

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session October 19, 2020

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday October 19, 2020 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 Attorney, Colin Andrews and County Auditor, Lisa McCormick.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2020 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll and Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #21 in the amount of \$239,547.51 and 148 claims totaling \$370,645.49. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: The Sheriff's Department advertised for bids for a 1989 AM General Humvee-H1. One bid was submitted. The high bid is now \$5,050.00. All bidders will be notified, the next bid opening will be at the November 2nd Commissioner meeting. The minimum bid for that meeting is \$5,100.00. Sheriff Holliday reported 87 inmates, 25 pretrial Superior, 19 pretrial Circuit, 9 DOC and 21 F6 DOC.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag presented updates to the commissioners on ongoing projects. Wells County Bridge 193 will be reopened for limited traffic. Bridge 304, the White Bridge, has had some concrete work completed. Rumschlag will have meetings this week to review the schedule. COVID restrictions may impact that project. Wells County and Bluffton City have been working on a possible joint project. An agreement has been drafted to apply for federal funds. This would include improvements for CR 200 S between SR 1 and Adams Street/Hoosier Hwy. The proposed project will connect to the upcoming Local Trax Project and SR 1. This will be a two-phase project dependent upon the federal funds awarded. An interlocal agreement is required by INDOT to be eligible for federal funds when working on a joint application. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Motion carried 3-0. One Right-Of-Way document was presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the ROW Document. Motion carried 3-0.

Transfer Resolution: A resolution providing for the transfer of CARES Provider Relief Funds to the General Fund was presented to the Commissioners. The CARES Act reimbursement guidelines were modified to include public safety payroll. During the October 5th meeting the Commissioners granted permission to submit the remaining balance of CARES Act funding to be reimbursed with payroll for public safety personnel. The outstanding balance of CARES Act funds was \$612,055.06. The proposed resolution will allow a transfer from the CARES Act fund into the General Fund upon receipt of the reimbursement from the Indiana Finance Authority. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve Resolution 2020-12 providing for the transfer of Cares Provider Relief Funds to the General Fund. Motion carried 3-0.

Request for Funds: A letter was submitted to the Commissioners from the Wells County Foundation requesting the release of the 2020 allotment for the Wells Community Swimming Pool. The Wells County Foundation administers the Wells Community Swimming Pool fund on behalf of the Bluffton Parks & Recreation Department. The Wells Community Swimming Pool was not opened during the 2020

season due to COVID concerns. The Commissioners expressed an interest in discussing what those funds will be used for. The request was tabled until November 2nd meeting.

Wellness Plan Design: The wellness plan design was discussed with the commissioners. Employees on the health plan have biomarkers to assess points. Points not earned equal more premium that the employee is responsible for monthly. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to keep the current plan design and biomarkers in place for the 2021 plan year. Motion carried 3-0.

Thanksgiving Luncheon: Wells County employees gather to have a luncheon the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. With COVID restrictions and food prep the Commissioners would like to modify the menu for the 2020 gathering. No carry in type foods, excluding pies or desserts that can be baked. The dinner will be served to the employees.

COVID Test Site: The Health Department was granted funding for a COVID test site. The Commissioners were presented a lease agreement for that site. This agreement is with the Dutch Mill Plaza, LLC, and the Wells County Health Department. Attorney Roy Johnson made revisions and stated the Commissioners can approve the lease without signing it as a party. The tenant is the Health Department and can be signed by the Health Department Board. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the lease agreement. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:08AM, motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward.

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor