

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 16th, 2024

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 16th, 2024, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, September 3rd, 2024.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Bruce Hartman, second Vice President; Nick Sauter, Commissioners' Attorney; Susan Kramer, 1st Deputy Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also present were Kim Shorter, Cyndi Todd, George Smith, John Martin, Brenda Johnson, Jessica Lancaster, Pam Sanders and Stacie Amerman.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, September 3rd, 2024 were approved on a motion from Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- IV. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$261,244.44 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$2,818.09 were approved for release on Monday, September 9th, 2024 on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Acknowledgement of receipt of Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for September 9th, 2024 in the amount of \$192,303.08 was approved on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- V. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - There were three out of cycle checks presented to the Commissioners for approval. There were two checks from the VS Engineering. One was for the Melcher Bridge in the amount of \$15,681.51 and the other check was for the Normal Bridge Inspections in the amount of \$111,191.00. Jim Meece made the motion to approve both VS Engineering out of cycle checks. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The last out of cycle check was from Stryker in the amount of \$6,244.56 for batteries for the Lucas Devices. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the Stryker out of cycle check. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
 - George Smith with the Parke County's insurance company presented the Parke County Board of Commissioners with a couple of quotes for IT Insurance. Parke County did not use to have a Multifaceted Authentication process in place but now Parke County does and can qualify to have IT Insurance. George Smith had quotes from CFC and Travelers Insurance Companies. Both policies have identical deductibles. The only difference is coverage amounts. The \$1 million policy costs \$9,063.00 plus a \$250.00 policy fee. The \$2 million policy costs \$13,475.00 plus \$250.00 policy fee. Parke County is tax exempt. George Smith explained that CFC will try to breach an IT system prior to quoting coverage. This enables CFC to make recommendations. CFC will continue to try to breach an IT system to make sure the IT system is protected properly. Kim Shorter commented that in her Treasurers' Meeting they had a discussion regarding Monroe County's IT system being held hostage for \$900,000.00 and Clay County's IT system was held hostage for \$95,000.00. Threat amounts can vary greatly. George Smith mentioned that intentional acts are not covered. Jim Meece commented that Parke County has to have the IT insurance. There is roughly a \$4,000.00 difference between the \$ 1 million and the \$2 million coverages. Jim Meece made the motion to go with CFC for the \$2 million IT/Cyber insurance coverage. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Meece made the motion to authorize Jim Meece to sign the IT/Cyber insurance contract after Nick Sauter looks over it. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- Cyndi Todd presented the Parke County Board of Commissioners with a Letter of Support for the Mainstream Fiber Networks as BEAD Provider of Choice through the Indiana Broadband Office. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve and sign the Letter of Support for the Mainstream Fiber Networks. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Jim Meece has received a number of requests for a county wide burn ban. These requests came from the Bellmore and Marshall Fire Departments and one other entity. A burn ban would include no open burning, no burning of debris, or no burning of trash barrels. Jim Meece made the motion to enact Ordinance 2024-13 which enforces a County wide burn ban until further notice. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. This is a same date, same meeting Ordinance 2024-13 approval.
- Jim Meece mentioned that the Health Department requested an ordinance be put in place to include a health permit with the TMLs and make the land owners and vendors responsible to obtain a health permit, if required. This ordinance would take effect in 2025. Jim Meece made the recommendation to table this ordinance requested until Dan Collom returns and has a chance to review it.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Nicole Collings:

- The August Monthly Report from the Clerk of Parke County Circuit Courts was reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

Julie Lanzone:

- The August and September Monthly Reports from Parke County EMS was reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

Luke Moody:

- Luke Moody spoke with the Operations Manager regarding the Community Crossings project for County Roads 775, 800, 200 N. and 500 N. Luke Moody said this work is being pushed back and may have to wait until after the Covered Bridge Festival is over. Luke Moody reported to the Commissioners that the Highway Department has been working on the roads for the Covered Bridge Festival. They have been removing brush along the road edges and covered bridges. The Highway Department has also been working with the transportation departments at the county school systems to repair any roads the buses are using. The Highway Department is trying to make the roads safe for all of the community and its visitors utilizing the Parke County roadways. Luke Moody had a new hire with a Class B CDL. This new hire began work on Monday, September 16th, 2024. There were several applications. Jim Meece has been in touch with Work One to look into training for Class B CDLs. Work One is trying to secure a company to do CDL training. This training could be paid for by the County with a six month stay period for the employee then after that time frame the State of Indiana will reimburse Parke County for the training. If the employee was to separate from Parke County before the six month period, the employee would be responsible for paying Parke County back for the CDL training. Luke Moody

has made another job offer to an applicant with a Class A CDL, but is waiting on the applicant to reply. Luke Moody reported that eleven culverts have been replaced and would like to replace a total of fourteen culverts, if possible. The new culverts have an improved volume of water flow for good drainage. Luke Moody inquired about Leathwood Bridge and Beeson Bridge. Who is responsibility for their repairs? Jim Meece explained that these bridge are located in the Billie Creek Village and are privately owned. If the bridges were to be transferred back to Parke County, then Parke County could take care of the bridges. Luke Moody mentioned that the Mansfield Bridge, Conley Ford, Thorpe Ford, and one other bridge are in need of roof repairs. The roof repairs have been scheduled to begin this Wednesday, September 18th, 2024. Jim Meece said we have to be careful because some of these bridges are set up as a cost share between Parke County Highway and the CVC. Jim Meece also explained that the Parke County Board of Commissioners need to approve any bridge work before contracting the work out in an open meeting. Luke Moody has quotes/contracts for the Covered Bridge repairs. He will email these quotes/contracts to Nick Sauter for him to review. Luke Moody also mentioned that the Highway Department has an internal bridge inspection report available. This report shows what work the Highway Department can do and what work will need to be contracted out.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Brenda Johnson had spoken with Cassie Wittenmyer and now has been speaking with Beth Martin in the Planning Commission and Zoning Office regarding a property next to her that is a serious eye sore. Beth Martin has requested that Brenda Johnson be placed on the agenda for the Thursday, September 26th, 2024 Planning Commission and Zoning meeting at the Parke County Fairgrounds. Nick Sauter stated that there were two filings from the Sheriff's Department regarding zoning violations or nuisance properties. Nick was not sure if the property that Brenda Johnson was talking about was one of the two reported properties. Nick Sauter explained that sometimes the judge will give a Notice to Comply. Court cases take time and you must stay on top of them so the process keeps moving along. Just because something is ugly looking does not mean it was illegal. It has to violate an existing statute.

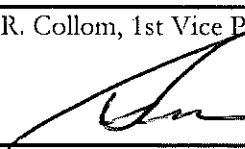
ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Meece and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.



Jim Meece, President

Absent

Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:

Susan Kramer, 1st Deputy Auditor