

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 20th, 2020

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Parke County Board of Commissioners convened in a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20th, 2020, having adjourned from a regular meeting on Monday, July 6, 2020.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members present were Commissioners Jim Meece, President; Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President; Laura Fischer, Auditor; Tammy Thomas, 1st Deputy Auditor; and County Attorney Nick Sauter. Also present were Chester Crague, Cassie Wittenmyer, Rhonda Montgomery, Cyndi Todd, John Martin, Randy Norman, Chris O'Brien, Ken Taylor. First Vice President, Dan Collom was absent.
- III. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the regular meetings held on Monday, June 1st; Monday, June 15th and Monday, July 6th, 2020 were presented. Jim Meece had a correction on the festival old business for the July 6 meeting. The minutes stated that the vendors set up off the courthouse lawn were on "public" property. He advised this to be changed to "private" property. The minutes for all meetings were approved provided the change to the July 6 minutes was made, on a motion made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **PAYROLL:** The County payroll in the amount of \$170,599.73 was approved for release on Monday, July 20th, 2020 on a motion made by Bruce Hartman. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Meece made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Payroll Claims Accounts Payable Report in the amount of \$128,969.55. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The Board reviewed requests for seven invoices to be paid outside of the regular claim's cycle:

Wabash Valley Asphalt	\$429,958.25	Highway Dept
Big Bounce Fun House	\$2,356.50	Park & Rec Fireworks
Mid America Elevator	\$3,522.60	Courthouse Elevator contract
NCP School Corp	\$2,500.00	
Hamilton Center	\$3,000.00	
Parke Co Sheriff	\$4,000.00	
Parke Co Sheriff	\$3,000.00	

These hand typed checks were approved on a motion by Jim Meece and seconded by Bruce Hartman. The motion carried unanimously.

- Ken Taylor came before the board and requested permission to hold an "I love America" picnic on Saturday, August 29th on the courthouse lawn from approximately 12:30 pm to 2 pm. Taylor stated this would be a non-protest, non-demonstration, non-partisan picnic. There would also be no sensitive banners. A motion was made by Bruce Hartman to allow the picnic and was seconded by Jim Meece. The motion passed unanimously.

- Cassie Wittenmyer from the Plan Commission came before the board to request ordinance approval to vacate the cul de sac on Willow Drive in Raccoon Lake Estates. The same individual owns the four lots on this cul de sac and requests to be vacated so he may better utilize and improve his real estate. The board approved a same day same meeting ordinance by a motion from Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was then made by Bruce Hartman to approve ordinance 2020-11 vacating the cul de sac on Willow Drive in Raccoon Lake Estates. The motion was seconded by Jim Meece and it passed unanimously.
- Cyndi Todd came before the board regarding signage for the EOC building to fully state all of the offices housed there. She presented two different types of signs. The estimate is \$2 - \$3,000 to be shared between Partnership Parke County and the Commissioners. Cyndi also presented an allowance of understanding drafted by Attorney Nick Sauter indicating the use of space and utility payments between the EOC and Partnership Parke County. Jim Meece made the motion to approve the agreement. Bruce Hartman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. OCRA has a business recovery grant revolving loan applied for by Partnership Parke County for HUD defined low to mid income business employees. \$2,000 matching money was received from the Parke County Community Foundation. Bruce Hartman made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-11 which allows application of the grant and give Jim Meece permission to sign the necessary paperwork. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Chris O'Brien came before the board requesting application approval for two grants. The first is EMPG-salary 2020 grant. This is a reimbursable grant of \$18,000 to support EMA salaries for 2020. The second grant is the HMEP program grant to support the LEPC effort to develop Hazardous materials emergency preparedness for the county. A motion was made by Jim Meece to allow Chris to pursue these grants. The motion was seconded by Bruce Hartman and it passed unanimously.
- Rhonda Montgomery came before the board. Rhonda is disputing the 33 hours comp time, 57.5 hours sick time and 33 hours vacation time lost because of her termination. Mr. Meece recommended Rhonda make copies of all her documents to Nick and he will review it.
- The board reviewed a list of dates for activities presented by Main Street Rockville. Two of these dates were rescheduled because of Covid-19. Bruce Hartman made a motion to allow Main Street Rockville to use the courthouse lawn on the dates provided. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- The board reviewed the Veteran's office report for January 2020 thru June 2020.
- The board reviewed two claims filed with Travelers Insurance.
- Mr. Meece announced that deputy Chris McCann had a medical issue over the weekend. Sheriff Justin Cole talked with Bruce Hartman regarding prayer vigil at the courthouse at 6:30 pm this evening. Bruce Hartman made the motion to allow a prayer vigil on the courthouse lawn for Chris McCann. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- Nick Sauter met with Judge Sam Swaim and Jail Commander Ed Roach at the jail regarding the privacy issue between attorneys and their clients. As of now there are three phone lines at the jail that are not recorded. The plan suggested by Randy Cleaver is to purchase two Surface Pro's, two blue tooth speakers, and two headsets. These Surface Pro's will be set up behind the glass so the clients will not have access to the computer, but will use the blue

tooth speakers to hear their attorney. This plan would cost significantly less than the previously plan and would be completely covered by the CARES act reimbursement grant. Nick is seeking approval to allow Randy Cleaver to purchase the equipment needed for this plan and set it up. Jim Meece made a motion to allow Nick to proceed with the cost to be less than \$2,000 and it was seconded by Bruce Hartman. The motion passed unanimously.

- Nick Sauter brought an issue before the board regarding LAB (Lee Alan Bryant) property that the county owns. An adjoining neighbor is advertising his property for sale, but is using pictures of the county owned property. The neighbor has also been using the county property for outdoor activities. Nick is requesting to send a letter and/or call the person involved to indicate to him that he does not have approval to be on or use the property. Jim Meece made the motion for Nick Sauter to send a letter to Mr. Wyncoop to inform him he does not have permission to be on the county property, nor indicate that it may be for sale. The motion was seconded by Bruce Hartman and it passed unanimously.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

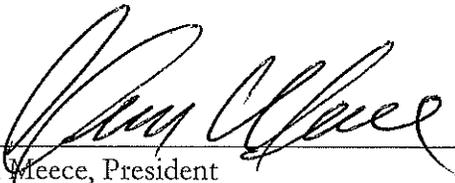
Parke County Highway, Randy Norman:

- Mill Road speed limit signs put up to temporarily set the speed limit to 30 mph.
- Randy presented a covered bridge painting estimate of \$19,600. Bruce Hartman made the motion to accept the estimate of painting. The motion was seconded by Jim Meece and it passed unanimously.
- Randy presented sign samples from Newman for Jackson Bridge. Changes were made to one of the signs to say "\$2,500 fine plus damages" instead of "\$25,000 fine for damage." Also, the change was made for "warning" to be at the top of the sign, and the picture of the covered bridge at top left. The cost of these signs is \$1,762.96. The motion was made by Bruce Hartman to accept these signs with the changes. Jim Meece seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Chester Crague requested a posted speed limit sign for 375 E in Diamond. He was advised to proceed with an application for the ordinance process. Randy stated he would take care of getting the process started for him. Also, he advised the commissioners and the highway superintendent to check the stop sign placement in Bridgeton. It seems that some are missing and/or never installed.

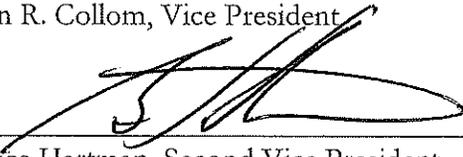
IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Hartman and seconded by Jim Meece. The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.



Jim Meece, President

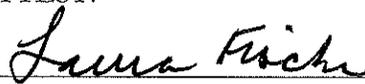
absent *ABSENT*

Dan R. Collom, Vice President



Bruce Hartman, Second Vice President

ATTEST:



Laura Fischer, Auditor