

Wells County Commissioners

Regular Session July 1, 2019

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday July 1, 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 was County Auditor, Lisa McCormick. County Attorney, Roy Johnson was absent.

Minutes: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2019 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

Payroll And Claims: Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #13 in the amount of \$237,540.78 and 198 claims totaling \$240,732.03. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Sheriff: Sheriff Holliday reported 100 inmates, 33 Superior, 27 Circuit, 10 are DOC and 16 are F6 DOC.

Highway Supervisor: Josh Cotton reported that Round 2 of side ditch mowing will be completed this week. Backhoe crew is working south. Hand patching crew is north. 9 Small structures will begin being installed next week. 96 miles of roads will be sealed this year if the weather allows. Chip and seal will begin the week of July 29th. Hot mix will begin this week also. Dustay is not put down on scheduled new road conversion roads unless the resident wants it. The road will ultimately be torn up a month after the dustay is put down, dependent on the weather.

Highway Engineer: Nate Rumschlag informed the commissioners that work will start the end of July on Bridge 6 and 303. Both bridges should be complete by the end of October. Hoosier Highway curve correction should start later this month as well. Road closures will be issued via the media, schools and dispatch. Nate discussed the current and future gravel road conversions and presented a scheduled outline. The highway would like to request Right of Ways from property owners for conversions in the future. Nate would like to have a 5 year plan for conversions. There are 17 properties that make up the current group of property owners; they can then be scheduled in a more flexible manner. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to proceed with 17 right of way petitions. Motion carried 3-0. Also presented was an updated Bridge Asset Management Plan – 2019 Wells County. The updated plan will be submitted to LTAP for approval and will be included in the 2020 Community Crossing Matching Grant application. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve and sign the Bridge Asset Management Plan. Motion carried 3-0. One minor subdivision 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. Mike Obergfell from USI Consultants presented an update on Federal Highway Administration requirements on posting on bridges for load ratings. USI compiled a listing of each bridge operating rating within the county. 33 bridges will require posting. Signage was presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the signage that lists a single tonnage amount for the capacity of each bridge. Motion carried 3-0.

Wells County Cemetery Board: A letter of resignation was received by the Commissioners for the Wells County Cemetery Board. The Commissioners will advertise to fill the vacancy.

Wells County Historical Society: The Board of Commissioners received a letter from the President of the Wells County Historical Society asking for their annual funding request of \$10,000.00 for the 2020 budget year. Motion made by Kevin Woodward, seconded by Tamara Robbins to approve the request from the Historical Society. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourned: Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 9:33AM

Wells County Commissioners

President, Blake Gerber

Vice President, Kevin Woodward

Tamara Robbins

Attest: _____
Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor