

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 2-5-2018

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday February 5, 2018 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.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from January 16, 2018 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll And Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #3 in the amount of \$219,423.90 and 205 claims totaling \$426,253.47. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 99 inmates, 4 are DOC and 22 are F6 DOC.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Josh Cotton informed the commissioners that his department has been taking out dead trees and cleaning brush along the county roads. They are still auditing the road signs and have completed the log jam on the White Bridge. Josh has received quotes for a new axle dump truck and he is recommending that they go with the low bids which would include the chasses from Stoops and the bed, blades and up fit to be done by Kalida Truck. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Blake Gerber to approve Josh's recommendations. Motion carried 2-0-1, Commissioner Kevin Woodward abstained from voting.

**Highway Engineer:** Nate Rumschlag presented a contract for inspections services through Engineering Resources with a not to exceed amount of \$10,000 to be paid from the CEDIT fund for Bridge #142-south end of Zanesville. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the contract with Engineering Resources (Misc. 2018-05). Motion carried 3-0. Nate presented INDOT's Amendment #1 to the 2016 Community Crossing Matching Grant Agreement to allowing the county to use 50% of the unused funds from the original agreement for the Bridge #142 project. The total amount of funds to be used per the agreement is \$209,778.30 which is 50% of the repair cost. The remaining amount of grant funds totaling \$43,958.88 shall be paid back to INDOT. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve Amendment #1 (Misc. 2018-06). Motion carried 3-0. The agreement with HIS Constructors, Inc. was also signed by the commissioners, the agreement was approved at the January meeting, but Nate was waiting on the amendment from INDOT before the commissioners signed the agreement (Misc. 2018-07). Nate informed the commissioners that the work is progressing on bridge #18, the deck has been removed and channel excavation is complete. Nate has received quotes to pay for geotechnical testing of the soils under the new road alignment for the Hoosier Highway project, the lowest quote received was for \$3,950 which will need to be paid from the CEDIT Fund. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Geotechnical testing. Motion carried 3-0. There were a total of four statements of qualification received from engineer consulting firms for the work on the Wells County Corridor's study. The commissioners will do the scoring on the four firms at the end of today's meeting. Nate informed the commissioners that he approved a utility permit from AEP for upgrades in the Liberty Center area.

**Area Plan Right of Ways:** County Attorney Roy Johnson presented seven right of way documents for the commissioner's approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve all of the Right of Ways. Motion carried 3-0.

**Economic Development Annual Report:** Economic Development Director Chad Kline presented his 2017 Annual Report. Chad went over the Key Activities including site visit, industrial attraction and education. The report indicated \$63.5 million in New Investment, 203 new jobs and \$6,801,800 in new payroll. The 2018 projects include workforce retention and attraction.

**Wells on Wheels:** Bonnie Valind and Betsy Collier presented flow charts of trips including charts of riders within the city verses county. The commissioners had asked Betsy to provide this information from their last appointment. In 2017 there were 27,193 trip within the city, 12,041 in the county and 325 out of county. Bonnie also presented the 2017 4<sup>th</sup> quarter reimbursement voucher for Wells on Wheels totaling \$88,788.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter claim voucher and allow the president of the board to sign. Motion carried 3-0.

**Cum Bridge Discussion:** The commissioners discussed the possibility of adopting a Cum Bridge Fund. The executive board is the adopting board for Cum Bridge and Cum Capital Development funds. If the commissioners adopt a Cum Bridge Fund the levy would be with the max levy of the county which could create some issues for the County Council when they do the 2019 budget. The County Council will be considering making some changes with the Local Income Taxes to help offset the lost levy by creating a Cum Bridge Fund. The County Council will discuss this at their meeting tomorrow night. The commissioners will have to have a public hearing before adopting a Cum Bridge Fund. The public hearing will be advertised for the first meeting in March.

**Recorders Bulk Document Amendment:** Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve Ordinance No. 2018-01 "An Ordinance Of The Board Of Commissioners Of The County Of Wells Amending Wells County Ordinance No. 2017-07 Requiring The Recorder Of Wells County, Indiana, To Watermark Bulk Form Copies". Motion carried 3-0.

**Scoring of Engineer Consulting Firms:** The commissioners completed the scoring sheets for the Four Engineer Consulting Firms and gave them to Nate Rumschlag.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:27AM

**Wells County Commissioners**

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President, Blake Gerber

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Vice President, Kevin Woodward

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Tamara Robbins

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor