

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 1-3-2017

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday January 3, 2017 at 9:00AM 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.

Re-organization of Board: Auditor Beth Davis asked for nomination for President of the Board of Commissioner for 2017. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to appoint Commissioner Blake Gerber as President of the Board. Motion carried 2-0-1, Blake abstained from voting. Motion was made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to appoint Kevin Woodward as vice-president of the board. Motion carried 2-0-1, Kevin abstained from voting.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from December 19, 2016 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #1 in the amount of \$219,777.95 and 266 claims totaling \$436,025.39. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 74 inmates, 8 are DOC and 16 are F6 DOC. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that he is still working with the vendor regarding a new municipal lease for the Jail security Equipment.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Ed Herman informed the commissioners that the truck has been delivered from Family Ford and it is currently getting the bed and plow installed on it. Ed also announced that he is retiring after 37 years with the Wells County Highway Department. Ed's last working day will be February 3, 2017.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag updated the commissioners on the bridge projects; work on Bridge #79 is scheduled to start tomorrow (January 4th), still waiting on the weather to break to start working on Bridge #400, and the tentative date for advertisement for bids on bridges #2 & #203 is January 19th. Nate presented a right of way document for CR 750E. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Right of Way. Motion carried 3-0. Nate informed the commissioners that he has received a copy of a report of Wells County's Historic Sites and Structures which could be very useful on future projects.

IT Director Updates: Roger Richardson informed the commissioners that his office has been updating computers in offices as needed. A new server will be installed this year at the courthouse and a new email upgrade is scheduled to begin this month.

Coroner: Hilarie Gaskill the newly elected coroner came before the commissioners asking if she could purchase a company cell phone for her office. She would like to change the line item in her budget from a second deputy to an on call basis which would leave unused funds that she could transfer to pay for the phone. The commissioners stated that they didn't have a problem with her request and she should contact the IT department to purchase the phone.

Appointments to the Rock Creek Conservancy District: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint Robert Martz and Mike Schumm as Directors to the Rock Creek Conservancy District for a four year term. Motion carried 3-0.

Other Appointments: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to appoint Martha Wanous to the Huntington City/Town Public Library Board. Motion carried 3-0. This information will be sent to the Huntington County Commissioners for their approval also since it is a joint appoint. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to appoint Tyson Brooks to the BZA board. Motion carried 3-0. We are still receiving applications for the County Cemetery Board so the appointments to this board will be reviewed at the next commissioners meeting.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:24AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor