

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 1-21-2014

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 9:30AM 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 Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the minutes from January 6, 2014 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #2 in the amount of \$200,992.71.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 328 claims in the amount of \$242,203.83.

**Bids for Bridge Beams on Bridge #204:** Opened three bids that were received for the Box Beams for Bridge # 204, the advertisement and specs were sent out by USI. The bids received were from Prestress Services, Stress-Con Industries and Hoosier Precast. Hoosier Precast did not meet the requirements for bidding so that bid was not accepted. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to refer the bids to the County Highway Supervisor, Ed Herman and the County Engineer, Toby Steffen for their review and recommendation. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Monte Fisher reported 77 inmates, 10 are DOC and one federal. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that he is still in the process of hiring a new deputy.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman reported that his department is still working on snow.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert told the commissioners that he would review the Bridge Beam bids with Ed Herman and return later in the meeting with a recommendation.

**Economic Development:** Economic Development Director, Tim Ehlerding provided a handout showing what the impact would be for Wells County if a new Spec/Shell Building was built. The location of the Spec/Shell Building would be in the Bluffton-Decker Industrial Park within the property owned by Westland Park LLC. Tim's recommendation would be a 200,000 square foot building with a 30' ceiling. John Sampson, president of the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership was also present at the meeting. John stated that 80 percent of site requests require a building. Tim is asking the Board of Commissioners to approve up to \$150,000 a year for up to five years from the County's CEDIT fund for this project. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve up to \$150,000 a year for up to five years from the CEDIT Fund to help fund the Spec/Shell Building. Motion carried 3-0.

**Recommendation for Bids:** Toby Steffen came before the commissioners regarding his recommendation from the Bridge Beam Bids that were opened earlier in the meeting. Toby's recommendation was to approve the bid from Prestress Services in the amount of \$70,984.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the bid from Prestress Services in the amount of \$70,984.00. Motion carried 3-0.

**Building Code:** Mayor, Ted Ellis informed the commissioners that the City of Bluffton is looking at putting a building code ordinance in place. Before the City of Bluffton went any further Ted wanted to know if the County would be interested in joining the city to establish a program. All three commissioners stated that they are not in favor of establishing a building code ordinance for the county.

**Workers Compensation Renewal:** Dan Lipp and Joe Stoffel with General Insurance came before the commissioners with a proposal for the counties workers compensation insurance; the current policy will expire on February 2, 2014. The renewal premium with Bituminous Insurance has an increase of 9.54%. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the policy with Bituminous Insurance through General Insurance for the Counties workers compensation insurance in the amount of \$70,159.00. Motion carried 3-0.

**2013 Emergency Management Performance Grants-Projects:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the 2013 Emergency Management Performance Grant-Projects Federal Grant Agreement (Misc. 2014-04). Motion carried 3-0.

**2013 Total Compensation:** Signed the 2013 Total Compensation Report.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:00 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