

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 7-16-2018

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday July 16, 2018 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 Deputy Auditor, Lisa McCormick.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from July 2, 2018 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll And Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #15 in the amount of \$214,327.19 and 182 claims totaling \$215,145.52. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 82 inmates, 6 are DOC and 18 are F6 DOC. Sheriff Fisher presented two quotes for a new Walk-in-Freezer and he is recommending the low quote from Felger Hart in the amount of \$43,317.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the low quote from Felger Hart. Motion carried 3-0.

**Southern Wells SRO Officer:** Sheriff Monte Fisher, Chief Deputy Scott Holliday, Southern Wells Superintendent Steve Darnell and Southern Wells Board Member Mark Durham presented a contract for a new School Resource Officer to the Board of Commissioners. Chief Deputy Holliday noted that he had met with officials from Southern Wells and they all agree that the desire is there. The new contract is a mirror image of the current contract the Sheriff has with Northern Wells Community School for their SRO. Southern Wells received a \$35,000 grant for the first year; however Superintendent Darnell stated that the School is committed to continuing with the SRO even if the grant money runs out. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the contract between the Sheriff and Southern Wells. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Josh Cotton informed the commissioners that all the patching is completed as well as all the notes for the Backhoe crew. They are starting to work on the yearly chip and seal projects today. They are continuing to mow the county side ditches. The top coat of stone is being added to the road conversion project on 1150N and once that is complete they will move over to 500E. Two of the nine large culverts projects scheduled for this year have been installed. Josh also stated that he gets daily calls of corn planted in the intersections.

**Highway Engineer:** Nate Rumschlag informed the commissioners that he is still waiting on the final report from the State Fire Marshall's office on Bridge #66. Nate stated that he has been informed that residents have been moving the barricades around the project and he is asking that residents remain patient. Nate has started to pull property owners information for the right-of-ways on the road conversion projects that were mentioned at the last meeting, he will start mailing out some of the request this week. The appraisals should be done by mid-august for the Hoosier Highway Project. Nate is reviewing a draft contract from USI for the Federal Aid Bridge #106 Project and he hopes to present it to the commissioners at the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Nate informed the commissioners that the RSD has appointed him as the secretary to the Regional Sewer District. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve two minor sub-division Right-of-Ways. Motion carried 3-0.

**FEMA Flood Buyout:** Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. updated the commissioners on the FEMA Flood Buyout process. The purchase of the Brooks property is ready to go to closing at anything and he is just waiting on the family to set the date. The second property owner “Grover” has decided not to participate in the program at this time, however they still will have a few months to change their minds and participate again.

**I.Q. Fibers Agreement:** Economic Development Director Chad Kline on behalf of IQ Fibers presented a “Memorandum of Agreement” to the Board of Commissioners for their approval. The agreement is to pay IQ Fibers a total of \$50,000.00 from the County’s CEDIT Fund for reimbursement for cost associated with improvement made to the building. The City of Bluffton is also going to enter into the same \$50,000 incentive. The agreement has requirements that will need to be made to receive the reimbursements over the next couple of years. IQ Fibers is located in the previous Sterling Casting building near Bond and Wiley streets. Chad stated the improvements are quite impressive. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the agreement (Misc. 2018-14) and allow the President of the Board to sign it. Motion carried 3-0.

**GIS Sharing Agreement:** Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. presented a “Geographic Information Systems Sharing Agreement” between Wells County and Huntington County to the Board of Commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the agreement (Misc. 2018-15). Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:00AM

**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