

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 1-19-2016

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday January 19, 2016 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 Robbins. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from January 4, 2016 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll and Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #2 in the amount of \$211,678.42 and 154 claims totaling \$221,481.67. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 85 inmates, 9 are DOC. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that one of his deputies was involved in a vehicle accident with minor damage.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman provided a utility permit from AdamsWells Telcom to bury cable at 866 E 100 S to Meridian Road on the south side of 100 south. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to allow AdamsWells to bore under to road at 866 E 100 S. Motion carried 3-0.

Economic Development Director: Chad Kline, the newly appointed Economic Development Director came before the Board of Commissioners to do a formal introduction.

Permitting Excellence Coalition: Area Plan Director Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. asked the Board of Commissioners if they would like to join the Northeast Indiana Permitting Excellence Coalition. The agreement will give Wells County the ability to attend and participate in the regional meetings and training sessions. Michael stated that this group would be helpful with procedures on permitting and this Coalition is geared more toward Planning department rather than Building Departments. The total cost to join the Permitting Excellence Coalition is \$2,000.00. The commissioners stated that they would like a little more time to think about it and asked Michael to come back in a month to present it again.

2016-2017 Community Corrections Grant Approval: Community Corrections Director Blake Poindexter presented a grant application approval letter for the 2016-2017 grant application. Blake went over several programs that his department is doing for defendants. Commissioner Gerber stated that he would like to see the general fund portion for the contributions to the program decreased. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the 2016-2017 Community Corrections grant application. Motion carried 3-0.

Workers Compensation Renewal: Richard Randol with General Insurance presented the renewal policy for the county workers compensation. The renewal has an increase of 2.67% from last year's policy. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the workers compensation renewal with Bituminous Insurance Company in the amount of \$71,519.00. Motion carried 3-0.

County Owned Cemeteries: As stated in the last meeting, it was determined that the county owned two cemeteries in Lancaster township. The township trustee wanted to know if the counties insurance

would cover the damaged that was done to several headstones at the cemeteries since the cemeteries are owned by the county. Richard Randol stated that the counties insurance policy has an endorsement on it for Grave Markers and Headstones damage but wasn't sure on what the coverage would be since there wasn't a listed address for the cemeteries on the policy. The Board of Commissioners asked Richard to go ahead and file a claim for the damages and see what the insurance company could do. Richard is also adding the address of the cemeteries to the policy. It is still being discussed if the commissioners should appoint a County Cemetery Commission or if the Township Trustee will continue to care for the cemeteries.

2015 Total Compensation: The Board of Commissioners acknowledged the 2015 Total Compensation for Wells County. The total compensation amount was \$5,232,061.28.

Alcoholic Beverage Board Appointment: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to appoint Rob Moon to the Local Alcoholic Beverage Board. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: 10:43AM Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to adjourned. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor