

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 4-21-2014

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday April 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 Substitute County Attorney, Trent Patterson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

Minutes: Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from April 7, 2014 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #8 in the amount of \$194,038.65.

Claims: Commissioners approved 257 claims in the amount of \$617,421.44.

Wells County Highway Engineer: Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert gave the commissioners information on locations of bridges in Ohio that are using a different type of material on their bridges and asked the commissioner to take a look at them. Wells County is looking at a savings of \$12,000 to \$15,000 on a small structure in Liberty Township if they use the new bridge material. Toby also stated that he is working with Mr. Blinn on a drainage issue from the replacement of Bridge #59. The town of Petroleum will be the next area that the county will work on for new sidewalks to comply with the ADA Transition Plan. The Box is in place for Bridge #204 and the road should be opened next week. There may be a delay of a month or two in the replacements of small structures on the Hoosier Highway because of a directional bore from utilities companies.

Wells County Sheriff: Monte Fisher reported 68 inmates, 14 are DOC and one federal. The Sheriff's department and the Wells County Solid Waste District will share the cost to put in drainage title at the location where the new shed is being built; the total cost should be \$2,000.00 each. The Sheriff will pay for his share with the commissary fund.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman informed the commissioners that the advertising has been sent in to received bituminous bids on May 19, 2014. The deadline to sign up for dust control is April 30, 2014. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the highway department to change to summer hours working 4 ten hour days. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to allow the highway department an extra day for Holidays during this work schedule. Motion carried 3-0. Discussed three drainage projects that need to be done on 350 South, Bills Creek on 200 East and Marzane Road on 900 North.

Economic Development Director: Economic Development Director, Tim Ehlerding informed the commissioners that ground breaking for the new spec building should be within the next couple of weeks. Tim reported the Dawn Foods Building has been purchased by Edge Manufacturing.

Insurance Renewal: Richard Randal and Dan Lipp with General Insurance presented the renewal policy for the Counties General Liability and Auto & Property Insurance which renews on May 1, 2014. The annual premium for the General Liability and Auto & Property decreased by \$1,426 however the Workers Compensation policy that renewed on February 1, 2014 increased by \$6,113.00. The overall

total insurance has an increase of \$4,687.00. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to accept the total annual premium of \$253,325.00 with Bliss McKnight Group. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to allow the president of the board to sign the policy renewal. Motion carried 3-0.

Grant Application Proposal: EMA Director, Wayne Grove and Extension Educator, Roger Sherer informed the commissioners that they would like to apply for a \$25,000.00 Project Grant provided by Homeland Security. The grant would be used for a new speaker system at the 4-H park to make the facility a storm safety facility. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the grant request for the 4-H Project stating that they “The Board of Commissioners” support the application for the Grant. Motion carried 3-0.

Data Pit Stop Consulting: Auditor, Beth Davis presented a quote from Darren Bates with Data Pit Stop, Inc. in the amount of \$5,000.00 for his annual fee to provide service to the county. Services include Excise Tax Program maintenance, Website Application Services, Property Tax Calculator, any other reports or statistical information that is needed for budgets, levies or LOITS. Motion Made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the quote pending the county attorney’s approval of the contract/agreement. Motion carried 3-0.

Miscellaneous Business: Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the bible reading on the courthouse square for the week of April 28, 2014. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to allow the president to sign the transfer of funds for the commissioner’s budget. Motion carried 3-0. Approved the quote that was received from American Legal Publishing Corporation to update the Code of Ordinances.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:42 am

Wells County Commissioners

President, C. Scott Mossburg

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Blake Gerber

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor