

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**March 18, 2019**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2019 having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, March 4th, 2019.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Members present were Commissioners Jim Meece, President; Dan R. Collom, First Vice President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Laura Fischer, Auditor; Rhonda Montgomery, 1st Deputy Auditor and County Attorney Nick Sauter. Also present were Kathy Collom, Larry Bemis, Pam Sanders, Julie Lanzone, Brad McNeil, Mike Strack, Chris Newcomb, Jim DeVon, Lloyd Williams, Bobby Burgett, Bill Elden, Karen Barnes, Amy Hensley, and Randy Norman.
- III. MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meeting held on Monday, March 4th, 2019 were approved on a motion made by Jim Meece and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The motion carried unanimously.
- IV. PAYROLL:** County payroll in the amount of \$170,212.43 was approved for release on Monday, March 18th, 2019 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 Claims Accounts Payable Report in the amount of \$126,794.09. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. On a motion made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Dan Collom, the Commissioners approved prior paid insurance invoices from January & February 2019, presented by 1st Deputy Auditor, not previously reported.
- V. NEW BUSINESS:**
- Bruce Hartman made a motion to approve a hand-typed check payable to Family Health & Help Center in the amount of \$695.00. Dan Collom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
  - Meece reported that AT&T continues to lay fiber optic cable lines without the required permit. Commissioners need an Ordinance written and approved with fines for infractions included.
  - Jim Meece led a discussion on Broadband readiness. Sauter will draft the notice and the Auditor will publish.
  - Jim Meece reported that the Parke County Community Foundation is donating \$10,000.00 for the restoration of the water fountain in front of the courthouse. Meece shared some ideas for the design of the pavers the fountain will rest on, perhaps in the shape of the county and place bricks around the fountain for each town. Meece will look into having the fountain reconnected so it can be moved during Covered Bridge Festival; Collom and Hartman concurred and Meece will follow-up.
  - Meece gave an update on the volunteers for the repair of VILLAROSA Road in the spring 2019. Volunteers will fix the private road back to the driveways.
  - Bill Elden, AFLAC Benefits Coordinator presented the One-Stop Shopping Portal for Public Employees that will streamline the benefits enrollment system and customize

the portal to Parke County Government needs. AFLAC is currently working with Bill Sylvester, the APEX benefits advisor for Parke County. There is no length of term and no contract for the portal service. The Commissioners will meet with AFLAC again for a one-hour demonstration on Monday, April 15th, 2019 at 3:00p.m.

- RaComm representative, Jim DeVon was present to answer questions and address concerns about the radio coverage in the Parke County School System. Jim Meece asked about the cost of moving the two antennas atop the courthouse. DeVon responded, the cost would be \$10,000.00 to move one of the two antennas. One antenna is for the 911 system and the other is for the school system. DeVon discussed a bi-directional amplifier (patch) which would cost approximately \$11,000.00 per building (11 school buildings in the county). Attendees discussed grant options that may cover some of the cost. Many schools are using the Homeland Security Grant for the Safety Officers. The Homeland grant has a cap of \$50,000; applications are due in June, with an October approval. Sheriff's Department will present a priority list to the Commissioners and begin to reach out to the schools requesting financial assistance to cover the cost of the amplifiers.
- The Commissioners reviewed the agenda from the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission held March 13, 2019.
- The Recorder, Assessor and Auditor will utilize Simplifile E-Transfer of property processing, switching from a paper-based process to an electronic process. Simplifile E-Transfers allows businesses to submit their real estate transfers with the other proper documentation to be electronically filed, via a website. The money for the transactions will be deposited into the bank as an ACH deposit, resulting in speedier transactions from the County.
- The Commissioners reviewed a tort claim filed with Traveler's Insurance, an accident involving Natalie Decker on February 26, 2019.

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Sauter presented Resolutions 2019-05 for the PCEMS records detention/destruction, which was approved at the March 4th meeting, with correction.
- Commissioner Jim Meece gave a clarification regarding the H.S.A. payment for County employees. Acknowledgement of the census date as of February 1st you have to be full time active employee and already been signed up for medical plan by February 1st to be qualified for HSA. The county payroll department will release the first half of all employee payment by mid-February which employees will receive half of annual payment. Anyone who is new employees hired between February 1st and July 1st plus enrolled in medical insurance will be eligible for HSA payment in August. The county payroll department will release in middle of August for the other half of the annual deposit to all employees eligible for HSA.

## VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

### **Parke County Highway, Randy Norman:**

- Norman brought a heavy load driver from Bennett Motor Express requesting permission to bring a boiler onto county roads 900 to 625 to Lambert to 41 South through Parke County. The driver indicated they must use 4 miles of county road due to the lack of clearance at the railroad bridge on US41. Attorney Nick Sauter will review the insurance company bond limit and the Commissioners will grant permission based on Sauters' review of the coverage.
- Crews are hand patching today and still grating.
- Effective April 1 – Highway crews will begin (4) four ten-hour shifts per week.
- Norman reports that the highway garage still has 2-3 openings and anyone who obtains the CDL license will receive a pay raise.
- Karen Hill from Ivy Tech relayed through Cyndi Todd, Parke County Highway employees should come to “Work Indiana” for the book training portion of the CDL. Norman indicates that unfortunately, the Ivy Tech program is a 7am-5pm class and participants must attend class 2-4 days per week.

**Parke County EMA911, Amy Hensley: No report**

### **Parke County EMS, JULIE LANZONE:**

- Julie Lanzone, Ambulance gave an update report on the Med IV vehicle which is still in the shop, replacing metal cabinet and oxygen storage tank leaks.
- Lanzone indicated that the Parke County Ambulance Service would receive Training Class Certification for State EMT classes but must set up a new fund for tuition funds to be collected, then that money would be distributed to instructors. Bruce Hartman made a motion to set up a “Home Rule Fund” and Dan Collom seconded. The motion carried unanimously and Parke County Attorney Nick Sauter will present an Ordinance to be signed at next meeting.

### **Parke County Parks & Recreation, Chris Newcomb**

- Newcomb requested permission from Commissioners to haul away the old Dodge Ram truck 2001 VIN#1B7HF13Y81J270937. Dan Collom made a motion to grant permission. Bruce Hartman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## VIII. PERSONS REQUESTING TIME ON THE AGENDA: None

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

**Jensen Bond Engineers Association:** Asked to be consider next year for bridge inspections.

## X. ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Dan Collom and seconded by Jim Meece. The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

Laura J. Fischer  
Laura J. Fischer, Auditor

Jim Meede  
Jim Meede, President

Dan Collom  
Dan Collom, Vice President

ABSENT  
Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President