

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 5th, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER: The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 5th, 2018, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, February 19th, 2018.

II. ROLL CALL: Members present were Commissioner Jim Meece, President; Dan R. Collom, First Vice President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Pam Adams, Auditor; Laura Fischer, 1st Deputy Auditor and County Attorney John Asbury. Also present were Janice Johnson, Lora Johnson, Kathy Collom, Pam Sanders, Mike Strack, Randy Norman, Justin Cole, Larry Bemis, Jason Frazier, Chester Crague, Cyndi Todd, Nick Sauter, Matt Pittman, Kris Ratcliff, Kevin Stalker, Kim Shorter, Julie Lanzone, Raymond Bush, and Rick Thompson.

III. MINUTES: Minutes for the Regular meeting held on Monday, February 19th, 2018 will be presented at the next meeting on March 19th, 2018.

IV. PAYROLL: County payroll in the amount of \$155,996.47 was approved for release on Monday, March 5th, 2018 on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Dan Collom made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Payroll Accounts Payable Report in the amount of \$97,918.84. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

V. CLAIMS: After reviewing the Claims Docket, claims in the amount of \$800,219.62 were approved for release on March 5th, 2018 on a motion made by Dan Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- Dan Collom made a motion to approve two hand-typed checks, the first is in the amount of \$542.90 payable to Allied 100 LLC. The second is in the amount of \$3,200.00 payable to AC Heating & Electrical and is contingent upon Council approval of an additional appropriation. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Partnership Parke County Executive Director Cyndi Todd appeared before the Board with information regarding Opportunity Zone for Next Level Indiana, which is part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and allows governors to nominate certain low-income census tracts as Opportunity Zones; the goal is to encourage long-term private capital investment in low-income communities. If the Board chooses to move forward with the program an application will need to be submitted on behalf of the Commissioners online. Bruce Hartman made a motion to approve Partnership Parke County to pursue Opportunity Zone for Next Level Indiana. Dan Collom second the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Todd presented the Board with a listing parcels from 2017 unsold Tax Sale Properties and is requesting the Commissioner assign the unsold parcels to the Redevelopment Commission who will in turn put them up for bid. Prior to assigning certificates letters have been mailed to the incorporated Towns to allow them the first opportunity on the parcels, responses must be received within 20 days. Commissioners tabled until the April 2nd, 2018 meeting, which will allow the town's time to send their responses.
- Auditor Pam Adams advised the Board that Chief Probation Officer Jason McHargue has requested a virtual button for the duress system (panic buttons) to be put on his computer. Prosecuting Attorney Steve Cvengros has also requested to have the duress system installed in his building/offices. There would need to be five (5) physical buttons installed and a repeater box which would let the buttons connect with the system that was installed in the Courthouse for the signal to be broadcast. The cost of the virtual button, five physical buttons and the repeater would be \$1,285.00. Adams is requesting the Commissioners approve the quote so that it can be presented to the County Council for funding at their meeting this Thursday. Dan Collom made a motion to approve quote. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- The Board reviewed the Tokio Marine HCC claim for the County Highway Department's 2017 Kenworth dump truck which slid off a road during the ice event on February 11th, 2018 and incurred damages.
- Letter from USS Indiana Commissioning Committee was reviewed by the Board.
- Auditor Pam Adams informed the board that Health Department needs to update their WiFi, the modem/access point currently being used is several years old and there are issues with maintaining a connection. The Health Department will purchase the equipment for cost of \$189.00 and is

requesting the County to pay the annual license fee of \$99.00. Bruce Hartman made a motion to pay the annual access point license fee for the Health Department's WiFi. Dan Collom second the motion and it carried unanimously.

- Adams advised Commissioners she received an e-mail from ESPY Services, Inc. who have requested one month's phone bills to do a preliminary communications audit at no cost to the County. Dan Collom made motion not to move forward with ESPY Services, Inc. at this time, since the County only switched providers one and one half years ago. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Registration information regarding the 2018 Association of Indiana Counties, Inc. West Central District Meeting was reviewed by the Board. The meeting will once again be at The Inn at DePauw & Event Center in Greencastle, Indiana and the event will start at 5:30 p.m. Dan Collom and Bruce Hartman requested Adams to register them for the meeting.
- Raymond Bush appeared before the Commissioners with petition to vacate an alley in the community of Lodi in Liberty Township.

