

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 2-21-2017

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday February 21, 2017 at 9:30AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Blake Gerber and Tamara Robbins. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis. Commissioner Kevin Woodward was absent.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the minutes from February 6, 2017 regular session and February 6, 2017 and February 13, 2017 executive sessions. Motion carried 2-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Payroll #4 in the amount of \$215,005.81 and 225 claims totaling \$436,976.62. Motion carried 2-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 79 inmates, 5 are DOC and 17 are F6 DOC. Sheriff Fisher informed the commissioners that the vendor has started working on the outside work for the new chiller at the jail.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag updated the commissioners on the two Community Crossing Matching Grant bridge projects. Bids were opened on February 14, 2017 for Bridge No. 203. There were a total of three bids received and the lowest bid was from Jutte Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$338,007.32. Bids were opened on February 16, 2017 for Bridge No. 2. There were also a total of three bids received for this bridge project and Jutte Excavating, Inc. again was the lowest bidder in the amount of \$379,141.12. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to allow the President of the Board to sign the "letters of Intent to Award Construction Contracts" to Jutte Excavating Inc. for both bridges 203 & 2. Motion carried 2-0. Nate presented a draft letter he is working on that can be sent to the public regarding Driveway/Field Entrance Culvert Replacement. The letter would inform property owners that they need to repair or replace a blocked or collapsed culvert along their property. Nate also informed the commissioners that he is working on a policy document for the Area Plan Commission to request that future developments consistently record the 30-foot half right-of-way as a condition of highway department approval prior to development.

Solid Waste Salary Reimbursement Contract: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve the 2017 Salary Reimbursement Contract between Wells County Solid Waste Management and Wells County Government (Misc. 2017-07). Motion carried 2-0.

Wells County Farm Lease and Land Purchase: County Attorney Roy Johnson stated that the bids were taken under advisement at the last commissioners meeting and since that time the County Council Members have approved both the sale of the 16.93 acres to Sunshine Dairy and the farm lease of 229.54 tillable acres to Gaiser Farms. The first ½ payment for the tillable acres was due on February 15, 2017 and this has been paid by Gaiser Farms on February 14, 2017. The Warranty Deed for the 16.93 acres was also presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to allow the President of the Board to sign the Warranty Deed. Motion carried 2-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:57AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor