

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 10-6-2014

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday October 6, 2014 at 8AM 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 Scott Mossburg to approve the minutes from September 2, 2014 regular session. Motion carried 2-0-1, Kevin Woodward abstained.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #19 in the amount of \$197,860.35 and Payroll #20 in the amount of \$199,343.18.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 238 claims in the amount of \$380,255.83 from September 15, 2014 claims date and 220 claims in the amount of \$597,213.57 from October 6, 2014 claims date.

**Harrison Township Appeal Hearing:** County Attorney, Roy Johnson swore in everyone that would speak during the appeal hearing. The appellant, Kevin Heron stated that he does not believe he should have been denied assistance because he is no longer on unemployment and he did not think that food stamps should be counted toward the countable income. Reverend Neil Ainslie with Community Care of Wells County compared Harrison Township Trustee to other Township Trustee's stating that he felt that Harrison Township was not approving applications like other Township Trustees were in the county. Harrison Township Trustee, Eric Keifer stated that Mr. Heron was denied assistance because his income exceeds the eligibility requirement for township assistance. For the 30 days prior to the filing of application Mr. Heron received \$312.00 in unemployment, \$347.00 in food stamps and \$2,100.07 from Indiana's Hardest Hit Fund which exceeds the eligibility guidelines for monthly income. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to deny the appeal filed by the appellant Mr. Kevin Heron. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 70 inmates, 12 are DOC and one federal. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that the new compressor is being installed.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert informed the Board of Commissioners that a public hearing will be held on October 29, 2014 to hear any public comments for the Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 193. Ben Beer with USI Consultants, Inc. presented the LPA-Consulting Contract for the Construction Inspection for Wells County Bridge No. 193 Rehabilitation, CR 300W over the Wabash River. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the LPA – Consulting Contract with USI Consultants Inc. (Misc. 2014-18). Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the engineer assignment representative, Marc Hollingsworth for the Rehabilitation Project for Bridge #193 (Misc. 2014-19). Motion carried 3-0. The National Bridge Inspection Program is now requiring that any bridges that are rated four or less be inspected on a twelve month inspection rather than every other year. Wells County has sixteen bridges that are rated four or less that would require a twelve month inspection. The total supplemental amount is \$9,895.36 which will be an 80/20 so Wells County will receive reimbursement for 80% of the total amount. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the Supplemental Agreement No. 1 with USI Consultants Inc. for the Wells County Bridge Inspection

Program 2013 to 2017 (Misc. 2014-20). Motion carried 3-0. Toby informed the commissioner's that Brickley's has completed the construction for Structure No. 455 but it still need guardrail. Toby stated that guardrail needs to be installed for Structure No. 1026 and he has received two quotes, one for \$10,649 and one for \$16,250. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the low bid from Drew Corp. for guardrail on Structure No. 1026. Motion carried 3-0. Indiana Michigan Power Company requested permission to bore under the road at 3715 S. 200 E. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the request from Indiana Michigan Power Company. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney, Roy Johnson provided the paperwork for an "Uniform Property or Easement Acquisition Offer" to be sent to Thunderbird Investment Company, LLC so the county would be able to gain access to their property to remove log jam on Bridge No. 54 on the Salamonie River. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to begin the process for acquisition of property owned by Thunderbird Investment Company, LLC. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wellness Renewal:** Tim Miller with Med Partners presented the annual renewal for the counties wellness plan. There will be an increase in the amount of \$1152.00 due to the online access that is now available. Mr. Miller will send the agreement to the county attorney for his review. Personnel deputy, Lisa McCormick was also present to explain the program options available to stop smoking. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to have the county provide the \$15.00 cash incentive amount for the stop smoking class. Motion carried 3-0.

**I.T. Department:** I.T. Director, Roger Richardson stated that everything is running smoothly right now and there is nothing new to report.

**Community Corrections Grant Agreement Amendment:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Amendment #1 to the Community Correction Grant increasing the amount of the grant by \$8,464.00 (Misc. 2014-21). Motion carried 3-0.

**Courthouse Roof Repair:** Courthouse Custodian, Bobbie Studebaker received two quotes to replace missing slates from the courthouse roof and do the repairs to fix the leaking area on the fourth floor. One quote was for \$27,440 and the other quote was for \$3,840. Because of timing issues the President of the board approved the low quote from Fort Wayne Roofing so they could began the process to do the repairs. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to reaffirm the President's decision to approve the low quote from Fort Wayne Roofing. Motion carried 3-0.

**United Way Jeans Week:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to support the United Way's Jean Weeks for the weeks of October 13-17, 2014 and November 17-21, 2014 at the rate of \$2.00 per day. Motion carried 3-0.

**Zoning Ordinance & Zone Maps Amendments:** Area Plan Director, Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. presented several ordinance changes that needed to be approved for the "Wells County Zoning and Floodplain Management Ordinance & Wells County Subdivision Control Ordinance". Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Ordinance No. 2014-05 adopting the new APC membership appointments. Motion carried 3-0. The next three Ordinances pertain to changes that are needed for the new flood plain map. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Ordinance No. 2014-06 to make changes to the Zoning and Floodplain Management Ordinance. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Ordinance No. 2014-07 to make changes to the Subdivision Control Ordinance. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Ordinance No. 2014-08 adopting the new

flood plain map. Motion carried 3-0. The final Ordinance that was presented by Mr. Lautzenheiser was regarding the petition filed by Estil & Beth Kissinger to rezone an area from Industrial-1 to Residential-2. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Ordinance No. 2014-09 rezoning the requested area. Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:37 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