

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session July 2-2012

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday July 2, 2012 at 9AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Paul Bonham and C. Scott Mossburg. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Trent Patterson and County Auditor, Beth Davis. Commissioner Kevin Woodward was absent.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the minutes from June 18, 2012 regular session. Motion carried 2-0.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #13 in the amount of \$201,434.29.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 321 claims in the amount of \$883,632.60.

**Disaster Emergency Proclamation:** On June 21, 2012 the Wells County Commissioners signed a Disaster Emergency Proclamation (Misc. 2012-10) for a Burn Ban for Wells County until midnight June 30, 2012. On June 29, 2012 the Commissioners signed another Disaster Emergency Proclamation (Misc. 2012-11) for a Burn Ban for Wells County until rescinded. Wayne Grove EMS Director advised the Commissioners do to a recent rain he thought the ban could be rescinded. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to rescind the Burn Ban for Wells County. Motion carried 2-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Monte Fisher reported 80 inmates, 17 are DOC and 1 federal.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman reported storm damage to the highway garage roof and water damage in offices do to the storm last Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012, he has contacted the county's insurance agent and they hope to have an adjustor there today. There also was some minor damage to a mower tractor that was in Glen Anstett's barn that fell down. Ed stated that 6 roads were still closed due to the storm.

**Wells County Engineer:** Toby Steffen with Butler, Fairman, Seufert updated the commissioners on the work being done on the counties bridges. The contractor will still be responsible for planting the trees to complete the bridge #59 project. Culver #146 concrete box has been ordered and should be delivered on July 30<sup>th</sup>. They will be reviewing plans for bridge #206 this week. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to have Butler, Fairman, Seufert do the design work for Bridge #206. Motion carried 2-0. Discussed work to be done on culvert #190 and Toby informed the commissioners that he and Ed would be working on a list of structure work for 2012 along with a plan for the next 5 years to present at the next meeting.

**Insurance Committee:** Lisa McCormick and Rick Smith asked the commissioners to terminate the agreement with our current wellness provider (Bravo) due to communication and performance issues. The committee is recommending that we go with a local company which would also cost less. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to terminate the contract with Bravo. Motion carried 2-0.

**Legal Shield:** George and Evelyn Ringger presented a legal plan to the commissioners and ask for permission to offer legal shield as a voluntary payroll deduction to the counties employees.

Commissioner Mossburg asked if the attorneys that helped our employees would be local attorneys and if they could provide a list of the attorneys. Mrs. Ringger will check to see if she can get this information.

**Family Centered Services:** Ginny Fenstermaker provided their annual report for Family Centered Services and asked for \$10,000 again this year for the 2013 Budget. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to put \$10,000.00 in the 2013 commissioners budget for Family Centered Services. Motion carried 2-0.

**Photographic Reproductions:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve Ordinance No. 2012-06 "An Ordinance Prohibiting Private Photographic Reproduction of Recorded Documents". Motion carried 2-0.

**Concerned Citizens:** Gene Boyer and Ryan Carroll from Chester Township told the commissioners that they have concerns about a pond that was being constructed at the corner of 1100S and 600W that it may be used to store manure. This group had brought their concerns to the plat committee which stated they would be monitoring the situation. The group asked if there is a moratorium that can be passed or what needs to be done to change regulations to put manure ponds or CAFO's in Wells County. Area Plan Director, Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. stated he has sent a letter to the property owner but the property owner has not responded yet. Lautzenheiser also stated do to new laws that went into effect on July 1, 2012 the pond would also require a permit from the Department of Environmental Management if the property owner was to start putting manure into the pond. County attorney, Trent Patterson stated that moratoriums that have previously been put into place in other areas for similar issues have not held up in courts. Commissioner Mossburg stated when these laws are being put into place more people need to be involved to show their concerns. Lautzenheiser stated Area Plan Commission would be willing to make changes to the zoning ordinance concerning these issues however it will take time to make these changes and there would also be cost involved. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham for the commissioners to take whatever means necessary for Legal Fee on changing the zoning ordinance. Motion carried 2-0. Several other residents made comments on their concerns regarding the smell and home values in the area where these CAFO's or proposed manure ponds are being built.

**Wells County Library Appointment:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to re-appoint Graig Stettner to the Wells County Public Library. Motion carried 2-0.

**Revised Bid Form 1:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the revised Wells County Bid Form to reflex the changes required by the anti-nepotism law. Motion carried 2-0.

**Government Fixed Asset Agreement:** Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Paul Bonham to approve the agreement with Government Fixed Asset Services, Inc. and to allow Paul Bonham to sign the agreement (Misc 2012-12) Motion carried 2-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:22 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