

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session 12-17-2018

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday December 17, 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 County Auditor, Beth Davis.

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

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #26 in the amount of \$212,459.50 and 247 claims totaling \$282,240.31. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Fisher reported 98 inmates, 13 are DOC and 18 are F6 DOC.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Josh Cotton asked if the stone bids could be put off until the end of the meeting. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to table the stone bids until the end of the meeting today. Motion carried 3-0. Josh updated the commissioners on the Road Conversion Projects indicating everything is complete until next spring. The highway department is continuing to grade gravel roads and they will continue grading as weather allows. Currently there are two crews out cutting brush and they will continue cutting brush when they are not plowing snow.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag informed the Board of Commissioners that Wells County was awarded up to \$6 Million in state matching funds to finance the construction of the Hoosier Highway to Adams Street project through the Local Trax Grant Application. The Project is targeted to be done in 2022. The application Nate sent in for the INDOT Federal Aid Grant has been accepted by INDOT for consideration. The projects for this Federal Aid application include the County Home Road/200S Curve correction and Bridge No. 304. Bridge #112 contract with Jutte Excavating was presented to the commissioner for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the contract with Jutte Excavating Inc. (Misc. 2018-24). Motion carried 3-0. Nate would like to request permission to award an inspection contract to BF&S for the Hoosier Highway and CR 100W curve correction. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to accept Nates recommendation and award the contract with BF&S. Motion carried 3-0. The next call for projects for the Community Crossing Matching Grant will open on January 7, 2019 and close on February 1, 2019, Nate is currently working on a project list for the application. Right-of Way documents were presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to accept and sign the Right-of-Way documents. Motion carried 3-0.

Economic Development Director: Chad Kline came before the commissioners asking them to approve an invoice for \$20,250.00 to cover ½ of the cost of Engineering Fees for Snider Drive. The Board of Commissioners and the City of Bluffton were to split the cost of the project and the City of Bluffton has already approved their half. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Chad's request. Motion carried 3-0. Chad also mentioned that IQ Fibers had completed the site improvements at their location and has submitted an invoice to the Auditor for the first reimbursement of \$20,000.00.

2019 Appointments for Department Heads: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint; Roy Johnson as the County Attorney, Bobbie Studebaker as the Courthouse Custodian, Rick Velasquez as the EMA Director, Nate Rumschlag as the County Engineer, Josh Cotton as the Highway Superintendent, Roger Richardson as the I.T. Director, Claude McMillian as the Veteran's Officer and Adam McCartney as the 911 Director for calendar year 2019. Motion carried 3-0.

2019 Board Appointments: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to re-appoint; Rob Moon to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Tim Rohr and Tyson Brooks to the Area Plan Commission, Connie Brubaker to the Cemetery Board, Martin Adam and Larry McChesney to the Property Tax Board of Appeals and Doug Cale for a four year term to the Wells County Health Board. Motion carried 3-0.

Regional Sewer District Agreement: Since no action was taken at the last RSD Meeting, the commissioners have decided to table this agreement until the January meetings.

Highway Stone Bids: Four Stone bids were received from; IMI Stone, Rock Creek Stone Quarry, Stone-Street Quarries and U.S. Aggregates, Inc. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to accept all bids for Josh Cotton's to review and bring back to the January meeting. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners Association Appointment: Commissioner Kevin Woodward announced that he has been re-appointed to serve as the president of the commissioners association for the northeast district again.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:03AM

Wells County Commissioners

President

Vice President

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor