

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 1-22-2019

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday January 22, 2019 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, Lisa McCormick.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from January 7, 2019 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll And Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #1 in the amount of \$235,100.23 and 212 claims totaling \$361,327.00. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Holliday reported 107 inmates, 7 are DOC and 14 are F6 DOC.

**Highway Engineer:** Nate Rumschlag stated that Bridge 66 repairs have been completed and the bridge is reopened.

Nate Rumschlag asked the Commissioners approval to award letters of intent to 3D Construction for two projects. 3D Construction bid \$559,800 for the Hoosier Highway and 100W/500S curve correction, 3D Construction was also the low bid of \$257,800 for the bridge 118 project on CR 850 North West of Ossian. Nate hopes that construction will be able to start in the spring. Tamara Robbins motioned and Kevin Woodward seconded to allow President Blake Gerber to sign the letters of intent. Motion carried 3-0.

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.

**Workers Compensation Renewal:** Dan Lipp and Brent Beer with General Insurance provided the Workers Compensation renewal quote. The workers compensation policy renews on February 1, 2019. The new quote is for \$67,618.00 which is a decrease over last year's policy of \$8,155.00 or -11%. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to accept the renewal from Bitco Insurance for Workers Compensation in the amount of \$67,618.00 for 2019. Motion carried 3-0.

**Courthouse Bell Restoration:** Chuck King told the Commissioners that the funding for the Bell Restoration project had been met. Stylus Technologies will be the contractor, charging \$9,895.00 for the work, which can be completed within 5 days of starting. The new equipment will reproduce the bell tone electronically; nothing will be removed or altered to the existing bell tower. Tamara Robbins motioned and Kevin Woodward seconded to proceed with the bell project. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Council on Aging:** Kevin Woodward motioned and Tamara Robbins seconded to allow President Blake Gerber to sign the 2018 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter reimbursement paperwork for Wells on Wheels public transit program. Motion carried 3-0. Bonnie Valind and Betsy Collier reported the 2018 figures; total trips for 2018 were 40,012, up from 2017 by 453 trips.

**Statement of Wages and Compensation:** the commissioners acknowledged that they have received and reviewed the annual 100R report.

**Huntington Jail Letter:** The commissioners received a letter from Huntington County conducting a feasibility study on the possibility of housing Huntington County prisoners in the Wells County Jail or Wells County joining with Huntington County or other counties to create a joint facility. The commissioners stated that they feel they are not able to make that decision at this time. They will keep the proposal in mind.

**2019 Solid Waste Salary Contract:** Tamara Robbins motioned and Kevin Woodward seconded to approve the 2019 Wells County Solid Waste Management salary contract. Motion carried 3-0.

**Executive Session:** Blake Gerber requested an Executive Session to be scheduled on February 4, 2019 at 8:45 AM. The discussion will be on land acquisition for the future Highway Garage. Tamara Robbins motioned and Kevin Woodward seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**SR 301 Relinquishment:** Tamara Robbins motioned and Kevin Woodward seconded to sign and accept the terms and conditions of an agreement with INDOT. INDOT will relinquish a portion on 301 from U.S. 224 to Ind. 124. INDOT will pay Wells County three equal annual payments of \$1 million. Motion carried 3-0. The revenue could be used for any project deemed necessary by Wells County. LR&S and MVH revenue will also increase based on the added miles on this portion of roadway. Wells County will not own the roadway but will be taking on maintenance of the road.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:26AM

#### 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor