

COUNTY COUNCIL

August 14, 2025

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Council convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, August 14th, 2025 to consider additional requests in excess of the budget allowed for 2025, and to conduct such other business as may be properly brought before the Council.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Council members present were Roy Wrightsman, President; Thomas Rohr, Vice President; Jack B. Butler; Matt Helderman; James E. Howard; Rick Patton; Susan Kramer, Auditor. Also present were Katie Potter, Kim Shorter, Jason Frazier, Leanna Collisi, Jim Meece, Stacie Amerman, Julie Lanzone, Mandy Washburn and Chris Novotney.
- III. **READING OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes for the Council Meeting held on July 10th, 2025 were presented. Jack B Butler made a motion to approve the July 10th, 2025 minutes as presented. Matt Helderman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- IV. **ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:** The Council considered additional appropriation requests as published in the newspaper July 18th, 2025.

Council President, Roy Wrightsman, reviewed the appropriations from written requests submitted by Auditor, Susan Kramer. Thus, the following ordinance was adopted: WHEREAS: it has been determined it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for 2025, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council of Parke County, Indiana, for the expenses of said County government, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set out of the funds herein specified, subject to the law governing the same: Thomas Rohr made a motion to approve the additional appropriation requests for the Veterans Office equipment and deny the request for the Community Crossing Bituminous as advertised on July 18th, 2025. The motion was seconded by Jack B Butler and it carried unanimously.

VETERANS OFFICE DONATION

Equipment	4013-00-04-7020	2036.65	2036.65
Total VETERANS OFFICE DONATION	Total	2036.65	2036.65

COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT

Bituminous	8173-02-02-3110	1,226.96	0
Total COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT	Total	1,226.96	0

- V. **JURY PAY:** The Auditor presented the Parke County Clerk's Certification of jury fees collected for July 2025, and requested \$388.64 be transferred into the Jury Pay Fund, pursuant to IC 33-19-8-8. Rick Patton made the motion to direct the Auditor to transfer the jury fees collected in the amount of \$388.64 from the County Users Fund to the Jury Fee Fund. The motion was seconded by Jack B Butler and unanimously carried.
- VI. **REAPPROPRIATIONS:** \$129.92 was deposited in EMS monthly report of collections in July into fund EMS Training Institution Line 4909-00-02-3110 Education and Training Materials. This was a refund of shipping costs for an order of textbooks placed for the EMT Training class. Matt Helderman made a motion to approve the re-appropriation as presented. Jim Howard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VII. TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

Transfer Amount:	<u>\$ 500</u>		
From Account		Account	
Number:	<u>1000-12-01-1501</u>	Name:	<u>Planning Commission Extra Clerical</u>
To Account		Account	
Number:	<u>1000-12-03-5020</u>	Name:	<u>Planning Commission Travel & Training</u>
Transfer Amount:	<u>\$ 150,000</u>		
From Account		Account	
Number:	<u>1000-15-01-2300</u>	Name:	<u>BOC Insurance</u>
To Account		Account	
Number:	<u>1000-15-03-5092</u>	Name:	<u>BOC IT Services</u>
Transfer Amount:	<u>\$ 40,000</u>		
From Account		Account	
Number:	<u>1135-00-04-7038</u>	Name:	<u>Cumulative Bridge - Bridge 31</u>
To Account		Account	
Number:	<u>1135-00-03-5011</u>	Name:	<u>Cumulative Bridge - Equipment Rental</u>

Jack B Butler made a motion to approve the transfers as presented. Rick Patton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VIII. GENERAL BUSINESS:

AIC Annual Conference will be held at French Lick September 29th thru October 2nd, 2025.

August 21st, 2025 – 2026 Budget Hearing start at 8:30 am

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Redevelopment Commission (RDC): Did not meet.

Courthouse Security Committee: Did not meet.

Planning and Zoning Board: Zoning Variance granted for a Glamping spot.

West Central Solid Waste District (SWD): Did not meet.

Northern Parke Regional Sewer District: Reviewed by-laws.

X. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

- **Susan Kramer, Auditor:**
 - The Auditor's Cash Flow Statement was submitted for review by the Council Members.
- **Katie Potter, Assessor:**
 - Reassessments are ahead of schedule.
 - Placed ad in the Sentinel accepting bids until September 2nd, 2025 for Reassessment Contractor.
- **Jim Meece, Commissioner:**
 - Melcher Bridge abutment has been completed.
 - CVC will pay to have the roof replaced on the Mecca, Phillips and Neet bridges.
 - Still in talks with Billie Creek regarding the Leatherwood and Beeson bridges.
 - Ferndale culvert has been completed.
 - Martin road is being chip sealed.
 - No issues with the temperatures on the second floor since the new heating and cooling company came in and worked on the control system at no cost to Parke County.
 - Sims Smith Bridge needs repairs
 - Courthouse steps at all the entry doors need thin set placed due to chipping. Cobb's will do the work for \$1725 and have it completed before the Covered Bridge Festival.
 - Replacements windows for the courthouse will be on an as needed basis.
 - Sheriff Department issue with boiler not being installed to code.
- **Kim Shorter, Treasurer:**
 - Nothing to report
- **Jason Frazier, Sheriff:**
 - Seeking approval to purchase two new Tahoe's, one to come out of the 2026 budget and the other out of the Commissary fund.
- **Julie Lanzone, EMS Director:**
 - Parke County EMS – 169 responses resulting in 142 transports. Revenue 526,707.33
 - Several accounts are outstanding; 33 in collection and 18 in litigation.
 - Parke-Vermillion EMS – 188 responses resulting in 174 transports

