higgs Welding, LLC to replace the dump bed on Parke County Highway truck #24 for \$24,652.50. Burce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- There were five estimates from Collom Excavating, LLC for work to be done on five covered bridges in Park County. Rush Creek Covered bridge was for \$2,710.00 to remove and replace damaged end boards, repainting and relettering the end of the bridge that was damaged. The Jackson Covered Bridge estimate is for \$8,220.00 to repair the existing siding. The Phillips Covered Bridge estimate is for \$10,020.00 to remove and dispose of existing shakes on the roof and install new commercial grade, high rib, 28-gauge galvanized metal roofing. The Mecca Covered Bridge estimate is for \$29,955.00 to remove and dispose of existing shakes on the roof and install new commercial grade, high rib, 28-gauge galvanized metal roofing. Finally, the Neet Covered Bridge estimate for \$27,920.00 to remove and dispose of existing shakes on the roof and install new commercial grade, high rib, 28-gauge galvanized metal roofing as well as repair existing windows. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the estimates from Collom Excavating, LLC to repair five covered bridges in Parke County provided funding is available or will be available to complete the projects. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.


**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- None

**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 4:42 p.m.

  
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Jim Meece, President

  
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Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President

  
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Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:

  
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Susan Kramer, Auditor