

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session June 3, 2019

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday June 3, 2019 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, Lisa McCormick.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from May 20, 2019 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #11 in the amount of \$228,949.39 and 205 claims totaling \$461,808.80. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Holliday reported 104 inmates, 9 are DOC and 11 are F6 DOC.

Wells County Highway Supervisor: Josh Cotton informed the commissioners that he is continuing to work on hand patching, ditch mowing and backhoe notes throughout the county. The first application of Dustay has been applied and the second application will start Monday the 10th. Storm damage cleanup was last week for the southern part of the county, which consisted of tree and brush removal.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag had several requests for the Commissioners the first of which included two design agreements with USI. New bridge 402 and new bridge 403 were the requested agreements. The new bridges will replace small structures, bridge 402 will replace small structure Rock Creek #800 and bridge 403 will replace small structure Jackson #260. The two agreements are for \$38,000.00 each. The goal is to submit both projects for 2021 CCMG funds. Tamara Robbins motioned, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the two design agreements with USI for Bridge 402 (Misc. 2019-11) and Bridge 403 (Misc. 2019-12). Motion carried 3-0. Nate also requested approval of a service contract with Alt & Witzig Engineering, Inc. for subsurface investigation and geotechnical recommendations for 3 bridges: Bridge #402, Bridge #403 and Bridge #80b with a cost of \$2,910.00 for each. Tamara Robbins motioned, Kevin Woodward seconded to allow the president to sign the service contract with Alt & Witzig Engineering, Inc. (Misc. 2019-13). Motion carried 3-0. Tamara Robbins motioned, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the 2019 Transportation Asset Management plan. Motion carried 3-0. Nate will submit the plan at the June 17th meeting. Nate also requested the approval of two HIS construction contracts for Bridges #6 (Misc. 2019-14) and #303 (Misc. 2019-15). Tamara Robbins motioned, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the HIS construction contracts. Motion carried 3-0. The deadline for 2019 Road Conversion Petitions was today. One right-of-way was presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the right-of-way. Motion carried 3-0.

Bi-County Services: Tim Ramsey presented his annual financial report and request for funding for Bi-County Services to the Board of Commissioners. Tim stated that Bi-County's biggest challenge is staffing. Finding qualified staff is a difficulty that they are constantly working to overcome. Financials are showing an increase in expenses over revenue in the first nine months of this fiscal year. Their focus currently is on maximizing program revenue, controlling operating expenses and improving staffing levels. Bi-County is asking for the same contribution as prior years in the amount of \$39,312.00 which is

also the same amount as Adams County. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the 2020 funding of \$39,312.00. Motion carried 3-0.

Animal Shelter Truck: Police Chief Kyle Randall requested partial funding for a new Animal Shelter truck. The current vehicle is a 2001 Dodge Ram with repeated transmission repair needs as well as other issues. He had quotes for different makes and models of new trucks the lowest which was a 2019 Silverado 2500HD Double Cab 4X4 for \$28,170.00 from Kelley Chevrolet. The animal containment unit can be rehabbed for a cost of \$4,695.00 by J & A Innovations out of Uniondale. The cost for the truck and rehabbed containment unit will be a total of \$32,865.00. Police Chief Randall's request was for the Commissioners to pay \$16,432.50, half of the total expense. Kevin Woodward motioned, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the expense of \$16,432.50 for the Animal shelter truck and rehabbed containment unit. Motion carried 3-0.

Ordinance 2019-08: Tamara Robbins motioned, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Ordinance 2019-08, which establishes written policies for purchases made by the purchasing agencies of Wells County. Motion carried 3-0.

Economic Director Chad Kline: Chad Kline came to the Commissioner asking for partial funding for a construction project for building Snider Drive. Kline had an estimate of total expenses of \$487,371. His request for the Commissioners was for \$150,000.00 to go toward the project. Tamara Robbins motioned, Kevin Woodward seconded to approve the \$150,000.00 expenditure, contingent upon the City of Bluffton approving the remaining funds. Motion carried 3-0.

Request to use Courthouse Plaza: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the request from the Bluffton Free Street Fair Association to use the Courthouse Plaza from Sunday, September 15th through Sunday, September 22nd, 2019 for the Bluffton Free Street Fair. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:30AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor