

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairperson Richard Young called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors which took place in the Washington County Courthouse. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; public comment related to agenda items; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – WEDG; Annual Report and FY23 funding request - English River Watershed; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – HACAP; Annual Report and FY23 funding request - Main Street Washington; Veteran Affairs Quarterly Report; General Assistance Quarterly Report; Personnel change requests – Ambulance; Discussion and action regarding the adoption of proposed Washington County Redistricting plans; Discussion and action regarding the adoption of proposed Washington County Reprecincting plans; Second reading of Ordinance 22-1 for the adoption of Washington County Reprecincting plans; Appointment of various commission, board, and committee members; open discussion; adjourn. Supervisors Jack Seward, Jr., Marcus Fedler, Bob Yoder, and Stan Stoops were also present.

Others attending included Sam McIntosh, SE Iowa Union; Kalen McCain, SE Iowa Union; Jeremy Peck, County Ambulance Services Director; Sue Rich, County Veteran Affairs/General Assistance Director; Terry Phillips, County Veteran Affairs Commissioner; Sue Meeks, Deputy Auditor; Sarah Grunewaldt, Main Street Washington, Inc.; Jane Drapeaux and RenElla Crawford, Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. (HACAP), Mary Audia and Amanda Wright, Washington Economic Development Group (WEDG); Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizen Lee Wilson. Various other individuals listened and/or watched remotely by way of electronic means.

All motions were passed unanimously by those Supervisors in attendance unless noted otherwise.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve the agenda with the deletion of the following agenda item: Annual Report and FY23 funding request - English River Watershed.

There was no public comment.

Mary Audia and Amanda Wright, on behalf of the Washington Economic Development Group (WEDG), provided a lengthy list of specific projects that WEDG was involved in during FY21 along with efforts to match buyers and sellers of real estate, connecting with various city councils across Washington County, hosting various meetings with representatives of Iowa Workforce Development and with Workplace Learning Connection, helping local businesses to connect with sources of state and federal funding assistance, and projects designed to promote Washington County as a growing community. Audia and Wright requested \$30,000.00 in funding assistance from Washington County for FY23 which compares to \$21,000.00 for current FY22. Such funding would be used to focus on business retention and expansion, attracting companies to Washington County, improving communication between the WEDG Board and WEDG investors, and to establish a funding base to ensure a strong WEDG program in the future. The Board took no formal action. The complete WEDG report is available for review in the Auditor's office.

On behalf of Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. (HACAP), Jane Drapeaux and RenElla Crawford shared that during the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, HACAP served 1,402 people living in 663 households in Washington County. HACAP supplied \$395,371.00 in energy assistance. The HACAP Food Reservoir provided 391,824 pounds of food, with a market value of approximately \$700,000.00, to 14 partner agencies and programs in Washington County in FY21. Drapeaux and Crawford requested financial support from the county in the amount of \$120,000.00 for FY23 in order to maintain HACAP's Washington County base of operations. This amount is equal to the amount of funding assistance provided by Washington County to HACAP for the past several fiscal years. The Board took no formal action. The HACAP report is available in the Auditor's office.

Main Street Washington (MSW) Executive Director Sarah Grunewaldt addressed the Board and shared that the mission of Main Street Washington is to create a culturally diverse and economically vibrant downtown district. Grunewaldt maintained that such a mission is achieved through strong partnerships, historic preservation, and coordinated events designed to empower local businesses, volunteers, and the community. Since 2008 MSW has reported 49 business starts, relocations, and/or expansions, a net gain of 85 new jobs, 82 buildings that were rehabbed, over \$15 million in private dollars invested in building rehabilitation and acquisition, and 20,624 volunteer hours. Also, MSW assisted the owners of the former Winga's Café in acquiring \$100,000.00 in grant funding for the rehabilitation of the building with plans calling for the new owners to reopen the facility as the new Northside Diner sometime in 2022. Grunewaldt reported that a record number of attendees, along with many new vendors, participated at Farmers Market on Thursday evenings at Central Park and she added that the outdoor Movies on Main continues to be quite popular. She also highlighted several building projects in Washington that benefited from Downtown Investment Grants as well as technical assistance from Main Street Iowa architectural consultants. In closing Grunewaldt requested funding from the County in the amount of \$7,300.00 for FY23. The funding from the County for current FY22 is \$6,834.00. The Board took no formal action. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

Washington County Veteran Affairs Director Sue Rich presented her 2nd quarter report for FY22. She reported that during the quarter \$437.21 benefits were paid to two successful applicants. On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the FY22 2nd quarter Veteran

Affairs report. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

General Assistance Director Sue Rich presented her 2nd quarter report for FY22. She reported that during the quarter \$508.72 in benefits were paid to three successful applicants. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the FY20 2nd quarter General Assistance report. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Washington County Ambulance Services for the hiring of Lindsay Swailes as a casual part-time non-exempt EMT, effective January 17, 2022, at the rate of \$20.37 per hour. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Washington County Ambulance Services for the hiring of Brianna Smith as a casual part-time non-exempt EMT, effective January 17, 2022, at the rate of \$20.37 per hour. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Washington County Ambulance Services for the hiring of Scott Adkins as a regular part-time non-exempt Paramedic, effective January 17, 2022, at the rate of \$23.92 per hour. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Washington County Ambulance Services for the hiring of Kimberly Browning as a casual part-time non-exempt EMT, effective January 17, 2022, at the rate of \$20.37 per hour. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Washington County Ambulance Services for EMT Doug Sanders whose final day of employment will occur January 24, 2022.

Auditor Dan Widmer thanked Deputy Auditor Sue Meeks and GIS Coordinator Dewey Royer for their hard work and perseverance regarding the redistricting and reprecincting of Washington County. Meeks and Widmer described some of the unique challenges that were successfully met and also highlighted some of the upcoming changes in where citizens will vote.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to adopt the proposed Washington County Redistricting Plan and to authorize the Chairperson to sign pertinent documents on behalf of the Board.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adopt the proposed Washington County Reprecincting Plan and to authorize the Chairperson to sign pertinent documents on behalf of the Board.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to consider adopting proposed Washington County Ordinance 22-1 regarding the Reprecincting of Washington County, Iowa, and to identify this motion as the second reading of Ordinance 22-1.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Seward, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to waive the third and final reading of proposed Washington County Ordinance 22-1 regarding the Reprecincting of Washington County, Iowa, and to adopt said Ordinance pending approval from the State of Iowa.

The Board took no action with regard to appointments.

There was no comment from County Department Heads.

Citizen Lee Wilson addressed the Board to express his dissatisfaction with recent action taken by the Board with regard to FY23 compensation for County employees.

At 10:50 a.m. on motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
January 11, 2022

RICHARD L. YOUNG, CHAIRPERSON
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER,
County Auditor