

Wells County Commissioners

Special Session November 12, 2024

The Wells County Commissioners met in a special session on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 8:00AM in the Commissioner’s Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Jeff Stringer, Michael Vanover and Blake Gerber, County Auditor Lisa McCormick. County Attorney Ted Storer participated in the meeting by electronic means of communication, Zoom, which allowed Storer to simultaneously attend and observe the meeting.

The Special Session was held regarding a change order for the new Hoosier Highway project between CR 200 and CR 300. Commissioner Stringer explained that the soil in the project is unstable. The road was treated with lime and that treatment ultimately failed. INDOT conducted testing on the water and soils and found high levels of sulfates. Lime treated soils with high levels of sulfates are known to swell significantly when it meets moisture. Included in the bid process were alternate bids that include removing 14” of dirt and replacing that with 14” of stone. Supervisor Shawn Bonar said this expense will be a reimbursable expense. Commissioner Stringer estimated that the change order could be completed in 7 days’ time. A motion was made by Blake Gerber, seconded by Michael Vanover to approve the change order request for \$410,915.58 for the new Hoosier Highway. Motion carried 3-0.

The special session was adjourned at 8:15am.

Wells County Commissioners

President, Jeff Stringer

Vice President, Michael K Vanover

Member, Blake Gerber

Attest: _____
Lisa McCormick, Wells County Auditor