

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 11-5-2018

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday November 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 October 15, 2018 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #22 in the amount of \$214,275.62, Payroll #23 in the amount of \$213,179.16 and 233 claims totaling \$742,515.41. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 112 inmates, 9 are DOC and 19 are F6 DOC.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Josh Cotton updated the commissioners on the Backhoe notes, road conversions projects and hand patching. They are currently finishing up on the final round of side ditch mowing and are continuing to do maintenance on gravel roads.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag informed the commissioners that he had a bid opening on Thursday, November 1st, 2018 for Bridge #112. There were four companies that bid on the project with Jutte Excavating coming in with the low bid of \$297,609.53. The project would take between 5-6 weeks to complete with an anticipated starting date of March 2019. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to have Nate issue a Notice of intent to Award the project to Jutte Excavating. Motion carried 3-0. Nate would like to get a design plan together to replace the beams and superstructure of Bridge #121 and also the design and construction of guardrail along the ditch. Nate is looking at a 2021 construction date using CCMG Funds. Nate would like to use Engineering Resources Inc. (ERI) for both the bridge and guardrail design and their proposed fee is \$52,800.00. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Nate's request to use ERI for the design. Motion carried 3-0. Nate would also like to use ERI to do the plans on the surface repairs to both bridge #'s 300 & 301 in Ossian since they serve as the Engineer for the Town of Ossian and could help assist in any coordination with the town throughout the process. The cost for the plans would be \$7,500 per bridge for a total of \$15,000.00. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve ERI for the project. Motion carried 3-0. Nate asked the commissioners if he could do a study at the intersection of 950N and 100E since he has received a letter from a resident claiming several people have been running through the intersection and into her yard. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to allow Nate to do a study at the intersection. Motion carried 3-0. Highway Supervisor Josh Cotton also stated that the Highway department has added additional signage at the intersection. Two Sub-Division Right-of-Ways were present to the commissioner for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Right-of-Ways. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Zoning Ordinance Amendments: Area Plan director Mike Lautzenheiser asked for the commissioners input on a request from the home owners in the Bridges subdivision near Ossian to put in a 50 foot diameter temporary turn-around instead of the standard 96 foot. The commissioners asked

several questions including; how long is temporary, would it be stone or paved. After some discussion a motion was made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve a temporary 96' stone cul-de-sac and have the existing roadways repaired and a topcoat of asphalt installed. Motion carried 3-0. Mike also asked the commissioners to approve changes to the Wells County Zoning Ordinance and Wells County Subdivision Control Ordinance. The changes which were unanimously approved by the Area Plan Commissioners at their last meeting included changes in the agricultural setbacks and slaughter house requirements. After some discussion a motion was made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to table the request so they would have more time to review the changes. Motion carried 3-0.

CEDIT Plan Amendment: The three year CEDIT Plan for years 2019-2020-2021 was amended to include funding to non-profit organizations and partial salary funding for the Wells County Regional Sewer District. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve Resolution No. 2018-08 amending the CEDIT plan. Motion carried 3-0.

Travel and Reimbursement Policy: The mileage reimbursement rate on the "Travel and Reimbursement Policy" was changed to .46 Cents a mile starting on January 1, 2019. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the change to the Travel and Reimbursement Policy. Motion carried 3-0.

2019 Meeting Dates: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the 2019 Board of Commissioners meeting dates. Motion carried 3-0.

Courthouse Christmas Tree Lighting: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the request from the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Bluffton to have the annual County Courthouse tree lighting ceremony on Friday, November 23, 2018 from 5:30-6:30PM on the Courthouse Plaza. Motion carried 3-0.

Parlor City Christmas: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the request from the Parlor City Christmas Committee to place a small shed on the NW corner of the Court House Plaza on December 8th, 2018 for riders waiting to ride Grampa Ferrel's train. Motion carried 3-0.

Employee Thanksgiving and Christmas Parties: Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the Courthouse closing from 12:00-2:00PM on Wednesday, November 21, 2018 for an employee Thanksgiving luncheon and also closing at 2:00PM on December 21, 2018 for an employee Christmas party. Motion carried 3-0.

Employee Health Insurance Updates: Informed the commissioners that Anthem came back with a 10% deduction on premiums for calendar year 2019. The commissioners decided to continue with Anthem for 2019 with no other changes.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:59AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor