

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 3-19-2012

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday March 19, 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 County Auditor, Beth Davis.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the minutes from March 5, 2012 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #6 in the amount of \$192,759.35.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 142 claims in the amount of \$123,374.37

**Highway Hot Mix Bids:** Received sealed bids for projects on county road 100S from Adams Street to 300W and 200S from Adams Street to the Norfolk and Southern Railroad from: Wayne Asphalt, Brooks Construction, E&B Paving and Lica Construction. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to take the bids under advisement and refer them to Ed Herman, Highway Supervisor for his review and recommendations. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Monte Fisher reported 89 inmates, 18 are DOC and one federal. Sheriff Fisher advised the commissioners that he would be replacing a door at the jail. Sheriff Fisher also informed the commissioners that he is working on an ordinance to allow golf carts on county roads. Discussed worker's Compensation issues regarding the 2/3 pay that employees received while on worker's compensation disability insurance. Sheriff Fisher feels that the employees should be paid their full salaries while on workers compensation disability insurance. The current handbook doesn't address this issue and the auditors for State Board of Account recommend we address this situation in our county handbook.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman provided proposals for engineering services from: DLZ, USI Consultants, SCO Engineering and Butler Fairman & Seufert for monthly/yearly consulting fees. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to take the information under advisement. Motion carried 3-0. Ed informed the commissioners that the dust control materials have gone up in prices which will increase the price \$10 per 100 feet. Ed presented a Right of Way Permit from Indiana Department of Transportation requesting the closure of IN 116 from Vera Curz to the far west parking lot of Bluffton Middle School for a bicycle race on September 16<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 2pm. County Attorney, Trent Patterson questioned the liability issues. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to allow Trent to contact the County's Insurance Agent for review.

**FPC Computer Upgrade:** Scott Steffen with FPC informed the commissioners that they will start phase II of the infrastructure project on March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. FPC would like to have a meeting with the counties department heads to go over concerns they have with the services they are receiving with FPC. The Annual Service Agreement will be held until after the meeting with department heads.

**Annex Video Coverage:** Dayle Mentzer with the VOICE and councilman Phillip Stoller asked the commissioners to have access to the WIFI in the meeting room to broadcast the commissioner's

meetings on the web. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to allow the VOICE access to the counties WIFI to broadcast the commissioners meetings. Motion carried 3-0.

**Area Plan Invoice:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the invoice from Southern Wells Schools for the recent Wind Farm Meetings in the amount of \$195.00. The invoice to be paid from the commissioner’s budget. Motion carried 3-0.

**Economic Development Agreement:** Brent Hiday, president of Wells County Chamber of Commerce presented an agreement to the commissioners requesting \$200,000.00 to be given to the Wells County Economic Development to be put into an escrow account. The escrow account would be overseen by a group of board members including one commissioner. The economic development director will bring all recommendations to the board members for approval. The Commissioners stated they have never turned down any request from the economic development department. Commissioner Mossburg stated maybe they should go to the council to request an increase in credit funds to provide the money that Economic Development is asking for. Commissioner Woodward stated maybe we need to revisit adding the cum bridge fund back to the county. Mr. Hiday stated he wants to set structure for the future of Wells County and he feels this agreement would do that. Commissioner Bonham would like County Attorney, Trent Patterson to look over the agreement and they would discuss it again at the next meeting.

**NWGB Benefit Services:** Jessica Askins, Account Executive presented her companies benefits to the commissioners. Commissioners asked Auditor to give the information to the payroll deputy to review and contact with any questions.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:35 am

**Wells County Commissioners**

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President, Kevin Woodward

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Vice President, Paul Bonham

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C. Scott Mossburg

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor