

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 3-17-2014

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday March 17, 2014 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 March 3, 2014 regular session. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Scott Mossburg to approve the minutes from March 11, 2014 special meeting. Motion carried 2-0-1, Kevin Woodward abstained.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #6 in the amount of \$194,681.98.

Claims: Commissioners approved 198 claims in the amount of \$229,799.72.

Community Corrections Advisory Board Appointments: Community Corrections Director, Blake Poindexter came before the commissioners with three recommendations for lay members to the Wells County Community Corrections Advisory Board; Jim Curran, Dave Spear are reappointments and Gene Bell is a new appointment replacing Jack Flaughter. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to appoint, Jim Curran, Dave Spear and Gene Bell as lay members to the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Monte Fisher reported 81 inmates, 17 are DOC and one federal. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that the Spillman Server went down on Saturday and the IT Department is still working on getting it back up. Sheriff Fisher also informed the commissioners that he is going to build a shed at the jail to house the used needles and medicine for HazMat and the overflow of old paper files. The cost of the shed will be split between Wells County Solid Waste and the Sheriff's department. The sheriff will pay for his half with the commissary fund.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman informed the commissioners that his department is mainly working on stone roads at this time.

Wells County Highway Engineer: Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert informed the commissioners that a pre-construction meeting for Bridge No. 204 was held on the 12th of March and the bridge was closed to traffic on Friday the 14th of March. Toby also stated that once the weather brakes they will start working on the two small structures on the Hoosier Highway.

Flood Safety Awareness Week: County Surveyor, Jarrod Hahn presented a Proclamation proclaiming March 17-21, 2014 as Flood Safety Awareness Week. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to declare this week Flood Safety Awareness Week (Misc. 2014-07). Motion carried 3-0.

APC Board Membership: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. representing the Area Plan Board came before the commissioners with three different options for the reconfiguration of the Area Plan Commission's Board Membership. Option 1 is leaving the membership the same. Option 2 is taking away the School Superintendent appointment and replacing it with a county commissioner or their rural designee, which

would give the county commissioners three appointments. Option 3 is taking away the School Superintendent appointment and adding a County Council Member or their rural designee; this option would leave the county commissioners with two appointments. The Board of Commissioners stated that they had no preference on which option to go with and they would wait to see if the County Council has any preference on the three options.

Health Board Membership: Marlene Hoag with the Health Department presented three names to the Board of Commissioners to fill two board appointments for the Wells County Health Board. Jack Wenger is a current member and is willing to remain on the board, Ann McNabb is a school nurse and Mark Misch is a school principal. Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the appointments of Jack Wenger and Ann McNabb to the Wells County Health Board for a four year term. Motion carried 3-0.

DLGF Reassessment Contract: County Assessor, Rick Smith presented a revised DLGF Contract for Annual Adjustments Cyclical Reassessment. Rick stated the contract had been sent to the county attorney for his review and he did not have any issues with it. Motion Made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the contract (Misc. 2014-08). Motion carried 3-0.

Economic Development Director: Economic Development Director, Tim Ehlerding updated the commissioners on what he has been working on which includes another summer guitar building program as well as a couple new programs. Tim also updated the commissioners of the expansion for V-Tech. The board of Commissioners discussed Senate Bill 1 that passed the General Assembly which gives counties options on withholding business personal property tax with Mr. Ehlerding.

Contract for Appellant Work: Judge Kent Kiracofe came before the commissioners stating that he would like to enter into a contract with Attorney Jeremy K. Nix to handle the appellate work for the court appointed counsel for the indigent. Currently he has been using the state public defender's office and he feels that entering into a contract for a set amount would help to keep the cost down. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the judge entering into the contract for appellate work. Motion carried 3-0.

Change of Juvenile Placement Facility: Judge Kent Kiracofe came before the commissioners on behalf of the Probation Department to discuss the placement of Juvenile Defendants. Currently Wells County has been sending the Juveniles to Cedar Bridge in Muncie however that facility is moving to Ladoga which would be too far from Wells County. The Probation department sent out request for a new location but only received two responses back and one of them was a male only facility which would not work for Wells County. The other facility that responded was the Youth Opportunity Center of Delaware County and they will contract with Wells County for 400 beds annually at \$119.00 a day. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the contract with Youth Opportunity Center of Delaware County. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:42 am

Wells County Commissioners

President, C. Scott Mossburg

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Blake Gerber

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor