

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 7-7-2014

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday July 7, 2014 at 9AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, C. Scott Mossburg, Kevin Woodward and Blake Gerber. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from June 16, 2014 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #13 in the amount of \$206,431.94 and Payroll #14 in the amount of \$205,415.45.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 344 claims in the amount of \$415,930.47.

**Hearing to Vacate Portion of Street:** Attorney, Greg Waters representing Dean and Faith Hirschy were present for the hearing to vacate a portion of Maple Street located in the Town of Craigville. Mr. Waters presented the Verified Petition for Vacation of Street along with the Consent to Vacation of Street and the proof of publication. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Ordinance No. 2014-2 "Ordinance Vacating Street". Motion carried 3-0.

**Vehicle Bids:** One bid was received for the advertised 2001 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$500.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the bid of \$500.00. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 62 inmates, 5 are DOC. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that he would be purchasing a new computer for the new deputy.

**Farmland Drainage Issue from Bridge No. 59:** Engineer Toby Steffen presented two quotes he received to fix the issue on Mr. Jim Blinn's property. Rick Ramseyer's quote was for \$12,200 and Brickley Excavating's quote was for \$16,500, Toby estimated an additional \$10,000 would be needed for materials. The Board of Commissioners asked Toby to contact DLZ regarding any reimbursement for the cost to fix the issue. Mr. Blinn asked if he could be reimbursement for damages to his property. The Board of Commissioners along with County Attorney, Roy Johnson advised Mr. Blinn to contact an attorney to file a tort claim for damages. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Rick Ramseyer for \$12,200 to fix the issue with Bridge No. 59. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman stated that he has received two quotes for the 200S hot mix projects, one from E&B Paving for \$283,436 and one from Brooks Construction for \$292,689 and Ed recommended going with E&B Paving. Motion made by Blake Gerber, Seconded by Kevin Woodward to accept E&B Paving as the low bid for the 200S Project. Motion carried 3-0. Four replies were received for the Bridge No. 193 Construction Inspection and Ed stated he was working on the score sheets.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert went over the work status for several structure projects that he is currently working on. Toby stated he is still waiting on the third

quote for structure #222; the concrete box for structure #455 should be in by July 22<sup>nd</sup>; and still waiting on medicom for the Hoosier Highway Structure.

**IT Director:** Roger Richardson informed the commissioners that he was budgeting for the aging servers for the 2015 budget. Roger stated that he had Stylus come in to install a temporary short circuit TV for the courtroom and that he would be working on what it would cost for a permanent video for the courts because this is something that the sheriff has been looking at so inmates wouldn't have to be brought into the courtroom for hearings.

**Courthouse Repairs:** Courthouse custodian, Bobbie Studebaker was present with several repairs that need to be addressed in the courthouse. The first was the replacement of the elevator motor at the courthouse that commissioner president, Scott Mossburg had to do an emergency approval for so Bobbie could get it ordered. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the President of the Boards action to approve the ordering of the elevator motor in the amount of \$8200.00. Motion carried 3-0. Some of the other repairs that are needed include; cement work at the courthouse square, leaks at the courthouse and annex, new pump for the heating system, replacement of fallen roof slate and handrails in the stairway at the courthouse. Bobbie has received three quotes to repair the cement on the square house square and the commissioners suggested that the cost of the repair to be paid from the ADA line item in the Highway Departments Budget. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the quote from Ron Girod in the amount of \$6,006. Motion carried 3-0. Bobbie is requesting an additional amount of \$35,000 to cover the cost of the needed repairs and to hopefully get her through the rest of the year because her repair budget is down to \$500 for the rest of this year. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to support Bobbie to go before the County Council for an increase of \$35,000 for the maintenance of the courthouse. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells Community Pool:** Mayor, Ted Ellis asked the board of commissioners if they could increase the amount of money they contribute to the Wells Community Pool from \$5,000 annually to \$50,000 annually. Mayor Ellis stated that the pool is 42 years old and they need to build up the capital improvement fund for future repairs or replacement. Any of the money that the county distributed to the pool will be put into the capital improvement fund. Mayor Ellis also stated that the pool is running in an annual deficit of \$57,740.90 so there is no money generated annually to be contributed to the capital improvement fund for the pool. The request was taken under advisement.

**Ossian Redevelopment Commission:** Economic Development Director, Tim Ehlerding, Ossian Town Councilman, Josh Barkley and attorney, Andy Carnall asked the board of commissioners to relinquishing jurisdiction for the counties portion of the economic development area near Ossian, IN to the Town Redevelopment Commission so they can move forward with a Tax Increment Financing District. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Resolution No. 2014-02 to give jurisdiction to the Town Redevelopment Commission. Motion carried 3-0.

**Addendum to NEXUS Contract:** Assessor, Rick Smith presented another update to the NEXUS Contract which made changes to the due date. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the Addendum to the contract (Misc. 2014-13). Motion carried 3-0.

**911 Dispatcher:** 911 Director, Adam McCartney and Mayor, Ted Ellis came before the commissioners asking if the county could add an additional 911 dispatcher to the statewide 911 fund which would make a total of five dispatchers paid from the statewide 911 fund, four from the City of Bluffton and one from

the EMS Budget. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to change one of the City of Bluffton's dispatchers to the statewide 911 fund budget. Motion carried 3-0.

**EMA Salary Reimbursement Grant:** EMA Director, Wayne Grove presented the 2013 Emergency Management Performance Grants-Salaries Sub-Grant Agreement for the commissioner's approval and signatures. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the Grant. Motion carried 3-0.

**Government Fixed Asset Agreement:** Auditor, Beth Davis presented the annual Government Fixed Asset Services Agreement. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the Government Fixed Asset Agreement and allow the president of the board to sign (Misc. 2014-14). Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:51 am

**Wells County Commissioners**

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President, C. Scott Mossburg

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Vice President, Kevin Woodward

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Blake Gerber

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor