

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 15th, 2025

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 15th, 2025, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 2nd, 2025.
 - II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan Collom, first Vice President; Nick Sauter, Commissioner's Attorney; Susan Kramer, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also, present were Katie Potter, Jessica Lancaster, Ray Leonberger, Brian Cusimano, Treavor Harris, Jordan Monroe, Cathi Gould, Lillian Floutsis, Tim Smith and James Switzer.
 - III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Tuesday, September 2nd, 2025 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Jim Meece 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 \$276,359.12, Assessor's Stipend in the amount of \$1,250.00 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$4,511.51 were approved for release on Monday, September 15th, 2025 on a motion made by Dan Collom. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - II. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - There was one out of cycle check request that needed to be approved. The claim voucher request was from Barney Carroll for \$7,300.00 regarding the painting and lettering of the State Sanatorium Covered Bridge. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the out of cycle check requests from Barney Carroll. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Jim Meece was contacted by some individuals to use the Courthouse as a Day of Prayer on September 22nd, 2025. Jim Meece made the motion to approve using the Courthouse as a Day of Prayer on September 22nd, 2025. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Katie Potter, Parke County Assessor, presented her recommendation for the Cyclical Reassessment bid. Tyler Technologies and Nexus Group were the two bids received. Tyler Technologies' bid was \$577,320.00 and Nexus Group's bid was \$650,000.00. One of the stipulations for Katie Potter was that these bids include attorney fees for appeals. Both companies have included this request, however, Tyler Technologies contracted Brad Adamsky, an attorney from LaPorte, Indiana and Nexus Group contracted the same attorneys Katie Potter has been working with. Nexus uses Brian Cusimano and Marilyn Meighen and these attorneys have won every appeal's case for Parke County. Katie Potter does not want to use another attorney. She would like to continue to use her current attorneys. Thus, Katie Potter is recommending the Parke County Board of Commissioners approve Nexus Group for the Cyclical Reassessment. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the Nexus Group bid for the Parke County Cyclical Reassessment. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - Beth Martin with the Parke County Planning and Zoning Commission, was unable to attend the meeting. However, Susan Kramer, Parke County Auditor, presented Resolution 2025-11 to approve and adopt the Parke County Comprehensive Plan. The Parke County Board of Commissioners were good with how the resolution read. Jim Meece confirmed that Bruce Hartman was okay with Resolution 2025-11. Dan Collom made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-11 regarding the Parke County Comprehensive Plan. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- James Switzer, who is a Parke County resident, came before the Parke County Board of Commissioners to discuss who is responsible for the repair and maintenance of roads in the Crooks-Byers Subdivision. According to meeting minutes from April 1, 1968, the Parke County Board of Commissioners approved the right-of-way grants to take over the subdivision roads of Crooks-Byers Subdivision. There is a total of 1.85 miles. This was recorded in the Recorder's Office. Jim Meece explained that those roads in the Crooks-Byers Subdivision are not on Parke County's maintenance list. Nick Sauter, Parke County Board of Commissioners' Attorney, will have to look into this matter. James Switzer stated that in the past Parke County had cleared snow and patched the Crooks Byers Subdivision's roads and recently, Parke County has not patched these roads. Jim Meece's stance was that we must investigate who is responsible for the maintenance of Crooks Byers Subdivision roads.
- Treavor Harris and Jordan Monroe, both with Primerica, presented their business offerings of free Financial Planning for the Parke County employees. They have been running this business in Fishers, Indiana for eight and a half years. Typically, educating middle income families about financial planning, free of charge. There are other products they offer inside the plan such as life insurance, investments, IRAs, home and car insurance. They want to expand into Crawfordsville and Rockville areas. They have over 4,500 clients that they offer financial planning to. Jim Meece and Dan Collom discussed the best way to present this service of financial planning to the Parke County employees. It was agreed upon to initially have information sent to the Parke County Auditor's Office and the Auditor will forward the information to the department heads. The department heads can give the information to their employees. Then a census of interest would be conducted. From there, offer scheduled times after working hours for employees to discuss financial planning.
- Jim Meece reported to Dan Collom that the Big Rocky Fork Covered Bridges needs repairs.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

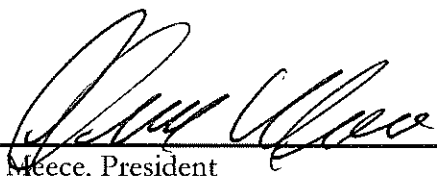
Ray Leonberger, Parke County Veteran's Administration:

- Ray Leonberger reported that the new Parke County Veteran's vehicle has done five trips totaling over five hundred miles for the Veteran's of Parke County. Ray Leonberger has had fifty-eight office visits thus far in September. Ray Leonberger is working with Montgomery and Putnam Counties because they make up 33% of the Veteran trips. He wants Putnam County to donate \$10,000.00 towards another vehicle to use for Veterans' medical trips. Vermillion County has already set aside money to give for this additional vehicle purchase.
- The free concert event at the Beechwood Parke/Pavillion on September 7th, 2025 had a good turnout. Over eighty free meals were served by the VFW and all donations were for the Riverton Parke FFA program.
- Ray Leonberger reminded the Parke County Board of Commissioners of the free haircuts by appointment only being offered once a month at the Thompson's College of Cosmetology beginning September 25th, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Ray Leonberger will be placing an Ad in the Parke County Sentinel as a reminder to the Veterans of Parke County.
- Some clarifications need to be addressed regarding Veterans' Benefits. There was some discussion about how many in-service hours were needed and the National Guard qualifications for eligibility of veterans' benefits. Honorable discharge is eligible for State Benefits. Ray Leonberger stated that it used to be 6 months of in-service was required to get Veteran's benefits. Now, any amount of in-service hours qualifies for veterans' benefits. It is important for Parke County Veterans to contact the Parke County Veterans Administration to receive all eligible veterans' benefits.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None


ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Meece and seconded by Dan Collom. The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.



Jim Meece, President



Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Susan Kramer, Auditor