

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 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; recognition of employee years of service; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – Paws & More Animal Shelter; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – East Central Iowa Housing Trust Fund; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – Washington County 4-H; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – Washington County Fair Board; Annual Report and FY23 funding request – English River Watershed; acknowledgement of Secondary Roads equipment purchase; appointments to various commissions, boards, and/or committees; Quarterly Report – Ambulance; Quarterly Report – Recorder; Quarterly Report – Auditor; establish date for public hearing regarding release of a portion of an easement held by Washington County; open discussion; adjourn. Supervisors Jack Seward, Jr., Marcus Fedler, Bob Yoder, and Stan Stoops were also present.

Others attending included Sam McIntosh, KCII Radio; Kalen McCain, SE Iowa Union; Amber Armbruster, Deputy Auditor; Jeremy Peck, County Ambulance Services Director; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Tim Brinning and Jacob Thorius, County Secondary Roads; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Melanie Huschka and Cara Sorrells, County Communications; John Wagner and Kurt Dallmeyer, County Fair Board; Amber Talbot, PAWS & More; and Tracy Achenbach, East Central Iowa Housing Trust Fund. 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 Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to approve the agenda as published and amended.

There was no public comment.

While taking no formal action, the Board recognized and thanked the following individuals for their years of service to Washington County.

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Cyndie Sinn	Information Technology	45
Tim Brinning	Secondary Roads	25
Melanie Huschka	Communications	<u>20</u>
	Total	90

Amber Talbot, on behalf of PAWS & More Animal Shelter, was present to seek financial support in order to continue the group’s purpose of providing animal control services for Washington County. Talbot shared that during FY21 a total of 859 animals were taken in, 669 animals were adopted, and 75 animals were reunited with their owners. PAWS & More increased its reach and partnerships with other organizations which resulted in 40 animals being transferred out. The annual funding request amount for PAWS & More is arrived at as follows: number of animals accepted from only Washington County multiplied by the current average daily boarding fee of \$20.00/day with that product in turn multiplied by the first seven days the animal is in the care of PAWS & More. It was noted that state law requires that an impounded animal must be kept for a minimum of seven days prior to adoption or euthanasia. Based on the funding formula that was presented, the calculation is as follows: 241 animals picked up in Washington County x \$20.00/day (boarding fee) x 7 days = \$33,740.00, plus \$660.00 reimbursement for 11 pick-ups that were provided at a cost of \$60.00 per call, resulting in a total funding request amount of \$34,400.00 for FY23. The amount of county funding provided for the present fiscal year is \$34,914.00. The Board took no formal action.

Tracey Achenbach, Executive Director of the East Central Iowa Housing Trust Fund (ECIHTF), addressed the Board and described ECIHTF as a 501(c)(3) community-based non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals by offering innovative and flexible funding in order to expand affordable housing opportunities within Washington, Benton, Iowa, and Jones Counties. Presently Supervisor Bob Yoder and WEDG Director Mary Audia represent Washington County on the ECIHTF Board. ECIHTF offers two major types of programs – one that is funded with state housing trust fund dollars intended to aid in the creation or preservation of housing for individuals with low-to-moderate income. The other program is in cooperation with East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) and is funded through Federal Home Loan Bank for the purpose of providing direct financial assistance to low and moderate income homeowners for minor home repair projects. The primary source of funding for ECIHTF is by way of the State of Iowa’s Local Housing Trust Fund Program. Since its inception ECIHTF has been awarded over \$3.2 million in State housing trust fund dollars which has also required a local match of nearly \$800,000.00 from the four participating counties. Washington County has provided a total of \$32,430 of that local match. For FY23 Achenbach requested funding from Washington County in the amount of \$3,962.00. This figure is based on Washington County’s population as a percentage of the entire population of the four counties (26.41%) with that figure multiplied by \$15,000.00 which is the minimum local match needed for the state application. The Board took no formal action.

On behalf of the Washington County Fair Association (WCFA), Fair Board officers John Wagner and Kurt Dallmeyer provided an annual WCFA update and funding request for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021. Wagner and Dallmeyer deemed the 2021 Fair as an overall success as livestock, a midway, food stands, and a great deal of varied entertainment returned to the Fair after an absence in 2020 due to COVID concerns. During the 2021 Fair there were a total of 264 livestock exhibitors, 788 livestock exhibits, and 634 non-animal exhibits. Receipts for 2021 included fair income of \$217,321.00, non-fair income of \$93,139.00, county funding of \$41,000.00, grants of \$82,500.00, and state funding of \$10,103.00 for a total of \$444,063.00. Total fair expenses for the 2021 edition of the fair included \$171,278.00 in general fair expenses, \$87,206.00 in non-fair expenses, and \$20,547.00 in equipment purchases for a total of \$279,031.00. Attendance at the 2021 Fair totaled 14,927 which was the highest total in at least the past 12 years. The Washington County 4-H program, for individuals in grades 4 through 12, continues to be among the 10th largest programs in the state. Dallmeyer and Wagner were also pleased to report that the Fairgrounds are used nearly every weekend of the year and highlighted several such events. Capital plans currently under consideration include construction of a new show barn, sheep barn, maintenance shed, and replacement of the fair entrance sign. Appreciation was expressed to the many volunteers who assist before, during, and after the fair. Wagner and Dallmeyer requested no change in the amount of county funding from the current fiscal year which is \$24,000.00 for the fairgrounds and \$17,000.00 for 4-H support. The Board took no formal action. The complete report is available for review in the Auditor's office.

Ryan Schlabaugh, on behalf of the English River Watershed Management Authority (ERWMA), thanked the Board for its annual financial support of \$10,000 in each of the past few years and requested the same amount for FY23. The English River Watershed is part of the Lower Iowa River watershed and covers 639 square miles. It covers portions of six counties (Iowa, Keokuk, Poweshiek, Johnson, Washington, and Mahaska) and includes 16 member organizations and is governed by representatives from each of the 16 organizations. The largest urban area in the English River Watershed is Kalona. The ERWMA is committed to education and urban/rural partnerships in order to reach its goals of reducing local flood impact and improving soil and water quality. The Board took no formal action.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge the purchase by the Secondary Roads Department of a new Caterpillar all-wheel drive motor grader Model 140-15A for \$336,000.00. County Engineer Jacob Thorius plans to sell the motor grader that is being replaced by way of auction and he expressed cautious optimism that the new motor grader will be delivered sometime in October of 2022.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Layne Twinam to a three-year term on the Crawford Township Benefitted Fire District that ends December 31, 2024.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Mary Audia to a three-year term on the East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) Board of Directors that ends December 31, 2024.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Bob Yoder to a two-year term on the ECICOG Board of Directors that ends December 31, 2023.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to appoint Deanna McCusker to complete an unexpired term on the ECICOG Board of Directors that ends December 31, 2024.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to appoint Richard Young to a two-year term as an alternate representative on the ECICOG Board of Directors that ends December 31, 2023.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Jaron Rosien to a one-year term as an alternate representative on the ECICOG Board of Directors that ends December 31, 2022.

On motion by Fedler seconded by Seward, the Board voted to appoint Cris Gaughn to a two-year term on the ECICOG Region 10 Passenger Transportation Advisory Committee that ends December 31, 2023.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to appoint Emily Tokheim to complete an unexpired term as an alternate member of the ECICOG Region 10 Passenger Transportation Advisory Committee that ends December 31, 2022.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Jaron Rosien to a three-year term as a member of the ECICOG Region 10 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee that ends December 31, 2024.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Mary Audia to a three-year term as an alternate member of the ECICOG Region 10 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee that ends December 31, 2024.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Jeremy McLaughlin to a two-year term as an alternate member of the ECICOG Region 10 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee that ends December 31, 2023.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Jaron Rosien to a two-year term as a member of the ECICOG Region 10 Planning Affiliation Transportation Policy Committee that ends December 31, 2023.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Richard Young to a one-year term as a member of the ECICOG Region 10 Regional Trails Advisory that ends December 31, 2022.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to appoint Terry Engelken to a one-year term, as a member of the ECICOG Revolving Loan Fund that ends December 31, 2022.

Washington County Ambulance Services Director Jeremy Peck distributed his report for the months of October, November, and December of 2021 which showed a total of 826 calls for service during the quarter. For the same period of time truck maintenance expenses totaled \$18,036.13 while revenue totaled \$335,527.13. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Washington County Ambulance Services Report for the 2nd quarter of FY22. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Recorder's report for the 2nd quarter of FY22 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the report on behalf of the Board. The report, presented by County Recorder Jo Greiner, reflected revenues for the quarter in the amount of \$198,767.12 with the county retaining \$62,641.19. A total of 1,741 documents were recorded during the quarter and Greiner added that her office processed 23 marriage applications, 78 passport applications, and 587 boat, ATV and snowmobile renewals/registrations. Also during the quarter a total of 454 certified copies of birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage licenses were provided to various individuals. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Recorder.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Auditor's report for the 2nd quarter of FY22 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the report on behalf of the Board. The report, presented by Auditor Dan Widmer, reflected revenues for the quarter in the amount of \$2,795.00. Of this total, \$2,255.00 resulted from transfer fees, \$40.00 from the sale of plat books, \$20.00 for election services, and \$500.00 for GIS services. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to establish 9:00 a.m. on February 8, 2022, as the time and date for a public hearing regarding the release of a portion of an easement held by Washington County. The hearing will take place at the Washington County Courthouse.

There was no comment from County Department Heads.

At 10:33 a.m. on motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
January 18, 2022

RICHARD L. YOUNG, CHAIRPERSON
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor