

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 10-5-2015

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday October 5, 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 September 8, 2015 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll & Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #19 in the amount of \$196,733.38, payroll #20 in the amount of \$198,821.09, 220 claims from September 21st totaling \$669,365.31, and 168 claims from October 1st totaling \$204,295.58. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 86 inmates, 5 are DOC.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Ed Herman informed the commissioners that the hot mix projects were started this morning. Ed also provided updates on the centerline markings, roadside mowing and pipe projects. Ed gave pictures to the commissioners showing damage that has been done to some chip and seal road mainly due to CAFO farmers hauling manure and silage. Ed will wait until they are not hauling as much before he starts repairing the roads.

**Wells County Highway Engineer:** Toby Steffen, with Butler Fairman Seufert informed the commissioners that the county highway has received material from the state road 224 projects. The material is being stored at the highway garage. The culvert #455 project on 300 West in Union Township has been moved to October 21<sup>st</sup>. The road will be closed on October 19<sup>th</sup> for the entire week. Toby and Ed have been looking at the small structure projects that they plan to work on in 2016. They will provide a list to the board of commissioners when the list is available. Toby informed the commissioners that USI has started their bridge inventory. Commissioner Dunmoyer asked Toby and Ed to look into getting signage at the intersection of State Roads 218 and 1 regarding no engine breaking.

**Bridge No. 193 Concerns:** Joe Langel a concerned citizen who lives near the Bridge project on county road 300 West came before the board of commissioners to address some concerns he has about the project. Mr. Langel stated that he has done some research and this bridge is already the narrowest bridge crossing the Wabash and the new construction will make it even narrower. County Engineer Toby Steffen explained that this project is a Federal Bridge Project where a federal grant will be paying 80 percent of the cost. Since the bridge has been selected as a historic bridge you cannot make changes to the bridge. If you are using federal money you have to abide by their rules. Mr. Langel said that he would like to go on record stating that this is a foolish way to spend money and he thinks the project should be challenged. The bid letting for the bridge is scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**IT Director:** Roger Richardson stated they he has been doing routine maintenance and updating some computers and laptops. Commissioner Gerber asked Roger to update Facebook and the county website with the road closure on 300 west do to the small structure replacement.

**Nottingham Township Assistance Standards:** Township Trustee Mark Shaffer provided the commissioners with an updated “Nottingham Township Assistance Guidelines”.

**FEMA Property Buyouts:** Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. provided a resolution to The Board of Commissioners for the funding of the matching portion of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant. Michael has to include the resolution showing the county will pay the 25% match for the buyout of the 3 1/2 homes included in the application. The counties share of the match would be approximately \$156,173.54 which would most likely come from the County’s CEDIT Fund or the Rainy Day Fund. Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Resolution 2015-05 “Resolution Regarding The Funding Of The Matching Portion Of A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Grant Application”. Motion carried 3-0. Michael stated that he has also received a \$10,000.00 dollar for dollar grant from the Wells County Foundation and he will continue to seek other forms of funding for the counties share of the FEMA grant. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the Wells County Foundation matching grant and allow the president of the board to sign the agreement. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant and allow the president of the board to sign. Motion carried 3-0.

**Award:** The Board of Commissioners acknowledged a plaque that was received for “Excellence in Flood Plan Management”. A special thank you was given to Michael Lautzenheiser Jr., Jarrod Hahn and their staff for all the hard work to achieve this award.

**Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan:** EMA Director Wayne Grove presented a resolution to approve electronic signatures on grant applications. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve Resolution No. 2015-06. Motion carried 3-0. Wayne presented the Wells County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Resolution No. 2015-07 adopting the Wells County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried 3-0. Wayne also asked the commissioners if the meeting room could be used as an EOC (Emergency Operation Center) if needed in the future. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the commissioners meeting room as an EOC. Motion carried 3-0.

**Council on Aging Transit Grant:** Betsy Collier provided comparison charts for Wells on Wheels to the board of commissioners. Betsy provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter contract invoice-voucher for \$122,562.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter invoice. Motion carried 3-0. Betsy presented the 2016 Public Transit Grant Agreement to the commissioners. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to approve the 2016 grant agreement. Motion carried 3-0.

**Use of Courthouse Square:** Motion made by Tamara Dunmoyer, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Ed Ferguson’s request to use the courthouse square on July 2, 2016 for a Cruise-IN. Motion carried 3-0.

**United Way Fundraiser:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Dunmoyer to allow the courthouse employees to participate in the United Ways Denim for a Difference weeks by paying \$2.00 per day. Motion carried 3-0.

**McKinney-Paxson Watershed:** Commissioner Gerber stated that plans are available for public viewing of the 70 homes that will be connected to the City of Bluffton's sanitary sewer collection system.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:27AM

**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