

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 5th, 2026

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, January 5th, 2026, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, December 15th, 2025.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan Collom, first Vice President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Susan Kramer, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also, present were Jessica Lancaster, Kim Shorter, Matt Romalia, Jason Frazier, Chris O'Brien, Ray Leonberger, Cyndi Todd, Hal Page, Josh Tolen, Dustin Rader, Rick Judy, Mandy Adams-Washburn, and Beth Martin.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, December 15th, 2025 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - I. **PAYROLL:**

Note: **The Parke County Board of Commissioners is not approving authenticity of the claims presented but are approving what claims are received.**

County payroll in the amount of \$200,273.57 was approved for release on Monday, December 29th, 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 December 29th, 2025 in the amount of \$314,434.63 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 \$968,399.78 were approved in a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - II. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Jim Meece began the meeting by electing offices for the Parke County Board of Commissioners. Dan Collom made the motion to leave the Parke County Board of Commissioners' offices the same for 2026. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Cyndi Todd presented the RDC Spending Plan on behalf of Roy Wrightsman who was unable to attend the meeting. The RDC Spending Plan manages the Tax Incentive Fund (TIF) based on economic development. The Spending Plan is for the TIF districts. The Maximum Anticipated Revenue is \$1,015,000.00. The expenditures include \$605,000.00 for Capital Expenditures allowed in the Economic Development Plan or Redevelopment Plan and \$410,000.00 for Professional Expenses. Amendments can be made if needed in 2026. The Annual RDC Spending Plan was signed by Jim Meece. Dan Collom made the motion to acknowledge the receipt of the 2026 RDC Spending Plan. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Joshua Tolen with the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs, spoke to the Parke County Board of Commissioners regarding the new Service Officer Accreditation Standards based on new Indiana Legislation. This policy is enacted pursuant to Indiana Code 10-17-1 which governs all county and city personnel conducting operational business regarding federal or state veteran benefits, including preparation, presentation or prosecution of claims under 38 C.F.R. § 14.629. Every individual employed by a county or city under I.C. § 10-17-1-9 shall comply with the standards described in this policy to be accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Biannual reporting will be completed by Josh Tolen. The Veterans Affairs helps veterans get the benefits they are entitled to. Jim Meece made the motion to acknowledge the receipt of the

explanation of accreditation standards for the Veterans Service Officer. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- Katie Potter, Parke County Assessor, recommended to the Parke County Board of Commissioners three Commissioners' appointments to the PTBOA Board for the calendar year 2026. The three individuals are Steve Collisi, Delbert Lewis and Michael Strack. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the three recommended Commissioners' appointments to the PTBOA Board. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Beth Martin from the Planning and Zoning Administration presented three Ordinances to the Parke County Board of Commissioners. The first Ordinance 2026-1 was for the flood hazard areas in Parke County Amendment. The Plan Commission approved this ordinance on October 23rd, 2025. Dan Collom made the motion on Same Day and Same Meeting. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Dan Collom made the motion to approve Ordinance 2026-1 regarding flood hazard areas in Parke County Amendment. The second Ordinance 2026-2 was for Hurless Anderson Holdings to rezone the property for a boat and RV storage facility. This ordinance would rezone 4.0 or less acres of land in Union Township from AP-Ag Productive to CGB-Commercial General Business. Dan Collom made the motion on Same Day and Same Meeting. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the rezoning Ordinance 2026-2 of the Hurless Anderson Holdings of 4.0 or less acres from Ag Productive to Commercial General Business. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The third Ordinance 2026-3 is to rezone 4.0 or less acres of land in Union Township from AP-Ag Productive to CGB-Commercial General Business for the construction of rental storage units. Dan Collom made the motion on Same Day and Same Meeting. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Dan Collom made the motion to approve Ordinance 2026-3 rezoning 4.0 or less acres of land from Ag Productive to Commercial General Business for the construction of rental storage units for North Star Storage. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jason Frazier, Parke County Sheriff, presented the Sheriff's Compensation Agreement Extension for 2026 to the Parke County Board of Commissioners to be approved and signed. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve the Parke County Sheriff's Compensation Agreement Extension for 2026. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Meece signed the Sheriff's Compensation Agreement Extension for 2026.
- Jim Meece, President of the Parke County Board of Commissioners, met with the Amish community in Parke County to discuss the price of buggy fees. Lagrange County, Indiana charges \$150.00 per Amish Buggy and \$120.00 for a pony cart. Currently, Parke County charges \$50.00 per Amish Buggy/Cart. It was agreed upon to increase the Amish Buggy/Cart fee to \$100.00 for 2026 and then gradually increase over the next couple of years. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the increase of Parke County's Amish Buggy/Cart fee to \$100.00 for 2026. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jim Meece also discussed a battery storage power entity wanting to put up storage facilities throughout Parke County. We are trying to create ordinances to protect Parke County and its residents regarding solar and renewable energies. On January 22nd, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., there will be a meeting regarding Solar Battery Storage.
- Jim Meece asked the Parke County Board of Commissioners if they were good with him turning in mileage reimbursements for his travels doing Commissioner's work. The Parke County Board of Commissioners did not show opposition.
- Jim Meece mentioned that this coming 4th of July 2026 will mark the 250th Anniversary of the U.S. Independence. Jim Meece wants to work with Mainstreet, PCI, CVC and the Sheriff's Department to put something together to celebrate this special event on the Courthouse Square. Jim Meece will be putting together a committee.
- Jim Meece spoke with Mike Conley with Architura regarding the evaluation of the Courthouse windows for replacement or repair. Originally, there would be a \$24,000.00 charge. However,

Mike Conley may be able to reduce that amount for evaluations for repairs. Phil Savage from RC Engineering will do their evaluation for \$13,000.00. Jim Meece will meet with Matt Stechley as well to discuss having a company come in to evaluate the windows. We have sealed the windows recently and may be able to get a couple more years out of the windows.

- Jim Meece mentioned that the Parke County Highway Department's Time Vacation Book will be moving to the Parke County Auditor's Office to track future updates. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the relocation of the Parke County Highway Department's Time Vacation Book to the Parke County Auditor's Office to track future updates. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jim Meece stated that the Parke County Auditor will be doing a wire transfer to complete the purchase of the Old National Bank Building this week. Jim Meece made the motion to approve Susan Kramer, Parke County Auditor, to complete this wire transfer when needed this week to complete the purchase of the Old National Bank Building in Rockville, IN. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Matt Romalia, Parke County Highway Superintendent, is requesting approval from the Parke County Board of Commissioners to purchase a new air compressor from Auto Wares at the price of \$11,500.00. The Parke County Board of Commissioners asked if the Parke County Highway Department had this in the budget. Matt Romalia stated that they did. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the Parke County Highway Department purchasing an air compressor from Auto Wares for \$11,500.00. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Matt Romalia requested approval from the Parke County Board of Commissioners to purchase a triaxle MAC dump truck from VOMAC. With this triaxle dump truck, the Parke County Highway Department will be able to haul more product in less trips. This will be beneficial in the long run. This will be a lease through SourceWell. Matt Romalia will present this purchase to the Parke County Council on Thursday, January 8th, 2026. This new Mac Dump Truck will replace truck #34, which is currently the oldest in the fleet. We would receive this truck in April 2026. The Parke County Highway Department will have three other new trucks by mid-January 2026. The Parke County Board of Commissioners will support the Parke County Council's discussion to purchase a MAC triaxle dump truck for the Parke County Highway Department.
- Recommendation of Acceptance of Bids for the Year 2026 are as follows:

26-1 Bituminous Materials

Asphalt Materials, Evergreen and Milestone

26-2 Tires and Tubes

Pomp's Tire Service

26-3 Liquid Petroleum Products

Keystone Corporation

26-4 Oil and Grease Products

Auto Value

26-5 Stone and Gravel

Parke County Aggregates, S & G Excavating, Inc., Conrad Perry,
Putnam County Aggregates, Lincoln Park Stone, Whitesville Mill Service
and U.S. Aggregates

26-6 Culverts and Bridge Materials

E3 Bridge, E & H Bridge & Grating, Inc., Parke County Aggregates, Civil Con
and Wholesale Drainage Supply

26-7 Repair Parts

BHK Auto Parts and Standard Auto Parts

The Bids were previously opened in a public meeting. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the Bid Recommendations for the Parke County Highway Department for 2026. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Jason Frazier, Parke County Sheriff:

- Jason Frazier presented to the Parke County Board of Commissioners with three estimates for the Covered Bridge Camera Project. Riolink is the type of camera/service the Sheriff's Department uses to monitor the recycle bins on North U.S 41. The Parke County Board of Commissioners will take these estimates under advisement and review them.

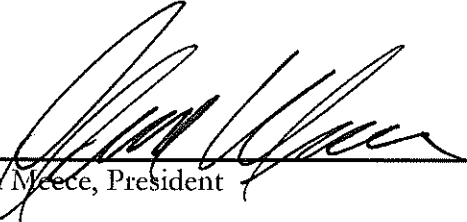
Chris O'Brien, Parke County Emergency Management:

- Chris O'Brien informed the Parke County Board of Commissioners that the Parke County Hazard Communication Plan is getting close to completion. The Parke County Commissioners should be receiving a copy of it via email and will be able to approve it at the first meeting in February 2026.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- There was a request to close Old Mill Road from Dam Road to Mansfield Road for a Wedding on June 20th, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This road would be open to local traffic only the rest would be no thru traffic. Jim Meece stated to the residents requesting this closure to make sure to be in contact with the Parke County Highway Department closer to the date of the Wedding to get signs posted as required. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the closure of Old Mill Road from Dam Road to Mansfield Road being open to local traffic only and the rest no thru traffic during a Wedding on June 20th, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Amanda Adams-Washburn from the Hamilton Center gave a brief overview of the 2024 Hamilton Center's County Annual Report. The Hamilton Center served 432 consumers and of that 385 were at 200% below poverty level. This equals about 89%. The Hamilton Center served 112 from the ages of 0-17, 291 from the ages of 18-64 and 29 from the ages of 65 and over. They served 137 in-patient days and 10,950 out-patient services. Salaries and benefits were \$831,312.00, expenses were \$314,188.00 and the cost of in-patient care was \$189,060.00. Total expenses for Parke County were \$1,334,560.00. The charity care that they utilized was \$58,718.00. Parke County's contribution was \$113,471.00. The Hamilton Center also employs fourteen Parke County Residents and nine of those employees work in the Parke County office.


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 4:43 p.m.



Jim Meece, President



Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Susan Kramer, Auditor