

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 1-20-2015

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday January 20, 2015 at 9:30AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Blake Gerber, Kevin Woodward and Tamara Dunmoyer. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2015 regular session and the January 5, 2015 executive session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll:** Commissioners approved Payroll #2 in the amount of \$201,663.09.

**Claims:** Commissioners approved 270 claims in the amount of \$215,485.71.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 77 inmates, 17 are DOC and 2 federal. Sheriff Fisher provided a quote from Matrix Integration for a new Spillman server that needs to be replaced. The total quote including the hardware and setup is \$31,194.00 to be split with Wells County Sheriff, Bluffton Police Department, E911 Center, Ossian Police Department, Ossian Fire Department and Wells County EMS. Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the quote from Matrix in the amount of \$15,421.75 for the Sheriff's portion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman informed the Board of Commissioners that he needs a new place to store the counties salt supply. The salt has been stored in a building within the City of Bluffton however the City of Bluffton is now in need of the building. Ed would like to add on to the current highway building an additional 20 feet to store the salt. Ed will get quotes and present them to the commissioners at the next meeting.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert presented the 2015 Service Agreement. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the 2015 Service Agreement with Butler Fairman Seufert, Inc. with an estimated yearly fee of \$39,792.00. Motion carried 3-0.

**Economic Development Director:** Tim Ehlerding informed the Board of Commissioners that he is currently working on the 15-16 strategic plan which he feels has 6 main points; Business Retention/Expansion; Talent retention, attraction, and enrichment; Prospect Management; Building & Site Maintenance and Development; Small Business Support; Infrastructure. The Board of Commissioners also asked for an update on the Spec Building. Tim stated that the building is close to being enclosed and he has had six prospects look at the building.

**Rescue Runs:** Bluffton Fire Chief, Chris Broderick; Ossian Fire Chief, Ben Fenstermaker and Liberty Center Fire Chief, Josh Daugherty came before the Board of Commissioners to try and work out a plan on how to disburse the \$20,000 that has been appropriated for Rescue Runs in the 2015 Budget year. The three Chief's brought a breakdown of the amount of runs the units made over the past five years along with a breakdown of the number of runs made within the City or Town verses out of town runs. Over the past five years the Bluffton rescue unit made 40% of their runs within the City of Bluffton with 60% made outside of the city, the Ossian rescue unit made 21% of their runs with the town of Ossian

with 82% made outside the town, Liberty Center rescue unit is not within any city or town so their runs are normally made in the county. Of the total amount of runs made between the three units, the Bluffton unit made 64.5%, the Ossian unit made 24.5% and the Liberty Center unit made 9.6%. Chief Broderick and Chief Fenstermaker would like to divide the \$20,000 between the three units based on the percentage of runs they averaged with 65% going to the City of Bluffton, 25% going to the Ossian Fire Department and 10% going to the Liberty Center Fire Department. Chief Daugherty would like to base it on a set dollar amount per run. The commissioners told the units to continue to bill the county per run as they have been and a cap may be put in place by departments in the future. The commissioners will revisit this issue at a later meeting.

**Emergency Notification Grant:** EMA Director, Wayne Grove and Wells County 4-H Educator Roger Sherer presented a Homeland Security Grant Agreement for an emergency warning sound system at the county 4-H grounds. The total grant amount is for \$15,000.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the grant. Motion carried 3-0.

**Workers Compensation Renewal:** Insurance Agent, Richard Randol presented the renewal for the workers compensation insurance. The policy term is February 1, 2015 to February 1, 2016. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the quote from Bituminous Insurance in the amount of \$69,658.00. Motion carried 3-0.

**PSAP Certificate:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to allow the president of the board to sign the Certification for the Number of Public Safety Answering Point within the county. Motion carried 3-0.

**Covered Bridge Certificate:** The board of commissioners signed the Covered Bridge Certification showing that Wells County has zero covered bridges.

**2014 Employee Compensation Report:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the Total Employee Compensation report of 2014. Motion carried 3-0.

**Courthouse Portable Heaters:** It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Commissioners that offices within the courthouse are using portable heaters at their work stations instead of turning the thermostats up to their maximum temperatures. The commissioners asked the Auditor to draft a letter to all department heads to return all the portable heaters back to the courthouse custodian.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:09 AM

**Wells County Commissioners**

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President, Blake Gerber

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Vice President, Kevin Woodward

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Tamara Dunmoyer

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