The vacation of two twelve foot wide alleys and part of Lafayette Street (50 feet wide) in the Town of Lodi (Platted as Fullerton) in Liberty Township, Parke County, Indiana. One twelve foot wide alley runs north and south between Lots 49, 50, 59, 60, 61, 62, 71, and 72. The other twelve foot wide alley runs east and west between Lots 59, 60, 61, and 62. Also the vacation of all of that part of Lafayette Street which lies north of Lots 71 and 72, and the Old Canal Footpath. Matt Pittman together with Lora and Janice Johnson appeared in objection to the petition. Commissioners tabled the matter to allow the property owners an opportunity to come to agreement.

- Thelma Biven, Liaison with the Children's Bureau, Inc. located in Terre Haute Indiana has sent in request to utilize the Courthouse lawn beginning April 11th, 2018 and through the end of the month. The Children's Bureau will put pinwheels on lawn to raise awareness for April being Prevent Child Abuse Month. Bruce Hartman made motion for Children's Bureau Inc. to utilize the Courthouse lawn for month April. Dan Collom second the motion that carried unanimously.
- Meece received a request from Sugar Creek Fire Department, in Vigo County to do a back wash training at Mansfield. Meece stated the County does not have jurisdiction regarding waterways which fall under the oversight of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). However, the fire department may need to access county property if they receive permission from the DNR. Bruce Hartman made motion to grant permission for the fire department access to any county owned property to facilitate their training, but not the waterways. Dan Collom seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- The Board Reviewed the monthly reports for the Planning Commission, the Clerk's monthly report and the Wabash River Heritage Corroder Commission minutes and agenda.

V OLD BUSINESS:

- Jim Meece stated he spoke with Ronja Branson regarding the vacancy on the Parke County Redevelopment Commission and she is willing to serve. Meece made motion to appoint Ronja Branson to the Redevelopment Commission. The motion was seconded by Dan Collom and carried unanimously.

Raccoon Precinct Polling Location:

- Commissioner Jim Meece read a prepared statement regarding the issue of the Raccoon Precinct Polling Location. Included in the document were several items that Meece declared were untrue and false. Also included was information regarding a petition from the people of Raccoon Township in support of moving the polling location to the Bridgeton Volunteer Fire Department and that the petition only included three (3%) percent of the registered voters in the precinct. Meece indicated that there seems to be a perception that the Board of Commissioners do not understand their responsibilities regarding polling places, and in order to demonstrate that the Board fully understands their duties regarding this issue, and to ensure the Commissioners take full responsibility for the polling place location, and that the decision can rest squarely on the shoulders of this Board; with no responsibility whatsoever falling on the good people who volunteer to serve on the election board. Meece said "You have beaten on them more than enough, and I am absolving the election board of any responsibility in this matter and am not going to consider their recommendation. I am going to require the Board of Commissioners to act upon your request to move the polling place and require that we solely make our determination based up on the facts of the case and not the actions of the election board. The passing of denying of your request rests only on us and no one else, I hope that is clear enough to understand". Meece stated he would entertain a motion regarding moving the

Raccoon Precinct Polling location from Collom's General Store to the Bridgeton Volunteer Fire Department. There being no motion made, the polling location will remain at Collom's General Store.

Mike Strack of Union Township stated that Meece used the low percentage of registered voters on the petition as one reason the polling place will not be moved, but Strack wanted it noted in the minutes that only two people complained about the Firehouse when the polling location was moved to Collom's General Store which is fewer than the seventeen people who signed the petition.

VI. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Parke County Sheriff, Justin Cole:

- The Jail count for today was eighty-one; fifty-seven County, ten Department of Correction, twelve out-of-county and two away.
- Informed the Board that Sheriff Office is still taking applications for three open positions, a deputy, a jail officer and a dispatcher.
- Advised the Board they are still waiting on quotes for the dishwasher, ice maker and washing machines that need to be replaced.

Parke County Highway Department Superintendent, Randy Norman:

- Reported County Road 400 East to Bicycle, New Discovery, and 500 East between Marshall and Judson are now done. County Road 100 W will be done at later date.
- Road 759 by Gobblers Knob still needs some work.
- Roads needing repairs are Jeffries Ford, Webster & Hoosier, Lyford roads on the north side of U.S. Highway 41, 900 South, 750 North, 200 East and Hixon Road. On Hixon Road resident Ron Meschen has a proposal he wants to discuss with Norman.

VII. PERSONS REQUESTING TIME ON THE AGENDA: None.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Dan Collom. The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Jim Meece, President

Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President

Bruce Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:

Pam Adams,
Parke County Auditor