

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 6-17-2013

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday June 17, 2013 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 County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

Minutes: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the minutes from June 3, 2013 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #12 in the amount of \$195,523.44.

Claims: Commissioners approved claims in the amount of \$315,346.32.

Economic Development Director: Economic Development director, Tim Ehlerding explained all the impacts involved in attracting business to Wells County. Mr. Ehlerding asked the commissioners to invest \$29,885 into a 100,000 square foot property in the Ossian Industrial Park by taking it through an entire permit process which would eliminate 60 to 90 days for an interested company. The commissioners were concerned with investing money on property that is privately owned. Mr. Ehlerding told the commissioners the county would recover the money when the property was sold. The commissioners asked Mr. Ehlerding to work with the county attorney on a possible agreement and bring the request to the next meeting.

Wells County Sheriff: Monte Fisher reported 107 inmates, 17 are DOC.

4-H Parking Lot: Tim Ulmer and Rex Myers came before the commissioners requesting the grinding from the city of Bluffton's road project. The county highway department will be hauling the grindings to the 4-H grounds for a new parking lot. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the request for the Highway Department to partner with the City of Bluffton and haul the grindings to the 4-H grounds for their new parking lot. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman informed the commissioners that he received four proposals for small culvert inspections. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to accept the proposals for review. Motion carried 3-0. Ed also informed the commissioners that he received the LPA from INDOT for the counties bridge inspection contract. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the contract from the state for Bridge inspections. Motion carried 3-0. Ed asked the commissioners if he should have Mastermind do a no passing zone work study. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the work study from Mastermind for a total of approximately 203 miles. Motion carried 3-0. Ed informed the commissioners that he would be chipping and sealing 70 miles in 2013 starting the week of July 8th. Ed received information for the Wabash Central Railroad that they would be replacing crossings in Liberty Center at 300W and 300 S between June 18th and June 24th.

Wells County Highway Engineer: Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert gave the commissioners an updated 2013 summer bridge construction schedule. Toby informed the commissioners that he recommended an additional speed sign on the road at the corner of Wells, Huntington and Grant

County line. Toby presented an application for permit for buried facilities from Q.C. Communications at CR N 100 E. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the request from Q.C. Communications. Motion carried 3-0.

Assessor's Office Ceiling Repair: County Assessor, Rick Smith and Courthouse Custodian, Bobbie Studebaker came before the commissioners with the request to put a ceiling in the partitioned part of the Assessor's Office. The commissioners were concerned about the heat and air for the area if the ceiling was added. Motion was made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the request for the ceiling and to add a fan to the quote. Motion carried 3-0.

Part Time Hours: The commissioners discussed making a change to the handbook for hours worked for part time employees. Health Care Reform will be starting in January 2014 and there will be a look back period of six months so the commissioners felt that if any changes would need to be made then they should start the first of July. Health Care Reform stated that any employee that works more than 30 hours should be offered health care benefits. The commissioners would like to change the employee handbook to state that any part time employee would not work more than 28 hours per week. The Auditor will contact the consulting company that did the county's employee handbook so they can make the changes and bring them to the next commissioners meeting.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:42AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, C. Scott Mossburg

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Blake Gerber

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor