

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 2nd, 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, December 18th, 2023.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan Collom, First Vice-President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Mary Anne Wood, Auditor; and Leanna Collisi, Deputy Auditor. Also present were John Martin, Randy Norman, Jason Frazier, Susan Kramer, Kim Shorter, Jessica Lancaster, George Smith, and Pam Sanders.
- III. MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, October 2nd, 2023 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Minutes for a Special Meeting with the Board of Commissioners and the Parke County Council held on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- IV. PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$199,680.29 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$3,276.44 were approved for release on Monday, January 2th, 2024 on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for December 18th, 2023 in the amount of \$143,640.17 and Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report for January 2nd, 2024 in the amount of \$191,068.27 were both approved on a motion made by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Accounts Payable Claims in the amount of \$1,101,629.34 were approved on a motion from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- V. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Jim Meece introduced George Smith. He has been hard at work trying to find Property Insurance for Parke County. This has been a challenge since there are only a handful of insurers for government entities. George explained that Traveler's Insurance, which insures Parke County currently, has increased premiums and deductibles in the renewal proposal. George Smith has found Bliss-McKnight to cover Liability and Auto Inland Marine coverage, Auto Owner's Insurance to cover the property insurance and another insurer to cover Canine Mortality Insurance. Furthermore, Bliss-McKnight will do a \$5 Million Liability with no umbrella. Bliss-McKnight offers on-site training on many areas of interest like interactive firearms training, work place violence training, and sexual harassment training are just a few. Bruce Hartman feels Traveler's Insurance is punishing Parke County for the Ambulance fire claim which was not the County's fault. It was the manufacturer of the ambulance who was at fault. Liability and Auto Inland Marine insurance coverage through Bliss-McKnight was approved on a motion made from Jim Meece. Dan Collom seconded the motioned and it carried unanimously. Property Insurance through Auto Owner's Insurance was approved on a motion from Jim Meece. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Canine Mortality Insurance through another carrier was approved for Jim Meece to sign the contract once it was received by George Smith on a motion from Bruce Hartman. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - John Martin presented his changes for the 2024 TML Application. Changes were mostly in the literature, policy and cosmetic. The TML letter is written better and explains why the TML exists.

Jim Meece was concerned that the TML was only for the Covered Bridge Festival and did not include the Maple Fair. John Martin explained that the ordinance only includes the Covered Bridge Festival. Jim Meece asked John Martin to email him a copy of the ordinance just to clarify. John Martin further explained that the highlight of this application process is the flowchart to figure out fees to be paid by the applicants. Jim Meece had questions about the definition regarding the exemptions for handmade products. Woodworkers use tools. Would maple syrup qualify for exemption? Jim Meece felt there could be a better way to communicate the difference between Handmade versus Non-commercial items. Jim Meece suggested doing away with the Handmade Exemption unless specifically applied for to the Auditor's Office for a decision. In general, the Commissioners were okay with the other changes except the handmade exemption. The 2024 TML Application was approved except the Last Page regarding the Handmade Exemption on a motion made from Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Meece suggested taking a look at including the Maple Fair on the TML Application for next year.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Jason Frazier:

- Jason Frazier reported a total of 64 inmates: 52 County, 8 DOC, 4 Out of County. There were \$96,473.56 in total collections for 2023 and \$255,879.00 for Out of County Housing.

Randy Norman:

- Randy Norman presented the Bids for Materials Contracts to be approved and signed by the Commissioners.

Asphalt Materials Inc. – hot and cold mix for road repairs

Pomp's – tires and tubes

Heritage Petroleum – liquid petroleum, oil and grease

Washed gravel and crushed stone - all bids were accepted

Civilcon, Parke County Aggregates, Metal Culverts, St. Regis-Culverts and Bridges

Pipe arches and steel bridges – all bids were accepted

BHK - repair parts

Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve all bid contractors. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Katie Potter:

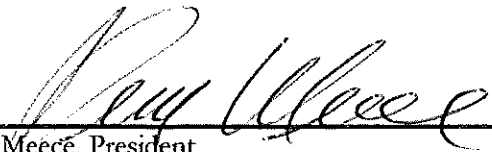
- Jim Meece presented recommendations from Katie Potter, the Parke County Assessor, for the Commissioners' appointments to the Parke County Property Tax Board of Appeals for the calendar year 2024: Joshua Sorrels, Delbert Lewis, and Michael Strack. Dan Collom made the motion to approve the appointments to the Parke County Property Tax Board of Appeals. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Other:


- Jim Meece mentioned that Nick Sauter was okay with the Contract for joining the Heart Care Program through Ascension/St. Vincent. There was a fee of \$750.00 for joining the program.

Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve and sign the contract for the Heart Care Program through Ascension/St. Vincent. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

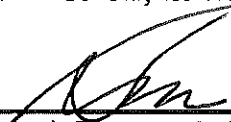
ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Dan Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.



Jim Meece, President




Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Mary Anne Wood, Auditor