

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 1st, 2026

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1st, 2026, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, May 18th, 2026.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan Collom; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Susan Kramer, Auditor. Also, present were Kim Shorter, Mark Spelbring, Glenn Bell, Pam Burgess, Susan Holley, Jean Ann Craycraft, Roberta Hobbs, Janet Wall-Myers, Judy Branham, Deb Cunningham, Tim Smith, Ray Leonberger and Josh Gaskill from SJCA.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, May 18th, 2026 were approved on a motion from Bruce Hartman. 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 \$201,595.39 was approved for release on Monday, June 1st, 2026. Acknowledgement of receipt of Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for June 1st, 2026, in the amount of \$143,714.12 was approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$356,015.95 were approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

II. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ordinance 2026-10 Speed Limit for Hilltop Road reducing the speed to 30mph. Ordinance 2026-10 was approved on a motion by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Same Day, Same Meeting was also approved on a motion by Jim Meece. Bruce Hartman seconded the same day, same meeting motion and it carried unanimously.
- Roberta Hobbs and Jean Ann Craycraft presented the need for a "Little Library" to be placed on the second floor near the courtroom to help distract and ease the stress of children that are participating in the court system. Jim Meece made a motion to allow the Parke County Public Library to create the "Little Library" on the second floor of the courthouse near the courtroom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
- NCL Lease of a Mack GR64FT with Higgs welding uplift for the Highway Department was tabled because the Highway Superintendent was not present.
- Municipal Capital Finance Lease of a new Total Patcher T-7500 with accessories was also tabled because the Highway Superintendent was not present.
- West Central Solid Waste District 2027 commitment of \$52,507.00 was approved on a motion by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

- Cleaver Cabling & Consulting, Inc 2027 contract was presented. Bruce Hartman made a motion to approve the 2027 contract for Cleaver Cabling as presented. Jim Meece seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
- Ray Leonberger, Parke County Veteran Service Officer, addressed the Commissioners regarding the need for an additional workday for the VSO in the 2027 budget. On a motion made by Bruce Hartman the additional workday was approved contingent on Council approval. Jim Meece seconded the motion with the contingency, and it carried unanimously.
- First reading of the proposed 2026-11 Ordinance regarding requirements for Data Centers in Parke County.

PARKE COUNTY ORDINANCE 2026-11

AN ORDINANCE TO Address Data Centers, County of Parke, State of Indiana, adopted this day of 15th day of June, 2026.

WHERE AS, there is a growing trend of company requests of data enters through the State of Indiana.

WHEREAS, the Parke County Board of Commissioners, herein after "Commissioners", by and through their ordinances and regulations are duly charged with regulating land use of the purpose to protect the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of land owners, residents and the general public, with the assistance of the Parke County Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the establishment and operating of data centers within Parke County to ensure the suck facilities are compatible with local land use, minimize environmental impacts, protect natural resources, contribute positively to the community, and encourage t4ransparency, efficiency, and public accountability.

WHEREAS, data centers are a recent development throughout the State of Indiana, and their5 long-term impact is not certain, the Parke County Board of Commissioners will continue to monitor the impact and use of data centers and pass legislation accordingly.

WHEREAS, data centers are not currently defined in the Parke County Planning and Zoning Ordinance.

WHEREAS, at the time the Commissioners desire to implement the following regulations governing the siting, design and operating of data centers in Parke County, Indiana.

Therefore, BE IT ORDAINED by the Parke County Board of Commissioners:

- 1) The following definition is established:
 Data Center – a facility, used primarily for the storage, management, processing and transmission of digital data and the houses computer or network equipment, systems, servers, appliances, and other associated components related to digital data storage, processing and related operations. Data center uses include data storage facilities, server cluster, artificial intelligence training, image processing, cloud computing, email servicing and similar uses. This definition Excludes;
 - a) General office buildings,
 - b) Telecommunication towers, or
 - c) Small-scale server rooms accessory to another permitted use.

2.) A project or development consisting of a Data Center shall be considered by Parke County Board of Commissioners under the following conditions:

a.) Any data center that is not independent from the local electrical grid other than the usual and customary office building needs such as restrooms, drinking water, maintenance, and similar requirements are hereby prohibited in Parke County, Indiana.

b.) Data centers must have power consumption constructed in such a manner to have not negative impact on power availability or cost to Parke County Residents;

c.) Any data center that is not independent from local water resources for cooling purposes is hereby prohibited, i.e. data center must have tanked water brought to site in bulk and managed by closed loop non-evaporating systems, may not utilize any other water resource, i.e. wells, town water, lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, etc.

d.) Data centers must additionally follow all regulations and requirements imposed by the State of Indiana.

e.) Data centers must additionally petition the Parke County Planning and Zoning Commission and follow all requirements and restrictions imposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, including following the normal zoning process and any additional Ordinances passed in the future by the Planning and Zoning Commission or the Parke County Board of Commissioners.

Any violation of this ordinance shall be subject to a \$2,500 fine per day, per parcel of land.

Unanimous consent of all members presents on June 15th, 2026 to consider the ordinance on the same date as introduced.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

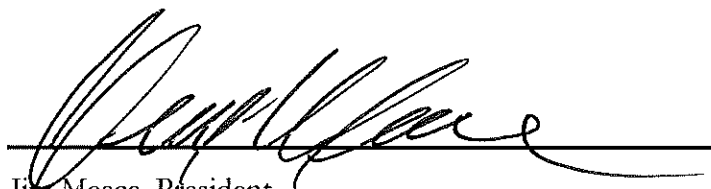
IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- None

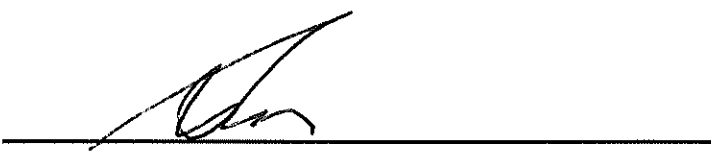
V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Numerous Parke County residents were in attendance of the Commissioner's meeting to voice their concerns regarding Data Centers.

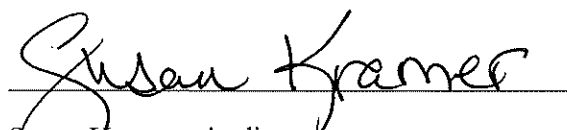
ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.


Jim Meece, President

Absent
Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President


Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:


Susan Kramer, Auditor