

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 8-17-2015

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday August 17, 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 August 3, 2015 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll & Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #17 in the amount of \$196,905.21 and 155 claims totaling \$349,594.14. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 70 inmates, 7 are DOC.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman explained the issues with the grinding project that was done on Meridian Road between 300 South and Hoosier Highway. Soft spots seem to be the issue with the road which was caused by all the rain we have received this year. Ed has been advised to let the soft spots heal themselves and he stated that it appears to be firming up. Ed also informed the commissioners that all of the chip and seal projects for the year have been completed. Ed provided a map of the road marking projects to be completed in the county; Three Rivers Barricade will be doing the markings because they came in with the lowest quote.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert presented a utility permit from Citizens Telephone Corporation to bury cable on county road 1000 south. Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the request from Citizens Telephone. Motion carried 3-0. Toby also presented another utility permit from Citizens Telephone Corporation to bury cable on the east side of 300 west and the south side of 300 north. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the request from Citizens Telephone. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Gerber stated that the proposal for the road conversion on 600 west will be send to Mr. and Mrs. Frauhiger for their review.

**Economic Development:** Economic Development Director Tim Ehlerding updated the Board of Commissioners on several projects including; the Tiger Tank Applications that were received to fill the spot in the Library, the new TIF district in Bluffton, informed the commissioners that the Linder Oil Project in Ossian is almost completed. Tim requested \$10,000 from the county's CEDIT fund to help pay for a property that was acquired by the Town of Ossian to build a Veteran's Memorial Park and the start of the Ossian Trail. The Board of Commissioners were not sure if they wanted to use CEDIT Revenues for a park and asked Tim to look into other sources of revenue to see if anything else is available and bring the information back to the September meeting.

**Courthouse Repairs:** Custodian, Bobbie Studebaker was asked to come before the commissioners to give updates on all the courthouse repairs. Bobbie informed the commissioners that the contractor is coming back to redo the section of cement that is flaking in front of the courthouse on the west side entrance and another vendor has been contacted about putting a new coating over the cement to protect against winter salt and bad weather. The east side entrance cement is also being replaced by

the contractor due to crumbing. The upgrade to the control board for the heating and air is almost completed. A contractor is scheduled to come in and apply new pipes and drains in the attic to fix the problem with them freezing and busting. Bobbie informed the Board of Commissioners that a recent inspection for fire protection was completed for the Courthouse and Annex buildings and it was discovered that updates needed to be made. If the fire marshal can provide a letter stating that we do not need two forms of communication then we would be able to install two hard lines for communication with a set up cost of \$718.00 per building and a monthly service fee of \$34.95 a month. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the upgrade for both buildings and allow the president of the board to sign the contract. Motion carried 3-0. Kiolowski is scheduled to complete the sealing of the steps on the north side of the courthouse. The doors and door frames in the front entrance of the courthouse are scheduled to be completed within the next couple of weeks. Bobbie informed the commissioners that she had requested quotes for a new elevator service contract, the last one the county has was dated from 1995. Bobbie had the county attorney review the contract and they believe that the contract can be terminated by providing a written letter with a 90 day notice. Bobbie requested a quote from the current vendor and two new vendors but she only received the two new vendor's quotes back. Bobbie is recommending the low quote from Otis in the amount of \$2,616 a year with a five year contract. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to send a 90 notice to the current vendor and go with Otis as the new vendor and allow the president of the board to sign the contract (Misc. 2015-13). Motion carried 3-0.

**Restricted Addresses Policy:** Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Wells County Restricted Addresses Policy (Misc. 2015-12). Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** At 10:46AM motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to adjourn.

### **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