

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 4-7-2014

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday April 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 Deputy Auditor, Lisa McCormick.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from March 17, 2014 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #7 in the amount of \$202,431.04.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 275 claims in the amount of \$479,577.29.

**Aerial Survey:** County Surveyor, Jarrod Hahn and County Assessor, Rick Smith came before the commissioners requested additional funds to help pay for Aerial Photography. Jarrod and Rick both explained how new aerial photography will help with their offices as well as the taxpayers giving them more up to date info on GIS. Rick Smith stated that he has some funds available within his reassessment fund to cover all but \$5,000 of the cost so they are asking if the commissioners could cover this amount. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve \$5,000 for MIT Aerial Photography. Motion called 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 68 inmates, 12 are DOC and one federal. Sheriff Fisher provided three estimates to replace a heating unit at the jail and he recommended going with the low bid from Moser & Son Heating. The Sheriff will pay for the unit with the commissary fund. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the low bid from Moser & Son Heating in the amount of \$1525.00. Motion carried 3-0. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that the x-ray machine at the courthouse is not working and needs repaired. Custodian Bobbie Studebaker contacted a vendor which gave a quote of \$5600.00 to do the repair. Since there is no line item in the budget to repair security equipment, Sheriff Fisher is asking for ideas on how to pay for the repair. The commissioners will table this until the next meeting to review possible funding sources.

**SRO Officer for Northern Wells Schools** NWCS Superintendent Dr. Scott Mills presented a contract to the commissioners which would place a School Resource Office at the Northern Wells Schools. The officer would be an employee of the counties and work at the school during the school year and be on road duty during the other times. A matrix was created to determine the amount of salary that would come from the school and the amount that would come from the county. Based on the salary plus employee benefits the school would pay up to \$51,000.00 per year for the added deputy which is 69.23% for the estimated salary. The commissioners questioned what would happen if the grant money wouldn't become available in the future. Dr. Mills stated that they have already been approved for the first two years, but even if the grant didn't continue the school is committed to the resource officer and they would be building this into their future budgets. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the contract to add a resource officer to Northern Wells Community Schools. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman presented the 2013 Highway Annual Operational Report to the Board of Commissioners. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the annual report. Motion carried 3-0. Ed updated the commissioners on CEDIT Bridge funding projects and the small bridge inspection process. All The field work is done on the small bridge inspection and a complete report should be presented the first of May.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert discussed the replacement of the pipe on 1100 South just west of State Road 1 that had washed away the road during the recent rains. Toby contacted the state regarding any additional funds from the Bridge #74 Federal Aid Project and they stated that no additional funds would be available for that project. Toby informed the commissioners that the work has started on Bridge #204 and the road should be opened back up by the first of May.

**Economic Development Spec Building Agreement:** Economic Development Director, Tim Ehlerding along with City of Bluffton Mayor, Ted Ellis and Developer of the Land Rob Troxell came before the commissioners with the agreement for construction of a Spec. Building (Misc. 2014-09). Tim stated that there has already been companies inquire about the building. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to enter into the agreement along with the City of Bluffton, Economic Development, MidLand LLC and Westland Park LLC and allow the president of the Board to Sign. Motion carried 3-0.

**IT Director:** Roger Richardson stated he is still working on the windows XP upgrades at the Jail. Roger stated his department has been working on the Spillman server that went down and it was determined that the one server was backing up the other server so they now have the second back up going through fiber and stored at the City of Bluffton.

**Rezoning of Land:** Tom Felger came before the commissioners with a rezoning request on property located on Highway 1 and 500N. Currently the area is zoned A-1 and he would like it to be changed to be zoned B-3. Mr. Flegler is currently working with Area Plan regarding this change he just wanted to bring it before the commissioners before he went any further with a survey.

**FEMA Rating:** Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the FEMA Community Rating System and allow the president of the board to sign. Motion carried 3-0.

**New Phone System for Annex:** Health Department Administrator, Marlene Hoag came before the commissioners to request assistance with paying for a new phone system in the annex building. Marlene has a grant that will cover the cost for the phones within the Health Department but the grant will not cover the cost for the rest of the building. Because the entire building is in need of a new phone system Marlene stated she could pay \$39065.88 for the health department's portion and ask if the commissioners could cover the remaining amount of \$2765.24 through the general fund. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the phone upgrade for the annex with the cost to the general fund in the amount of \$2765.24 and the balance of \$39065.88 being paid through the grant. Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:25 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