

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 1, 2023

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1st, 2023, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, April 17th, 2023.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Jim Meece, President; Dan R. Collom, First Vice President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Mary Anne Wood, Auditor; Pam Adams, 2nd Deputy Auditor and County Attorney Nick Sauter. Also present were Kathy Collom, Jason Frazier, Randy Norman, Mandy Adams-Washborn, Wayne McClintock, Andy Jones, Jessica Lancaster, Marrill Getche and Frieda Matney.
- III. **MINUTES:** Dan Collom made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the executive session held on Monday, April 17th, 2023 and the regular meeting held on Monday, April 17th, 2023. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- IV. **PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$208,309.63 was approved for release on Monday, May 8th, 2023 on a motion made by Dan R. Collom. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Dan Collom made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report in the amount of \$154,604.06. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- V. **CLAIMS:** After reviewing the Claims Docket, claims in the amount of \$2,009,345.33 were approved for release on Monday, May 1st, 2023 on a motion made by Dan R. Collom and seconded by Bruce Hartman, the motion carried unanimously.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - The Board reviewed requests from the C.A.S.A. independent contractors for three checks to be processed outside of the regular claims cycle. These checks are for a cost of living increase, in the amount of \$2,000.00 each, for Katlyn Wells, Hannah Clark and Dawn Creech. Dan Collom made a motion to approve the three checks to be processed outside of the claims cycle. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
  - Auditor Mary Annie Wood presented a Claim Acknowledgment from Travelers for the Board to review.
  - Two Independent Contract Agreements were presented for the Commissioners consideration. The first is between Parke County and Katlyn Wells and the second between Parke County and Hannah Clark. The agreements are for Wells to serve as Program Director and Clark to serve as Staff Advocate for the Parke-Vermillion County Court Appointed Special Advocate Program. Jim Meece made a motion to enter into these agreements and Dan Collom seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
  - The Board reviewed two maintenance and service contracts from Gibson Teldata, Inc., one each for the Voice Business Systems at Courthouse and Ambulance Service Building for Mitel SWA from 5/2/2023 through 5/1/2024. Dan Collom made a motion to enter into the

maintenance and service contracts. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- A contract between Parke County and Utility Associates, Inc. was presented to the Commissioners for their consideration in ratifying it. The agreement had been signed on March 13th, 2023 outside of a Board of Commissioners meeting and without the full Board having voted on it. On a motion made by Jim Meece and seconded by Dan Collom, the contract was ratified by a unanimous vote.
- Jim Meece signed the approval paperwork for the Local Coordinating Council (LCC) to grant the Parke County Sheriff's Department funds from the OPIOID Restricted fund to purchase supplies for the Drug Take Back program. The Board approved this at the April 17th, 2023 meeting, but the signature was omitted.
- Jim Meece indicated he had spoken with Senator Derry who has worked with the Indiana Legislature to allow an increase to the Innkeepers tax. Some counties are at five percent and others are at eight percent, this would allow all counties with an Innkeepers tax the opportunity to increase to the eight percent. Jim Meece made a motion to request the County Council to adopt the increase from five percent to eight percent. The motion was seconded by Dan Collom and carried unanimously.
- Mary Anne Wood requested a memo to be sent to all departments to remind everyone of the County's policy on posting for open positions. The policy can be found on page nine (9) of the Parke County Employee Handbook. Bruce Hartman indicated he felt it would be best if the memo came from the Board of Commissioners. The Auditor's office will prepare the memo and Jim Meece will sign before it is sent out to all departments.
- John Cornell from the Parke County Ministerial Association sent a request to use the Courthouse steps/lawn for the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Jim Meece made a motion to allow the Parke County Ministerial Association to use the Courthouse steps/lawn. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS: None presented.**

**VIII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

**Parke County Highway Department Superintendent, Randy Norman:**

- Randy Norman requested a check to be processed outside of the regular claims cycle. Jim Meece made a motion to process a check to Veterans Tree Service in the amount of \$700.00. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- The following roads have patching completed: 10 O'Clock Road, Coxville Road from U.S. Highway 41 to Rosedale, 1050 N, Tangier Road, 1025, 875 E, 500 E, Nyesville Road, 400 E, New Discovery Road and Ferndale Road. The department started Leatherwood Road on Thursday and today they began work on 900 E and 900 S.
- Truck #33, which is the new truck, was damaged when the dump bed was elevated spreading stone and hit a tree. The damages totaled \$24,291.00 and the county will be responsible for the \$1,000.00 deductible. Norman indicated Rahn Equipment will be in tomorrow, May 2nd, 2023 to look at the truck and Volvo will come on Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023.
- Jim Meece stated the Commissioners and Norman drove county roads to determine the worst seven miles that can be used when applying for the next round of Community Crossings grant money. The application is due to be turned in to the State in July.

**Parke County Sheriff, Jason Frazier:**

- Frazier reported the total Jail count is sixty-eight. There are fifty-four county, five department of correction, seven out of county and two inmates that are away.
- Billing for inmate housing so far this year is \$98,365.00; and the year-to-date Report of Collections is \$33,035.05.
- Dan Collom requested a meeting with property owners, the Sheriff, Deputy Shay Vandivier and any other members of the Board of Commissioners who would like to attend. The meeting would be to discuss the possibility of closing roads in Bridgeton during operation hours of the Parke County Covered Bridge Festival. Collom feels that a plan could be put into place restricting traffic in such a way that local drivers could get through by issuing a pass to residents. After a discussion it was decided the meeting will be a Collom's General Store on Thursday, May 18th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Several residents appeared to inquire as to when repairs can be made to Slaven Road. Marrill Getche indicated that they have been requesting repairs for approximately fifteen years and they have not received a satisfactory answer. Jim Meece noted that Highway Supervisor Randy Norman had already left the meeting, so Meece said he will speak with Norman about the issue. The residents indicated there was damage done when the road was used as an unofficial detour that was never fixed.

Bruce Hartman noted that the County has just over four hundred (400) miles of paved roads and the county only has resources to re-pave approximately seven (7) miles each year. So it could take in excess of forty (40) years to manage to get through all of the paved roads, and that is barring any unforeseen issues.

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Dan R. Collom. The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

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Jim Meece, President

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Dan R. Collom, 1st Vice President

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Bruce Hartman, 2nd Vice President

ATTEST:

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Mary Anne Wood,  
Parke County Auditor