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

- Chris Novotney with Westside Tractor presented information regarding new grader leasing options. Current leases will be running out soon. Delivery of the new equipment would be between February and March 2026. Highway Department staff is requesting the all-wheel drive and joy stick controls option.

**PARKE COUNTY
RESOLUTION 2025-09
AMENDMENT TO PARKE COUNTY LEVY FREEZE TAX RATE**

WHEREAS, it has been shown that it is evident that excess revenue is being captured by the existing Parke County levy freeze income tax rate; and

WHEREAS, the Parke County Council has the sole authority to increase or decrease the income tax rates in Parke County; and

WHEREAS, Parke County has a balance in the LOIT Stabilization Fund of \$382,936.22 as of June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Parke County expects to deposit \$13,177.52 into the LOIT Stabilization Fund by December 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the current LIT Levy Freeze Rate for Parke County is 0.41%; and

WHEREAS, the current LIT Levy Freeze Rate would collect approximately \$1,736,415.60 in 2026; and

WHEREAS, Parke County's Levy Freeze requirement remains at \$1,584,715; and

WHEREAS, sufficient anticipated tax revenues and LOIT Stabilization Fund balances exist to fully fund the Parke County Levy Freeze requirement; and

WHEREAS, SEA 1, signed by the Governor on April 15, 2025, abolishes the LIT Levy Freeze rate as of January 1, 2028; and

WHEREAS, IC 6-3.6-11-1(b) requires Parke County to seek approval from the Department of Local Government Finance to lower the Parke County Levy Freeze LIT Rate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parke County Council requests the Department of Local Government Finance approve the reduction of the Parke County Levy Freeze rate from 0.41% to a minimum of 0.37%.

Duly adopted on August 14, 2025 by the Parke County Council

Jack B Butler made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-09 Amendment to Parke County Levy Freeze Tax rate as presented. Tom Rohr seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Amendment to the 2025 Parke County Salary Ordinance

The Parke County Council at their August 14, 2025 meeting determined to amend the 2025 Parke County Salary Ordinance in the following manner:


Fund/ Appropriation Number	Department	Position	2025 Amount Approved	2025 Amended Amount	Bi- Weekly Rate Approved	Bi- Weekly Rate Amended	Hourly Rate Approved	Hourly Rate Amended
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund								
1176-01-01- 1000	Highway	Supervisor	\$ 53,086.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Tom Rohr made a motion to approve the amendment to the 2025 Parke County Salary Ordinance as presented. Jack B Butler seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

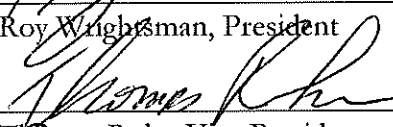
XII. OLD BUSINESS:

AYE

NAY



Roy Wrightsman, President



Thomas Rohr, Vice President



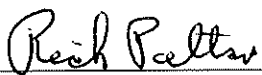
Jack B. Butler



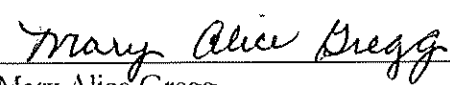
James E. Howard



Matt Helderman

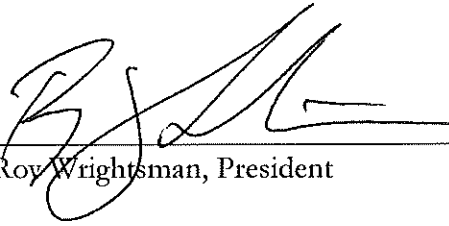


Rick Patton



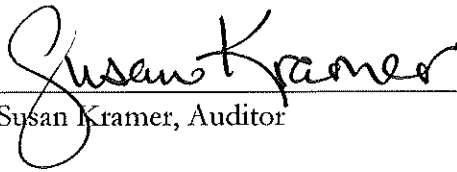
Mary Alice Gregg

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion to adjourn was made by Jack B Butler and seconded by Rick Patton. The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.



Roy Wrightsman, President

ATTEST:



Susan Kramer, Auditor