

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 2-21-2012

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 9:30AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Kevin Woodward, Paul Bonham and C. Scott Mossburg. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Trent Patterson and Deputy Auditor, Lisa McCormick.

Minutes: Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve the minutes from February 6, 2012 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #4 in the amount of \$190,131.07.

Claims: Commissioners approved 202 claims in the amount of \$311,379.67

Wells County Sheriff: Monte Fisher reported 96 inmates, 33 are DOC and 1 Federal. Sheriff Fisher presented the 2011 Wells County Jail Annual Report. An amendment was presented to the commissioners on the Sheriff's Health Contract. Sheriff Fisher along with Bob Plummer explained that an updated federal mandate regarding the narrowband radio system will need to be completed by the end of 2012. More information regarding the changes and cost will be presented at the next commissioners meeting on March 5th.

E911: Bob Plummer informed the commissioners that the 10 year contract on our 911 equipment is ending this year and he has an amendment to the current contract with ATT which reduces the monthly contract fees from \$8600 per month to \$7900 per month. County Attorney, Trent Patterson will review the amendment for the next meeting on March 5th. Discussion was done regarding new legislation currently being introduced which could change the amount of funding that the county receives for E911.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman was not present at meeting but he provided information that he would be taking bids for the 100 S & 200 S projects on March 19th. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve Resolution No. 2012-1 (A Resolution Authorizing the Wells County Highway Supervisor to Use a Credit Card). Motion carried 3-0.

Regional Sewer District: Ted Claghorn returned for answers to questions he had from the previous commissioners meeting. One of the questions he had was who the hearing officer was from IDEM. Commissioner Mossburg has already provided the name of the hearing officer from IDEM to Mr. Claghorn as being Lynne Newlon. Mr. Claghorn requested the name of the person who filed the petition to establish the RSD. Commissioner Mossburg advised that the petition was filed jointly by the County Commissioners and County Council as a result of an agreed order with IDEM to avoid being fined by the state. Commissioners provided Mr. Claghorn with copies of the petition along with timeline of dates and meetings. Mr. Claghorn still feels that IDEM did not follow the procedures set in state law. County attorney, Trent Patterson advised Mr. Claghorn that if the agreed order was not signed the two government entities could be fighting this out in court using a lot of tax payer's money to do so. Trent also advised Mr. Claghorn that he is presenting his concerns to the wrong people; he should be talking with state legislators. Mr. Claghorn said he would be talking with State Rep. Matt Lehman regarding his concerns.

Wind Farm Petition: John Maddox presented petitions with 916 signatures opposing Wind Farms in Wells County. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to accept the petitions from Wells County Concerned Citizens for rejection of wind farms in Wells County and to pass the petitions onto Area Plan. Motion carried 3-0. International flight attendant, Tim Stepp provided information he had regarding what he has seen visiting different counties throughout Europe, Asia and South American. Mr. Stepp stated turbines are less effective as they moved inland and that smaller turbines are more productive. Mr. Maddox and Mr. Stepp both feel like the county is moving too fast with the turbines and the county needs to slow down and look at current technology. Commissioner Mossburg provided information he had regarding a study that was done by independent citizens not wind turbine companies. The information in the study addressed some of their concerns that the Wells County Concerned Citizens had. Commissioner Woodward suggests Wells County Concerned Citizens present their presentation to Area Plan.

Adult Business: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. presented a licensing adult businesses ordinance to the commissioners. Klint Fiechter and Phillip Stoller were also present at the meeting to show their support of the ordinance. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve Ordinance No. 2012-1 (An Ordinance Providing for the Licensing and Regulation of Sexually Oriented Businesses in the County of Wells, Indiana). Motion carried 3-0.

Treasurer's Credit Card Contract: County Treasurer, Shar Mechling requested a change with her current credit card provider to a new company "Local Indiana" which provides lower user fees and an electronic check payment option, county attorney Trent Patterson has already reviewed the contract. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to support the request from Shar Mechling to use Local Indiana for credit card services in her office. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to allow Kevin Woodward to sign the contract (Misc 2012-4). Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Health Board Appointments: Marlene Hoag informed commissioners that three board members need to be appointed to the Wells County Health Board. The three members whose terms have ended do not wish to be re-appointed. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to appoint Matt Allen, Tom Longenberger and Doug Cale to the Wells County Health Board. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to have Doug Cale fill out the remaining term of Claire McMillan whose term ends 12/31/13. Motion carried 3-0.

Precinct Worker Change: Election board members, Chuck King and Roy Johnson informed commissioners that they would like to have one group of poll workers for Precincts; Bluffton Lancaster East and Bluffton 3; both precincts are located at the Presbyterian Church. The change would save the county \$560.00 per election. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to combine the group of poll workers for Precincts; Bluffton Lancaster East and Bluffton 3. Motion carried 3-0. Election board also wanted commissioners to be informed that there would be a fee of \$500.00 to have the Election ballot reviewed by the software vendor. Election Board also informed commissioners they have checked the Uniondale Fire Department polling place and confirmed that it is ADA compliant.

Annex and Courthouse Repairs: Custodian, Bobbie Studebaker gave the proposals she received for the Annex building repairs. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to go before council regarding funding with the recommendation of using Ziolkowski in the amount of \$39,535.00 being the lowest and most responsive bid. Motion carried 3-0. Bobbie also provided quotes for the replacement of a compressor that the commissioners had wanted Bobbie to check on to make sure the

damage was not cause by glass during the recent fire. Bobbie informed the commissioners the damage was not from glass. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to have A. Hattersley replace the compressor in the amount of \$6,576.00. Motion carried 3-0.

CEDIT Resolution: Economic Development Director, Mike Row and the Commissioners discussed the use of CEDIT funds. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve Resolution No. 2012-2 (CEDIT Resolution). Motion carried 3-0.

Surveyor Computer Request: Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the computer request from the surveyor’s office to purchase computers through CEDIT computer fund in the amount of \$2,324.97. Motion carried 3-0.

Employee Insurance Committee: Committee has been formed to pursue employee health insurance options for the county. Committee members include Krista Markley (Sherriff Department), Mike Mann (Highway Department), Rick Smith (County Assessor) and Lisa McCormick (Personnel Deputy).

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 12:06 pm

Wells County Commissioners

President, Kevin Woodward

Vice President, Paul Bonham

C. Scott Mossburg

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor