

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 11-18-2013

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday November 18, 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 November 4, 2013 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #23 in the amount of \$191,744.93.

Claims: Commissioners approved 245 claims in the amount of \$395,346.64.

Tax Management Associates: County Assessor, Rick Smith along with John Shelton from Tax Management Associates came before the commissioners to explain the process of a personal property audit for Wells County Businesses. Assessor Smith is looking at doing the audit on businesses that have a threshold of \$40,000 or more which would be approximately 1000 businesses. The commissioners asked several questions regarding the procedures and what the penalties are related to the audit. Assessor Smith informed the commissioners that he would be delaying signing the contract with Tax Management Associates to give the Chamber of Commerce the opportunity to put together an educational session to help education businesses regarding personal property reporting. Smith stated he would sign the contract with Tax Management if the Chamber of Commerce has no plan in place by January 30, 2014 or if no educational session has taken place by June 30, 2013.

Wells County Sheriff: Monte Fisher reported 85 inmates, 16 are DOC and one federal.

Stone Bids: The Commissioners opened four stone bids from; Rockcreek Stone Quarry, IMI, Stone Street Quarry and US Aggregates. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to turn the bids over the Highway Supervisor, Ed Herman for his review and recommendation. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman presented the unofficial detour reimbursement contract for the State Road 1 project north and south of 200 S. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the unofficial detour for State Road 1 in the amount of \$3,564.56. Motion carried 3-0. Ed informed the commissioners that INDOT is requiring an archeological records check for Bridge #193 which is an additional cost to DLZ's fees. DLZ has provided a quote from McCullough Archeological Services in the amount of \$600. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the \$600 quote for McCullough Archeological Services. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Highway Engineer: Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert informed the commissioners that Stoodly and Associates will be out at bridge #59 by the end of the month to do the survey. The commissioners discussed what needed to be done on bridge #304 (The White Bridge), but they wanted to wait to see where everything ended up with the bridge inspection that is currently being done.

Bridge Inspection: Ben Beer and Mike Obergfell with USI Consultants informed the commissioners that all the beams on bridge #204 are showing cracks and they recommended a weight limit of 11 tons to be put on the bridge as soon as possible. USI Consultants provided a preliminary engineer's estimate for the replacement of the bridge in the amount of \$300,190.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to have the county attorney examine the contract. Motion carried 3-0.

Economic Development Director: Economic Development director, Tim Ehlerding presented the three year agreement between the Wells County Commissioners and Wells County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, Inc. along with a draft of the Strategic Plan for Economic Development in Wells County. Mr. Ehlerding stated that there were no changes made to the agreement. The commissioners asked Mr. Ehlerding if one of the commissioners could be on the economic development executive board. Mr. Ehlerding stated he would have to look into the request. The commissioners agreed to wait on signing the agreement until Mr. Ehlerding got back with them.

9-1-1 Director: Adam McCartney informed the commissioners that the new 911 system is up and running good. Adam also wanted to let the commissioners know of a new training program that is starting. The cost of the training program will be paid through the state by an increase in fee that will be added to phones.

Health Insurance: Jennifer Heckman came back to answer any questions the commissioners had regarding the health insurance options for 2014. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to stay with the same plan as last year and no increases in the employees portion of the premium. Motion carried 3-0.

County Council District Changes: County Clerk, Yvette Runkle along with Election Board Members, Roy Johnson and Chuck King came before the commissioners with four different county council redistricting maps. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the redistricting option #4. Motion carried 2-1 with Commissioner Mossburg voting against. Commissioner Mossburg stated the reason he voted against option #4 was because he had talked with the majority of the county council members and they were leaning more toward option #1. The county attorney will prepare an ordinance to approve the change at the next meeting.

Comprehensive Plan: Area Plan Director, Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. presented the 2014 – 2024 (10 Year) Wells County Comprehensive Plan. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the plan. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Scott Mossburg, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Resolution No. 2013-07 a resolution approving the 2014-2024 plan. Motion carried 3-0.

Annual Nepotism Disclosure Policy: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the "Annual Certification of Elected Official to the Wells County Board of Commissioners on Compliance with County Contract Disclosure Policy". Motion carried 3-0.

AT&T Centrex Service Agreement: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve a 24 month contract with AT&T Advanced Centrex Services. Motion carried 3-0.

Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission Appointment: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to re-appoint Scott Elzey to the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission and Barbara Elliott as an alternate member (Resolution No. 2013-08). Motion carried 3-0.

Tax Management Associates: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to remove the Board of Commissioners from the signature line with the Tax Management Associates agreement. Motion carried 3-0.

Appointment to the GIE Board: Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Scott Mossburg to nominate Kevin Woodward to continue to serve on the advisory committee of Governmental Interinsurance Exchange from 2014/2017. Motion carried 2-0-1 Commissioner Woodward abstained.

Pinnacle Agreement: Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Pinnacle Backup agreement for the IT Department. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:31AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, C. Scott Mossburg

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Blake Gerber

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor