

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairperson Bob Yoder called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors which took place in the Washington County Courthouse. The agenda included the following items: approval of agenda; public comment; proposal from Encite Architecture & Design for design services for proposed renovations to county facilities; institute proceedings and take action to select a winning bid for the purchase of County-owned property located at 302 W. Main St., Washington; Veteran Affairs Quarterly Report; General Assistance Quarterly Report; Main Street Washington Annual Report and FY24 funding request; Semi-Annual Statement of Funds – Treasurer; Quarterly Fee Report – Treasurer; personnel change request – Sheriff; Resolution 23-05 regarding release of highway easement to Dean Duwa; Resolution 23-06 regarding release of highway easement to Dean Duwa; Resolution 23-07 regarding revision of Washington County 2023 Five-Year Road Plan; approval of Iowa DOT Agreement 2022-DEA-02 for an Iowa Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Project; FY24 compensation for non-elected officials; FY24 compensation for elected officials; appointment of various commission, board, and committee members; discussion and action regarding remodeling feasibility study of Federation Bank Building located at 102 E. Main, Washington; Quarterly Report – Auditor; department head comment; adjourn. Supervisors Richard Young, Marcus Fedler, Jack Seward, Jr. and Stan Stoops were also present.

Other individuals in attendance included the following: Jennifer Wilkerson, KCII Radio; Kalen McCain, SE Iowa Union; Jared Schneider, County Sheriff; Shawn Ellingson, Chief Deputy Sheriff; Zach Rozmus, County Conservation Director; Sue Rich, County General Assistance/Veteran Affairs Director; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; John Gish, County Attorney; Tammy Stewart, Deputy Auditor; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer, Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jaron Rosien, City of Washington Mayor; and Samantha Meyer, Main Street Washington Director. Citizens Bruce Murphy, Andy Drahota, and Dave Waite were also in attendance. Various other individuals participated by remote means.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to approve the agenda as published.

During the public comment portion of the meeting Citizen Bruce Murphy, who is a part-time member of the Washington County Ambulance Services Department, urged the Board to be mindful of the competitive nature of acquiring and retaining quality employees when making decisions regarding compensation. City of Washington Mayor Jaron Rosien, on behalf of the City of Washington, informed the Board that the City of Washington will not submit a purchase offer for County-owned property located at 302 W. Main St., Washington. Rosien also shared a letter, on behalf of the City of Washington, urging the County to consider acquiring property located at 102 E. Main, Washington. Rosien requested that the Supervisors carefully consider acquiring the property as such a decision will have significant and long-lasting effects on future generations. The Board took no formal action.

The Board renewed discussion and possible action regarding design services for proposed renovations to county facilities. Fedler summarized the various planning and feasibility assessment work that has already taken place with regard to possible solutions to space needs and stated that a feasibility study of the Orchard Hill complex was conducted by staff with the Carl A. Nelson Architectural firm and revealed 18,500 square feet available for remodeling which was deemed adequate to satisfy space needs. Fedler continued by stating that the cost for the Orchard Hill feasibility study totaled \$24,500.00 which results in \$5,500.00 still remaining from the \$30,000.00 that was approved for the study. Seward clarified that while no decision has been made it would not be a significant transition to change the remodeling focus at some point from Orchard Hill to the Federation Bank building located at 102 E. Main Street, Washington. Discussion ensued and on motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to accept a proposal from Encite Architecture & Design for services for proposed renovations and to authorize the Chairperson to sign applicable documents.

Auditor Dan Widmer informed the Board that one sealed bid was received with regard to the purchase of County-owned property located at 302 W. Main St., Washington. Widmer suggested that Board discussion take place before the bid was opened. Board discussion ensued with such discussion centering on if and when the bid should be opened, further marketing efforts prior to another bid opening in the future, the public's knowledge of the County's "break-even" price on the property, and whether the assistance of a professional realtor was called for. Ultimately the Board asked Widmer to open the bid which revealed a bid of \$8,000.00 from DW Developments LLC, Washington. On motion by Young, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to reject the bid for County-owned property located at 302 W. Main Street, Washington, received from DW Developments LLC. On motion by Young, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to hire a realtor to market County-owned property located at 302 W. Main St., Washington. On motion by Young, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to appoint Yoder and Fedler to select a realtor for the purposes of marketing property at 302 W. Main Street, Washington.

Washington County Veteran Services Officer Sue Rich presented the Veteran Affairs report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY23. She reported that during the quarter a total of three applications for benefits were received with two of the applications being approved and one application being denied. The two approved applications totaled \$430.00 and were for rental assistance and provisions. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the FY23 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Veteran Affairs report. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

Washington County General Assistance Director Sue Rich presented the General Assistance report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY23. She reported that during the quarter six applications for benefits were received with two of the applications being approved and four applications being withdrawn. The two applications that were approved totaled \$1,918.86 and were for rental assistance and funeral expenses. On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the FY23 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter General Assistance report. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

Main Street Washington (MSW) Executive Director Samantha Meyer addressed the Board and shared that the duties and missions of MSW are accomplished by a "Four Point Approach" which includes design, organization, promotion, and economic vitality. Since 2008 MSW has reported 51 business starts, 106 building projects, and a total of 23,351 volunteer hours. During the same period of time \$12,225,781.00 has been invested in building projects in Washington. During the past year MSW also assisted in securing Downtown Investment Grant funding assistance of \$100,000.00 for additional downtown housing, \$100,000.00 in Challenge Grant funding to assist in the renovation of second story space on the Washington square, and \$300,000.00 to assist in the renovation of property at 111 N. Marion. In closing Meyer requested funding from the County in the amount of \$7,000.00 for FY24. The Board took no formal action. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

Treasurer Jeff Garrett presented the Board with the Semi-Annual Statement of Funds for the period of July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 as follows:

WASHINGTON COUNTY TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF FUNDS - FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022							
	Beginning Treasurer's Balance	Total Revenues	Beginning Balance + Total Revenues	Total Expenses	Change in Outstanding	Ending Treasurer's Balance	Outstanding Bank Items
0001 - GENERAL BASIC	\$ 3,692,350.15	\$ 5,840,409.90	\$ 9,532,760.05	\$ 5,863,808.80	\$ (163,497.43)	\$ 3,505,453.82	\$ 63,339.58
0002 - GENERAL SUPPLEMENTAL	1,563,319.51	2,739,106.66	4,302,426.17	2,494,811.07	526.07	1,808,141.17	12,751.59
0003 - ARRA/ AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVEST ACT	4,266,444.00	-	4,266,444.00	-	-	4,266,444.00	-
0004 - MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH CARE	25,253.70	137,361.34	162,615.04	130,864.35	(2,462.44)	29,288.25	1,757.58
0006 - REIMBURSABLE MHDS	-	89,665.35	89,665.35	62,720.26	-	26,945.09	-
0010 - COUNTY MHDS	257,222.69	-	257,222.69	-	(257,222.69)	-	-
0011 - RURAL SERVICES BASIC	842,317.97	1,648,670.98	2,490,988.95	1,099,168.21	(2,140.04)	1,389,680.70	16,878.24
0014 - DELINQ FINE COLLECTIONS CO ATTY	39,241.72	3,755.84	42,997.56	-	-	42,997.56	-
0015 - LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNTY ATTORNEY	4,403.13	-	4,403.13	-	-	4,403.13	-
0016 - LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNTY SHERIFF	56,513.10	-	56,513.10	-	-	56,513.10	-
0020 - SECONDARY ROADS	3,008,890.94	3,495,016.82	6,503,907.76	2,848,086.84	(175,312.61)	3,480,508.31	49,682.78
0023 - REAP	104,940.01	12,189.00	117,129.01	50,000.00	-	67,129.01	-
0024 - RECORDERS RECORDS MANAGEMENT	61,964.20	2,370.00	64,334.20	-	-	64,334.20	-
0027 - CONSERVATION LAND ACQUISITION	389,452.51	144,761.58	534,214.09	163,869.15	-	370,344.94	-
0030 - SUPPL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS	2,649.67	-	2,649.67	-	-	2,649.67	-
1500 - CAPITAL PROJECTS	157,947.73	66,284.19	224,231.92	-	-	224,231.92	-
1530 - CAPITAL PROJECTS-COMMUNICATIONS	569,588.47	-	569,588.47	473,489.52	-	96,098.95	-
2000 - DEBT SERVICE	37,044.23	172,984.29	210,028.52	23,100.00	-	186,928.52	-
2010 - DEBT SERVICE-WASHINGTON CO HOSPITAL	-	94,650.00	94,650.00	94,650.00	-	-	-
2030 - DEBT SERVICE-COMMUNICATIONS	54,197.33	638,392.55	692,589.88	178,850.00	-	513,739.88	300.00
4000 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	82,276.56	612,463.61	694,740.17	612,064.77	(1.02)	82,674.38	370.62
4005 - COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION	261,555.29	549,715.49	811,270.78	560,240.06	592.79	251,623.51	4,599.96
4011 - E911 SURCHARGE	829,190.26	126,196.06	955,386.32	104,912.05	(6,418.77)	844,055.50	1,018.46
4100 - ASSESSMENT EXPENSE	228,807.09	293,089.30	519,896.39	222,988.74	(1,077.58)	295,830.07	413.45
4120 - HOSPITAL	8,449.91	784,833.51	793,283.42	776,282.65	-	17,000.77	-
4140 - AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE	1,694.47	155,325.98	157,020.45	153,656.33	-	3,364.12	-
4200 - CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT SCHOOLS	121,156.07	11,075,084.73	11,196,240.80	10,950,019.33	-	246,221.47	-
4300 - CONSOLIDATED COMMUNITY COLLEGES	10,868.05	1,042,055.89	1,052,923.94	1,030,213.82	-	22,710.12	-
4400 - CONSOLIDATED CORPORATIONS	36,832.79	4,455,423.29	4,492,256.08	4,451,008.66	-	41,247.42	-
4450 - SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS /CITIES/	4,959.88	20,933.31	25,893.19	25,688.27	-	204.92	-
4700 - CONSOLIDATED TOWNSHIPS	3,813.96	322,277.43	326,091.39	316,023.34	-	10,068.05	-
4800 - STATE GENERAL	21.93	1,885.20	1,907.13	1,866.32	-	40.81	-
4900 - CRAWFORD BENEFIT FIRE DISTRICT	305.26	16,792.36	17,097.62	16,793.27	-	304.35	-
5001 - TAX SALE REDEMPTION	25,635.00	96,076.25	121,711.25	96,076.25	(25,635.00)	-	-
5010 - MOTOR VEHICLE	673,840.69	4,455,845.79	5,129,686.48	4,224,715.04	-	904,971.44	-
5050 - DRIVERS LICENSE	100.00	-	100.00	-	-	100.00	-
5070 - CONDEMNATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5080 - UNCLAIMED PROPERTY FEES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5090 - ADVANCE TAX	88,128.19	(81,912.34)	6,215.85	-	-	6,215.85	-
5100 - UNAPPORTIONED TAX	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5300 - RECORDERS ELECTRONIC FEES	444.88	2,370.00	2,814.88	2,460.00	-	354.88	-
6000 - DRAINAGE DIST/ OUTSIDE TRUSTEES	3,986.97	-	3,986.97	-	-	3,986.97	-
6010 - SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS /COUNTY/	3,552.00	3,981.00	7,533.00	-	-	7,533.00	-
8500 - HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	1,723,300.42	1,029,915.57	2,753,215.99	1,153,715.71	-	1,599,500.28	2,533.00
8510 - FLEXIBLE BENEFITS TRUST	11,026.77	8,475.48	19,502.25	5,243.72	-	14,258.53	-
8520 - DENTAL INSURANCE TRUST	45,220.73	40,456.16	85,676.89	39,378.63	(5,991.92)	40,306.34	-
	<b>\$ 19,296,908.23</b>	<b>\$ 40,096,902.57</b>	<b>\$ 59,393,810.80</b>	<b>\$ 38,226,765.16</b>	<b>\$ (638,640.64)</b>	<b>\$ 20,528,405.00</b>	<b>\$ 153,645.26</b>

Garrett also provided an apportioning summary which listed a total of \$25,620,268.55 in taxes apportioned as follows: \$11,075,084.73 (43.23%) to schools, \$7,745,656.85 (30.23%) to Washington County, \$4,476,356.60 (17.47%) to Cities, \$1,042,055.89 (4.07%) to Community Colleges, and \$1,281,114.48 (5.00%) to hospitals, townships, Agricultural Extension, Crawford Fire District, and Brucellosis/TB Eradication. Page two of the report displayed a breakdown of the \$20,528,405.00 ending Treasurer's balance while page three of the report displayed a summary of revenue and expenditures. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Semi-Annual Statement of Funds for the period of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Treasurer.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge the Treasurer's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the report on behalf of the Board. Highlights of the report, presented by Garrett, included total motor vehicle fees of \$2,314,588.03 collected during the quarter ending December 31, 2022, with the county retaining \$77,929.37 (3.4%) of that total. Garrett provided the following fee retention schedule: 4% of registration fees, \$2.50 per certificate of title, 60% of security interest notation fees, \$1.00 or 100% if greater than \$1.00 for new registrations, 5% of

organ donor fund donations, \$15 per suspension, \$3.00 for postage to mail license plates, and \$7.00 for each driver's license issued. Garrett also stated tax and administrative fees of \$65.00 were collected during the quarter resulting in a grand total of \$77,994.37 in fees retained during the quarter. The entire report is available for viewing in the office of the Washington County Treasurer.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for the hiring of Keaton Zear as a casual part-time non-exempt Jailer at the rate of \$21.50 per hour effective January 17, 2023. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Jail Transport Officer Darren Dennler whose rate of pay will increase to \$18.15 per hour effective January 12, 2023.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Seward. the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Jail Transport Officer Richard Conrad whose rate of pay will increase to \$18.15 per hour effective January 12, 2023.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 23-05 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 23-05 on behalf of the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-05  
RELEASE OF HIGHWAY EASEMENT**

[For real estate located in Section 21 Township 76 North Range 6 West]

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa that Washington County no longer has need of the following described road easement and does RELEASE and ABANDON to:

Dean Duwa

A Total Permanent Highway Easement Release of all permanent highway easement in the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 16, Township 76 North, Range 6 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Washington County, Iowa **EXCEPT** for the remaining permanent highway easement more particularly described as follows:

**See Attached for Legal Description**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, that the easement described above is now released and the above-described property is to be transferred to the named individuals on the corresponding Quit Claim Deed for no consideration of said property.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 23-06 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 23-06 on behalf of the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-06  
RELEASE OF HIGHWAY EASEMENT**

[For real estate located in Section 21 Township 76 North Range 6 West]

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa that Washington County no longer has need of the following described road easement and does RELEASE and ABANDON to:

Dean Duwa

A Total Permanent Highway Easement Release of all permanent highway easement in the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 21, Township 76 North, Range 6 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Washington County, Iowa **EXCEPT** for the remaining permanent highway easement more particularly described as follows:

**See Attached for Legal Description**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, that the easement described above is now released and the above-described property is to be transferred to the named individuals on the corresponding Quit Claim Deed for no consideration of said property.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 23-07 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 23-07 on behalf of the Board.

**Resolution No. 23-07  
To Revise Washington County  
2023 Five Year Road Program**

Unforeseen circumstances have arisen since adoption of the approved Secondary Road Five Year Program and previous revisions, requiring changes to the sequence, funding, and timing of the proposed workplan.

The Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa, in accordance with Iowa Code section 309.22, initiates and recommends modification of the following project(s) in the accomplishment year (State Fiscal Year 2023), for approval by the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT), per Iowa Code 309.23 and Iowa DOT Instructional Memorandum 2.050.

The following projects shall be ADDED to the Program's Accomplishment year:

Project Number Name Project ID	Project Location Description of Work	AADT Length Bridge ID	Type of Work Fund	Total
FM-C092()--55 -92 Hwy 22 Intersection Paving 52900	Paving of 50 feet of Orange Ave & Poplar Blvd north of Hwy 22 The paving of 50 feet of these two roads is a part of Iowa DOT Agreement # 2020-C-099 for Project # HSIPX-022- 2(82)--3L-92	miles	366 HMA Paving FM	\$35,000

FM-C092()-55 -92 Hwy 1/78 Intersection Paving 52901	Replacing 100 feet of pavement on Fir Avenue south of Hwy 1/78 The paving of 100 feet of Fir Avenue south of Hwy 1/78 is a part of Iowa DOT Agreement # 2022-C-093 for Project # NHSX-001-4(61)--3H-92	1050 0.000 miles	367 PCC Paving FM	\$35,000
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The following projects shall be MODIFIED as follows:

Project Number Name Project ID	Project Location Description of Work	AADT Length Bridge ID	Type of Work Fund	Modifications	Total
FM-C092(118)--55 -92 Lexington Blvd 32590	On LEXINGTON BLVD, from Orchard Hill pavement to Hwy 92	90 2.204 miles	352 Excavation FM	added 550,000 FM dollars to 2023 removed 550,000 FM dollars from 2024	\$550,000
FM-C092(120)--55 -92 McKains Grading 45017	On W 21, from the bridge abutment at 295th St North approximately 0.6 miles	24 0.600 miles 336030	352 Excavation FM	added 850,000 FM dollars to 2023	\$2,100,000
FM-C092()-55 -92 Pavement Patching 51182	On various county roads around Washington County	Miles	1536 Patching FM	ct Number ed Project ion updated Fund basis updated ved 200,000 Local dollars from 2023 added 200,000 FM dollars to 2023	\$200,000
LFM-L-C-272--7X-92 Dogwood Bridge south of Hwy 22 45981	On W 21, Over SMITH CREEK, S27 T77 R09 Rehab existing structure with supplemental bents and some other wing wall rehab work.	86 0.000 miles 338030	320 Bridges Local	Project Number updated Fund basis updated added 100,000 Local dollars to 2023 removed 175,000 FM dollars from 2023	\$100,000

Fund	Accomplishment Year		
	Previous Amount	New Amount	Net Change
Local	\$1,400,000	\$1,300,000	\$-100,000
Farm-to-Market	\$1,685,000	\$3,180,000	\$1,495,000
Special	\$0	\$0	\$0
SWAP	\$88,000	\$88,000	\$0
Federal Aid	\$	\$0	\$0
Totals	\$3,173,000	\$4,568,000	\$1,395,000

On motion by Young, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, an Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement 2022-DEIRA-02 for an Iowa Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Project. County Engineer Jacob Thorius explained that the DERA program was established to provide funding for projects designed to reduce diesel emissions from diesel fleets. In the case of Washington County Secondary Roads, approval of the agreement will result in DERA funding assistance in the amount of approximately \$99,000.00 to offset the estimated \$250,000.00 purchase price of a new dump truck. The new dump truck will be powered by a California Air Resources Board (CARB) certified low NOx emission standards diesel engine which will meet EPA emission standards and in turn reduce diesel emissions.

With regard to compensation for non-elected employees Young encouraged his fellow Supervisors to be mindful of the recent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase of 5.9% for calendar year 2023. He also shared that the average monthly inflation rate for calendar year 2022, which excludes the cost of staple items such as fuel and food, was 6.5%. Seward reflected on the compensation rates that were approved for current FY23 and opined that the Board did a good job of establishing competitive pay rates before he in turn introduced the idea of increasing FY24 compensation by way of a specific dollar amount per hour rather than a percentage increase. Discussion ensued with Fedler reminding the Board that the cost of County employee insurance costs had increased by 7% and 10% annually over the two most recent calendar years respectively. In order to provide an example Seward stated that a \$2.00/hour increase for an hourly employee currently making \$22.00 per hour would equate to an increase of approximately 9%. Thorius stated that Secondary Roads employees in general were compensated at rates greater than \$22.00 per hour and thus a \$2.00 per hour increase would equate to much less than a 9% increase. Sheriff Jared Schneider stated that the union contract for his staff calls for a 2.5% increase on July 1, 2023, and 2.5% increase on January 1, 2024. Ultimately on motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve an increase of \$1.75 per hour to the base pay for all non-elected employees.

The Board next took up discussion regarding FY24 salary recommendations received from the Washington County Compensation Board (WCCB) for elected officials. The WCCB recommendations included an increase of 12% for the Sheriff, a 4% increase for Supervisors, a 10% increase for all other elected officials, and 0% for the stipend paid to the Board Chairperson. Young reminded that the recommendations of the WCCB may not be increased by the Board. However, the WCCB recommendations may be decreased but in such a situation the rate must be decreased by the same percentage for all elected officials with the exception of the recommendation for Supervisors which may be reduced by a percentage that differs from that for other elected officials. The stipend recommendation is independent from all of the other compensation recommendations. Stoops reminded that the County must compete with Johnson County to hire and retain good employees. Stoops encouraged his fellow Board members to be mindful of

maintaining the County’s #12 state ranking in terms of compensation for elected employees. When pressed by Seward and Young for a response to the Compensation Board recommendations for FY24 Yoder expressed that he favored a 20% reduction in such recommendations due to the criticism he received for the Board’s acceptance, with no changes, of the Compensation Board’s recommendations for current FY23. Young reminded Yoder of the effect that “Back the Blue” legislation had on decisions related to FY23 compensation for elected officials as well as discussions that took place regarding attracting and retaining good employees. Fedler described the Compensation Board’s FY24 recommendations as overly aggressive and expressed distrust with regard to the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase of 5.9% for calendar year 2023 and the 8.7% average monthly inflation increase for 2022. According to Fedler such percentages are woefully inadequate for what is occurring in the real world but is nonetheless what individuals are receiving in terms of compensation. Fedler also reminded of the problems some employers are experiencing in finding qualified employees as well as the fact that the Board is spending tax revenue collected from such employers. A motion made by Fedler and seconded by Stoops calling for a 50% reduction of the Compensation Board’s FY24 salary recommendations for the County Attorney, Sheriff, Auditor, Recorder, and Treasurer was voted upon and the motion failed as follows: Aye-Fedler, Stoops; Nay-Yoder, Seward, Young. A motion made by Seward and seconded by Young calling for a 25% reduction of the Compensation Board’s FY24 salary recommendations for County Attorney, Sheriff, Auditor, Recorder, and Treasurer was voted upon and the motion was approved as follows: Aye-Seward, Young, Yoder; Nay-Fedler, Stoops. A motion made by Fedler and seconded by Seward calling for a 100% reduction of the Compensation Board’s FY24 salary recommendations for Supervisors was voted upon and the motion failed as follows: Aye-Fedler, Seward; Nay Yoder, Young, Stoops. A motion made by Stoops and seconded by Young calling for no reduction of the Compensation Board’s FY24 salary recommendation for Supervisors passed as follows: Aye-Young, Stoops, Yoder; Nay-Seward, Fedler. A motion made by Young and seconded by Fedler calling for no reduction of the Compensation Board’s FY24 recommendation for the Chairperson’s annual stipend passed unanimously. Below is a summary of the FY24 compensation rates for Washington County elected officials that were approved by the Board.

FY24 WASHINGTON COUNTY  
ELECTED OFFICIALS COMPENSATION

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24</u>	<u>increase</u>
Attorney	\$149,207	\$160,771	7.50%
Sheriff	\$138,028	\$148,725	9.00%
Auditor	\$ 94,356	\$101,669	7.50%
Treasurer	\$ 90,926	\$ 97,973	7.50%
Recorder	\$ 89,629	\$ 96,575	7.50%
Supervisor	\$ 47,116	\$ 49,001	4.00%
Supervisor Chair Stipend	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0.00%

The Board took no action with regard to appointment of various commission, board, and committee members.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to accept a proposal from Encite Architecture & Design for a feasibility study of the Federation Bank building located at 102 E. Main, Washington, IA. The cost of the study is not to exceed \$6,250.00.

On motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Auditor’s report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY23 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the report on behalf of the Board. The report, presented by Widmer, reflected revenues for the quarter in the amount of \$1,788.75. Of this total, \$1,750.00 resulted from transfer fees, \$35.00 from the sale of plat books and \$3.75 for making copies. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

There was no public comment from department heads.

At 11:37 p.m. on motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:  
January 17, 2023

ROBERT C. YODER, CHAIRPERSON  
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER  
County Auditor