

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 12-19-2016

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday December 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 substitute County Attorney, Trent Patterson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from December 5, 2016 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #26 in the amount of \$214,541.28 and 305 claims totaling \$360,411.25. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 74 inmates, 4 are DOC and 18 are F6 DOC's.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman recommended that the commissioners approve all the stone bids that were received from the prior meeting. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve all stone bids. Motion carried 3-0. Ed informed the commissioners that Family Ford cannot get a 1 ton single axle pickup with bed as ordered. They did find one in Pennsylvania for around \$2,000 less than original quote but it does not have cruise, power group or running boards. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to table ordering the truck with Family Ford. Motion carried 3-0. After talking with Ed during a recess later in the meeting Kevin Woodward made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck from Pennsylvania which was seconded by Tamara Robbins. Motion carried 3-0. Ed also informed the commissioners that he has already used 75 tons of salt this winter.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag informed the commissioners that work on bridge 79 should be started the first week of January; work on bridge 400 will start once the weather breaks; and the tentative date to advertisement for bids on Bridges 2 & 203 is January 19th, 2017. Discussed the County Road 700N drainage concerns and presented one right of way dedication. Nate informed the commissioners that the Community Crossing Grant money has been received and deposited into the county fund. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to accept all right of way dedications. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Hearing to Vacate Alley: Greg Waters, attorney for David A. Hendricks informed the commissioners that his client is building a new home and need access to Market Street, Harrison Street and two alleys located in the Town of Reiffsburg. Notices have been sent out, approved and published. No public comment was heard during the public hearing. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Ordinance No. 2016-09 (Ordinance Vacating Streets and Alleys). Motion carried 3-0.

2017 Board Appointments: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Rob Moon to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Commissioner Blake Gerber to the Chamber of Commerce Board. Motion carried 2-0-1 (Blake abstained from voting). Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Commissioner Blake Gerber to the Economic

Development Board. Motion carried 2-0-1 (Blake abstained from voting). Motion made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Commissioner Tamara Robbins to the EMA Advisory Board. Motion carried 2-0-1 (Tamara abstained from voting). Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to re-appoint Commissioner Kevin Woodward to the EMS Board. Motion carried 2-0-1 (Kevin abstained from voting). Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Martin Adam and Larry McChesney to the Property Tax Board of Appeals. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Lee VonGunten to the Wells County Regional Sewer District. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Susie Reinhard, Marlene Hoag, and Diana Collins to the Courthouse Sick Bank Committee. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to appoint Tim Rohr and Tyson Brooks to the Area Plan Commission and appoint Ryan Crissmore as alternate. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Dr. Mary Donley MD and Steve Bales DVM to the Wells County Health Board. Motion carried 3-0. The appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals will be made at the January 3rd, 2017 meeting.

Department Head Appointments: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Roy Johnson as the County Attorney. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Bobbie Studebaker as the Courthouse Custodian. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Ed Herman as the Highway Supervisor. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Wayne Grove as the EMA Director. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Nate Rumschlag as the County Engineer. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to re-appoint Adam McCartney as the 911 Director. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Roger Richardson as the County I.T. Director. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. as the Area Plan Director. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Claude McMillian as the Veterans Officer. Motion carried 3-0.

Recess until 10:30AM for Public Hearing on Sale of a Portion of Real Estate and Lease of Tillable Portion of the County Farm.

Public Hearing: Trent Patterson explained that the Board of Commissioners have determined that it would be in the best interest of the county and the public to sell a portion of the real estate of the county farm, containing 16.93 acres and to lease the remainder tillable portion of the county farm containing 229.54 acres. The appraisal report that was done by two certified appraisers stated the minimum bid for the sale of the 16.93 acres would be \$72,000 and the minimum bid for the tillable farm ground would be \$250 per acre. This public hearing is being conducted to hear any public comment regarding the sale or lease. The Board of Commissioners opened the floor for any public comments and after hearing none a motion was made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to close the public comment. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Ordinance No. 2016-10 "An Ordinance Approving the Sale of a Portion of the Wells County Farm and the Lease of the Remainder of the Wells County Farm by the Board of Commissioners of the County or Wells". Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Notice of Bidding for Lease of the Wells County Farm for a Period of Three Years and the Notice of Sale of a Portion of the Wells County Farm. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:48AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor