

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 5-4-2015

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday May 4, 2015 at 9AM 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 April 20, 2015 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll: Commissioners approved Payroll #9 in the amount of \$203,287.37.

Claims: Commissioners approved 169 claims in the amount of \$367,097.52.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 74 inmates, 13 are DOC.

Bituminous Material Bids: The Board of Commissioners opened three sealed bids for Bituminous Material. The bids were from; Marathon Petroleum, K-Tech Specialty and Asphalt Material. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to refer the bids to Ed Herman for his review and recommendation. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman informed the commissioners that 164 residents signed up for dust control and he is planning on starting the application today. Ed would like to start the summer hours for the highway workers. They will work four 10 hour days from 6:00am to 4:00pm starting on June 1st through August 27th. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve 10 hour day. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Highway Engineer: Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert informed the commissioners that he is meeting this week with Hoosier Pride regarding the three culvert projects they will be working on. Toby also asked Leo Rumschlog to come back and inspect two small structures again, one in Union township and one in Rockcreek Township.

Economic Development: Tim Ehlerding provided a road ranking analysis he put together for the Board of Commissioners regarding the economic development of the Frauhofer's business on 700 West in Jackson Township. The Frauhofer's have asked the county to pave their county road in front of their business. The system Tim used takes into account the assessed value of the business along with the number of employees and the employee pay compared to the county average as well as the past and future growth in the business. The commissioners asked Ed Herman to check with some other counties to see what they are doing regarding converting roads to chip and seal. Tim also came before the commissioners asking for funding to help with a study that the Regional Cities Initiative will be putting together to compete for state grant money. The total study will cost \$200,000 and the city of Fort Wayne will be putting in 75% and they are asking the surrounding counties to contribute \$5,000 to the study. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the \$5,000 from the 2015 appropriated CEDIT budget. Motion carried 3-0.

IT Director: Roger Richardson stated that he is getting ready to purchase a new server that he had planned to replace in this year's budget. The IT Department has also been focusing on reviewing the firewall.

Wabash River Corridor Road: Scott Elzey presented a Resolution to the Board of Commissioners that would designate a route through Wells County along the Wabash River. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve Resolution # 2015-02 "Establishing the Wabash River Corridor Road in Wells County". Motion carried 3-0.

Behavior and Recovery Resource Center: Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to proclaim May 2015 as Mental Health Month in Wells County "Proclamation Misc. 2015-04". Motion carried 3-0.

Wind Energy Development County Lease: Answered the questions that Bill Morris asked regarding the county farms wind lease stating that only an option to lease was executed and it was with Wells Prairie Wind LLC and a new option to lease was not sign with Apex. It appears that payments were made for the initial Development period in Feb 2011 and again in August 2013 and February 2014 presumably to extend the Development Period. No more payments have been received seeming that the Development Period has now expired.

Regional Sewer District: Commissioner Gerber stated that a solution has been found for the McKinney-Paxson issue.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:50AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Dunmoyer

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor