

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 15, 2021

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15th, 2021, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, November 1st, 2021.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Commissioner Jim Meece, President, Dan R. Collom, First Vice President, Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President. Laura Fischer, Auditor; Nicole Collings, First Deputy Auditor; and County Attorney Nick Sauter. Also, present were John Martin, Jessica Lancaster, Pam Sanders, Cyndi, Todd, Sam Swaim, Christian Beaver, Josh Zuerner, McKenzi Kumpf, and Steven Blane.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on October 4th, 2021 were approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The motion carried unanimously. Minutes for the regular meeting held on November 1st, 2021 were approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$209,856.87 was approved for release on Monday, November 8th, 2021 on a motion made by Dan R. Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The motion carried unanimously. Dan R. Collom made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report in the amount of \$130,045.99. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - The county insurance was the main topic of discussion. The county is self-funded and is typically funded at midpoint. Jim Meece suggested to the Board that this year that the county fund at expected claims because the county has built up a cushion. The Board of Commissioners have meet with different companies. At 4:30, The Board had a Zoom meeting with Richard Sutton from Brown and Brown. Richard Sutton has a bid with Anthem, which had no change in the benefit package. The policy has an imbedded deductible. Richard Sutton said his team will be available for the Auditor's office when needed. They would meet monthly and move to quarterly with the Auditor. The Board ended the Zoom meeting with Richard Sutton. Jim Meece stated that they could have another meeting because the Board has until the end of the week to make a decision. Dan R. Collom said he felt that the Board would be able to vote at the end of the meeting. The insurance topic was tabled until later in the meeting.
 - Judge Sam Swaim presented to the Board and Ordinance 2021-12 for the Public Defender Board. This will be a first in the State of Indiana by having three counties joining together to create a local Public Defender Board. The three counties will be Vermillion, Fountain and Parke. Small counties are having a hard time getting public defenders because bigger counties can pay more and offer benefits. This program has the support of the Indiana Public Defender Board and they have been helpful in structuring this program. Judge Sam Swaim hopes to have it running in June of 2022. Jim Meece made the motion to do a same day same meeting adoption of Ordinance 2021-12. Dan R. Collom seconded the motion. Jim Meece then made the motion to adopt the Ordinance 2021-12 Public Defender Board. Dan R. Collom seconded the motion. Both motions passed unanimously.
 - Cyndi Todd was present along with Joink LLC, Josh Zuerner and McKenzi Kumpf. Joink will be applying for Indiana Next Level Grant and was asking the Board to consider a matching percentage for the grant. The grant will protentional gain access to Broadband internet for 118 households. Along the way Joink would be able to add access to 1,033 additional household on their way to servicing the other 118 households. On November 24, 2021, Joink will find out from the State the numbers of households that been challenged. Joink asked the Board to consider using the ARPA

grant money for the match. The Board said they would take the idea to the ARPA Committee meeting.

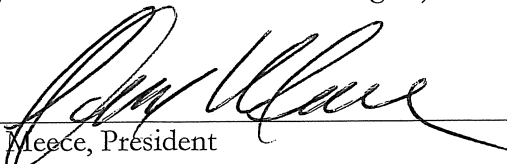
- The Health Department presented another Independent Contract for the administration of the vaccine. Bruce Hartman made the motion to sign the Independent Contract. Dan R. Collom seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- EMS submitted a report for the Board to review.
- Dan R. Collom brought up that he had talked to the engineer about the Bridgeton concrete bridge and the addition of the walkway. The engineer said that the bridge is 54 years old and is up to for a new deck. The engineer said the current structure of the bridge could support a walk lane. Dan R. Collom made the motion for to get an estimate on the walk lane for the Bridgeton concrete bridge. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- The Board went back to the discussion of insurance after some thought. Bruce Hartman said that they needed to do what was best for the employees. Anthem is lower cost and has the imbedded plan. The Board will continue providing HSA money and working toward the 84% county and 16% employee contribution to the plan. With that said, Bruce Hartman, made the motion to go with Anthem Insurance through Brown and Brown with HSA money and 84% County and 16% Employee contributions. Dan R. Collom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Jim Meece will notify Brown and Brown of the decision and have them check into vision, dental, and life insurance. Laura Fischer is to notify APEX of the decision.
- The Auditor's office provided the Board with a report of the voluntary insurance held by the employees.

VII: OLD BUSINESS: None

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS: None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT: Christian Beaver was present to introduce him as a candidate for the Senate. He hopes to build a better future with modern technology for the State.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Dan R. Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.



Jim Meece, President

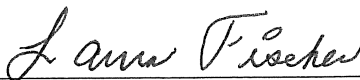


Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Laura Fischer,
Parke County Auditor