

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session June 15, 2020

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday June 15, 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 County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Lisa McCormick.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from June 1, 2020 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll and Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #12 in the amount of \$237,815.86 and 280 claims totaling \$789,809.48. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Holliday reported 58 inmates, 30 pretrial Superior, 13 pretrial Circuit, 9 F6 and 6 DOC. The Sheriff's Department advertised for bids for a 1989 AM General Humvee-H1. Two bids were submitted. The high bid was \$3,000.00. All bidders will be notified, the next bid opening will be at the July 6<sup>th</sup> Commissioner meeting. The minimum bid for that meeting is \$3,050.00.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Josh Cotton stated that the backhoe crew completed South notes, they have moved North to finish road conversions. They will also finish ditch work and entrances for road conversions and seal them this year. Patching crews are North and will move south next. Dustay is complete for the year. Mowing is in full swing, 1<sup>st</sup> cut is done, 2<sup>nd</sup> cut will start soon. Brooming and cleaning all bridge decks is in process around the County. 7 Culverts have been completed, 3 more will be finished this week with 3 more to do. All small structures will be completed by mid-July.

**Highway Engineer:** Nate Rumschlag presented a construction agreement with Primco, Inc. for the rehabilitation of Bridge 304. The agreement amount is \$543,405.85. Expected start date is September 2020. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to sign the Primco Inc. agreement (Misc. 2020-10). Motion carried 3-0. Rumschlag made a correction in the cost of the Bridge 51 contract with Engineering Resources (Misc. 2020-09) that was signed at the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The correct total is a not to exceed amount of \$137,280. Those funds will be paid out of the Cumulative Bridge Fund. Four Right-Of-Way documents were presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Right-Of-Way documents. Motion carried 3-0.

**Road Improvements, North Oaks:** Mike Lautzenheiser Jr. was on hand to discuss road improvements concerning the North Oaks addition. North Oaks addition will potentially connect to a proposed apartment complex. The apartment complex will be annexed into the city, North Oaks will not. Therefore, a decision needs to be made on how the connection will flow from the complex into North Oaks addition via Maple Drive. All commissioners had concerns for the residents of North Oaks who would have increased traffic flow into their neighborhoods. An access road was discussed, gating the street so it would not be a thoroughfare was discussed as well. Emergency personnel and snowplows would be allowed access as needed. Additional road improvements for North Oaks addition that would ultimately be absorbed by the County Highway was also a concern. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to take the matter under advisement until the July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. An executive session will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Cares Act:** Barnes & Thornburg presented a proposal for COVID-19 response & Cares Act reimbursement counsel. The firm will assist Wells County in capturing COVID-19 response and Cares Act reimbursement funds. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve and sign the Barnes & Thornburg Cares Act proposal. Motion carried 3-0.

**BASIC FLEX:** Commissioners were presented with additional fees connected to the flexible spending account. Basic is the administrator of the Flexible spending account, Fifth Third holds the funds for Wells County. Fifth Third is requesting a fee for Fraud Protection on those funds, \$65.00 monthly. The flexible spending accounts for employees run for a calendar year. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodard to accept the fraud protection charges for 2020 but to forgo the flexible spending program for the 2021 plan year. Motion carried 3-0.

**Covered Bridge Certificate:** The Annual Certificate for Covered Bridges was presented to the Commissioners. Wells County has zero covered bridges in our county. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to sign the Annual Certificate for Covered Bridges. Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 11:00AM, motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward. Motion carried 3-0.

**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