

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**March 18th, 2024**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 18th, 2024, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, March 4th, 2024.
- 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, Jason Frazier, Jessica Lancaster, Pam Sanders, Heather Emery, Mandy Adams-Washburn, and Leslie Berry.
- III. MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meetings held on Tuesday, September 5th, 2023, Monday, September 18th, 2023 and Monday, March 4th, 2024 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 \$246,353.45 and Union Hospital Security payroll in the amount of \$3,106.10 were approved for release on Monday, March 25th, 2024 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 25th, 2024 in the amount of \$196,572.95 was approved on a motion by Dan Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**V. NEW BUSINESS:**

- The Commissioners approved and signed an agreement from Cyndi Todd with the Partnership Parke County and the Economic Development allowing Wessler Engineering to use Parke County's GIS Information System for a Regional Sewer District Study. This project will cost approximately \$50 million to bring sewer systems to Marshall and Bloomingdale. Sewer bills should be equal to what would be spent on a septic system. Jim Meece made a motion to approve Wessler Engineering the use of Parke County's GIS System for the Regional Sewer District Study. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- There will be a public meeting on the sewer system project at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Jim Meece made the motion to approve a public meeting on the sewer system project at the 4-H Fairgrounds. The meeting date and time will have to be arranged with the 4-H Fair Board. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- The Montezuma Public Library requested that the Parke County Commissioners approve and sign off on appointing Kim Crowder for a 4th term on the Montezuma Public Library Board. Jim Meece made the motion to approve Kim Crowder as a Montezuma Public Library Board Member for another term. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- A Memorandum of Understanding from the Valley Professional Community Health Center to provide care for all workers' compensation claims was presented to the Commissioners for approval and signatures. Counties are required by law to select a facility to handle their workers' compensation injuries. Dan Collom made the motion for Valley Professional Community Health Center to provide care for Parke County's Workers' Compensation claims. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- A Grant request from Jason McHargue regarding funding for the RISE 24 Conference needed approval from the Commissioners. This is a pass-thru grant to pay for the RISE 24 Conference. Jason McHargue has already received approval from the Parke County Council. Normally, anyone seeking a grant must get approval from the Commissioners first and then get approval from the

County Council. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the Grant request for the RISE 24 Conference. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- The CVC paid for a traffic study and the results will be discussed at the next CVC meeting on April 24th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bridge 61 office. Jim Meece also invited everyone to attend the Annual CVC Meeting on April 11th, 2024. This meeting will give an overview as to what the CVC does.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- There was a claim acknowledgment on a lawsuit where one of Parke County's EMS Ambulances responded to an incident in Vermillion County because their ambulance was unavailable. Our ambulance missed the address which caused a delay in the care of a patient. Now the insurance companies are settling with the patient's family.

## VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

### Katie Potter:

- Katie Potter was not in attendance but there was a little discussion about the changes on how mobile homes could be taxed. The county can decide not to tax mobile homes as personal property, however, tax them on the real estate side as property tax. The State is leaving the decision on how to tax mobile homes up to each County. Katie Potter has more information and the Commissioners wanted to wait for a recommendation from her. Currently, mobile homes are taxed as personal property in Parke County. It is hard to collect from mobile homes because sometimes the title does not get updated by new owners. So, no tax is ever collected. The Commissioners would like to discuss this further when Katie Potter is present.

### Jason Frazier:

- Jason Frazier updated the Commissioners on the Medical Company search. He has cancelled the current Medical Company with coverage through April 30th, 2024 and will bring on the new Medical Company May 1st, 2024. The County is required by law to provide adequate medical care to inmates. Jim Meece would like to have Nick Sauter, the Board of Commissioners' Attorney, take a look at the new contract before approving and signing it. Jason Frazier will have Nick Sauter take a look at the new contract before the next meeting on April 1st, 2024.

### Nicole Collings:

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

### Julie Lanzone:

- The Monthly Report from the Parke County EMS was reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

**Public Comments:**

- Leslie Berry led a discussion about Parke County Festival Vendors and TMLs. Jim Meece explained that Leslie Berry has had a handmade exemption in the past and now he has been denied the exemption because he does not meet the financial requirement. Leslie Berry sells in 12 counties and Parke County has the highest fee to pay. He has a Retail Merchant Certificate from the State of Indiana with the address that matches where he sells his products in Parke County. He believes that he does not need a TML. Jim Meece confirmed that he is correct in that matter. Only transient merchants need to purchase a TML. Jim Meece further explained that no tax dollars promote any of the Parke County Festivals throughout the year.

**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 4:28 p.m.



Jim Meece, President



Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President



Bruce A. Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:



Mary Anne Wood

Mary Anne Wood, Auditor