

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 16th, 2026

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16th, 2026, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, March 2nd, 2026.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan Collom, first Vice President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Susan Kramer, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, 2nd Deputy Auditor. Also, present were Kim Shorter, Steve Collisi, Beth Martin, Jason Frazier and Chis Newcomb.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, March 2nd, 2026 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman 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 \$198,505.50 was approved for release on Monday, March 23rd, 2026 on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Acknowledgement of receipt of Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for March 23rd, 2026 in the amount of \$240,160.87 was approved on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### II. NEW BUSINESS:

- Beth Martin with the Parke County Planning and Zoning, presented two Rezoning Ordinances to the Parke County Board of Commissioners. Ordinance 2026-06 was to rezone land for Samantha Mager's Farm Bureau Insurance building located on South State Road 59. The second Ordinance 2026-07 was to rezone property from AG to Commercial for David Fisher in Washington Township. Beth explained that the Parke County Plan Commission has approved both ordinances. They did not have to be approved by the Parke County Board of Zoning Appeals because they are both rezoning projects. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the two rezoning Ordinances 2026-06 and 2026-07 on Same Day Same Meeting approval. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- There were two out of cycle check requests needing approval. The first out of cycle check request is from PowerPlan in the amount of \$1,161.26. The second out of cycle check request comes from John Deere Financial in the amounts of \$1,009.19. Jim Meece made a motion to approve the two out of cycle check requests with the understanding that the Auditor may pay these two credit card payments as they are received preventing any late charges or interest fees. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Parke County Highway Department is wanting to purchase a new hand patch trailer for cold mix. This trailer will cost \$3,300.00 from Detrol Trailer Sales. Also, the Parke County Highway Department would like to purchase a brush cutter for the Kubota Skid Steer for brushing

roadsides and right of ways from Southeastern which will cost \$3,932.50. There is enough money in the Parke County Highway Department's budget. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the purchase of a trailer from Detrol Trailer Sales and a brush cutter from Southeastern. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- Katie Potter, Parke County Assessor, will be sending letters to all Parke County Taxpayers explaining the assessment process. This is an informational letter regarding the new cost tables released by the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) and how it is related to assessment values and taxes.
- The Parke County Ministerial Association would like to use the Courthouse lawn for Good Friday Service on April 3rd, 2026 and for the National Day of Prayer on May 7th, 2026. Jim Meece made a motion to approve the use of the Courthouse lawn by the Parke County Ministerial Association for Good Friday Service and for the National Day of Prayer. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- The Tower Clock Company sent in a preventative maintenance service agreement for the Courthouse Clock Tower. Dan Collom made a motion to approve The Tower Clock Company's preventative maintenance service agreement contingent on Nick Sauter, Parke County Board of Commissioners Attorney's approval. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Duke Energy sent a tree trimming notification to the Parke County Board of Commissioners just for informational purposes.
- Jim Meece would like to go to Northern Indiana to explore a natural gas intersection and get pictures. There is a company interested in building a facility in the northern part of Parke County. This area would be for the construction of an intersection for natural gas pipelines. Jim Meece stated that this facility would create eight to twelve permanent jobs for Parke County. Jim Meece would then turn in mileage reimbursement and the other two Commissioners were good with that.
- There was some discussion between the Commissioners about the Indiana County Commissioners' meeting in June of 2026 at Top Golf. Jim Meece felt it was more of a social event and he would not be going. Bruce Hartman and Dan Collom were not sure if they would be attending either.

### III. OLD BUSINESS:

- There was one bid received for the Engineering On-Call Services for the Bridges in Parke County. Dan Collom stated that he has tried to contact Joe Clark with VS Engineering and has not heard back from him. The other company that was interested was Fishback. Since the Commissioners' Attorney is not present, they will table opening the bid that was received.
- Jim Meece wanted to make sure that the other two Commissioners were good with Matt Stechley from Core Facilities heading up the Courthouse Window Replacement project. Matt Stechley would be paid 8% of what is contracted to do the repairs. Dan Collom and Bruce Hartman were both good with that plan for the Courthouse Window Replacement project.
- Jim Meece felt that since most of the towns and communities in Parke County have annual Fourth of July Celebrations, the Parke County Board of Commissioners will promote the Parke County Area Fourth of July Celebrations to support the 250th Anniversary of the Fourth of July. They will order two of the 250th Anniversary flags.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

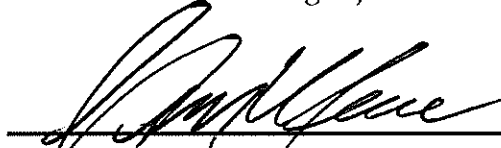
**Chris Newcomb, Rockville Lake Park Superintendent:**


- Chris Newcomb discussed with the Parke County Commissioners the harvesting of the Lilly Pads in Rockville Lake. The Conservancy District was not very receptive to help pay for the removal of the Lilly Pads in Rockville Lake. It was a very difficult conversation. They did not think it was flood control related and felt that it was not necessary to remove the Lilly Pads. The Cost of harvesting the Lilly Pads will be \$37,900.00. It was resolved that the Conservancy District and Parke County will split the cost of the removal of the Lilly Pads at Rockville Lake. Chris Newcomb is going to get a category 5 license to treat for Lilly Pads in the future. The Parke County Council approved splitting the cost of the Lilly Pad removal with the Conservancy District. Jim Meece made a motion to approve the eradication of the Lilly Pads at Rockville Lake. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.


V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Dan Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

  
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Jim Meece, President

  
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Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President

  
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Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:

  
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Susan Kramer, Auditor