

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 4-18-2011

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday April 18, 2011 at 9AM 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 April 4th, 2011 meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #8 in the amount of \$193,178.11

Claims: Commissioners approved 169 claims in the amount of \$371,819.04

Wells County Sheriff: Monte Fisher reported 77 inmates, 26 are DOC. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve ordinance number 2011-4 establishing an Annual Sex or Violent Offender Registration Fee. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve service agreement between ERS and Wells County Sheriff. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman recommended Selking International's Bid for the new Tandem Truck. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve Ed's recommendation of Selking International for the bid on the tandem truck in the amount of \$140,100.00. Motion carried 3-0. Ed gave updates on MVH, LR&S and Wheel Tax. Ed also provided information on the fuel usage showing fuel cost is up from last year at this time. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve four 10 hours work days starting May 6, 2011 through September 1, 2011 for highway department employees. Motion carried 3-0. Ed is currently taking bituminous bids until May 2nd, 2011.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Larry Owen updated the commissioners on Bridge 59, still looking at a May letting. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve request from SES in install a monitoring well at the intersection of 300 S & 300 W in Liberty Center. Motion carried 3-0.

CADA: Greg Werich and Nikia Bradley updated the Commissioners on how funds will be used. Total requested budget amount is \$26,045.88.

Renewal Property & Casualty Insurance: Richard Randol provided information on the counties claim activity for the past year and also the comparison on the expiring and renewal policy. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to continue coverage with Bliss McKnight for Property & Casualty Insurance in the amount of \$166,388.00, total policy amount of \$222,317.00 including Workers Compensation. Motion carried 3-0.

Regional Sewer District: Glenn Ryan requested funds in the amount of \$2400.00 for a rate study per recommendation of DLZ. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve fee of \$2400.00 to H.J. Umbaugh & Associates to do a rate study. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to allow Kevin Woodward to sign contract. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to appoint Rick Yoder to the Wells County Regional Sewer District Board. Motion carried 3-0.

Hearing for Denial of Assistance from Harrison Township Trustee: County Attorney, Trent Patterson, stated the procedures that would be followed for the hearing. Trent Patterson sworn in both Mr. Michael W. Bruner, who filed the appeal and Mr. Eric Kiefer, Harrison Township Trustee, no witnesses were present.

Mr. Bruner stated he has two vehicles, one in his name and one in his wife's name who is currently in jail, one vehicle is a 1989 Astro Van the other is a 1991 Plymouth Acclaim. Mr. Bruner stated this was the first time he has asked for assistance and he is currently applying for SSI but has not got through the process yet.

Mr. Kiefer stated in Mr. Bruner's application he stated he had two vehicles and based on the townships eligibility standards it states if you have vehicles and they are not a basic necessity for someone that has a job they would be considered an asset. Mr. Kiefer stated they went back on the records which showed Mr. Bruner and his wife were given assistance in 2008 for rent payments totaling \$1420.00, 2009 totaling \$2481.09 and 2010 totaling \$365.00 from the Harrison Township Trustee. Mr. Kiefer also stated Mr. Bruner and his family were on a state funded program over the last 12 months which paid for Rent, Utilities and Gas for the family in the amount of \$6083.27. Mr. Kiefer stated the trustee's mission statement is to provide temporary emergency assistance to family's and Mr. Bruner and he family have received over \$10,00.00 in assistance over the past 3 years. Mr. Kiefer said Mr. Bruner has known since 2008 he had a bad back, but is just now applying for SSI.

Based on the evidence that had been presented motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to reject the appeal that has been presented based on the asset of two vehicles and the fact the family has already received three years of assistance from the trustee. Motion carried 3-0.

Council of Aging: Bonnie Valind & Betsy Collier provided flow charts on trips for Wells on Wheels. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to allow Kevin to sign the contact invoice for Indiana Department of Transportation for reimbursement on expenses in the amount of \$113,325.00. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to allow Kevin to sign contact invoices for reimbursement of a copy machine in the amount \$4,725.00 and a computer in the amount of \$923.55. Motion carried 3-0. Bonnie asked the Commissioners to support the claim from council of aging in the amount of \$53,000.00.

Internet and Intranet Upgrades: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. asked the Board to support an upgrade on the internet service from 10mb up/10mb down to 20mb up/20mb down for a cost of an additional \$100.00 per month on the internet service. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to allow the upgrade for a period of two months to monitor if we notice any differences. Motion carried 3-0.

Mental Health: Proclamation signed for Mental Health Month 2011.

Cannon: Letter signed by Commissioners addressed to Mr. Kash Van Over stating the Courthouse Tree will be replaced by another tree. The letter also stated the commissioners will allow a fitting space on the plaza for the restored Civil War Cannon.

Denial of Assistance: Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to accept the Written Denial of Appeal of Township Assistance provided by county attorney. Motion carried 3-0.

Employee Handbook: Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the changes made to the employee handbook under Nepotism for part time employees. Motion carried 3-0.

New Ordinances: Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to have Trent draft ordinances to set up new funds for elected officials training.

Reports: Signed Monthly Report for county offices

Adjourned: Motion made by Paul Bonham, seconded by Scott Mossburg to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:15 am

Wells County Commissioners

President, Kevin Woodward

Vice President, Paul Bonham

C. Scott Mossburg

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor