

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairperson Jack Seward Jr. called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors in the Courthouse chambers of the Washington County Board of Supervisors. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; proposed merger of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Region 6 and Region 10; discussion and action regarding proposed annexation of property by the City of Kalona; WEMIGA Waste Systems monthly report; change orders related to Communications Center/Emergency Operations Center building project; Kewash Trail Federal Aid Agreement; application from Revasser Winery, Ainsworth, for Class C Native Wine License to include living quarters, outdoor service, and Sunday sales; personnel change request – Communications; Coronavirus/COVID-19 update; public comment; adjourn. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Abe Miller, Richard Young, and Bob Yoder were also present.

Others attending were: Mary Zielinski, The News; Bill Monroe, SE Iowa Union; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Zach Rozmus, County Conservation Director; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Director; Anthony Janney, Asst. County Attorney; Jeremy Peck, County Ambulance Director; Ryan Schlabaugh, Kalona City Administrator; and Matt Miller, Carl A. Nelson and Company.

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 as published.

Seward shared that the proposed merger of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Region 6 and Region 10 required a unanimous vote from all counties that make up Region 10. He added that a vote in Johnson County to approve the proposed merger had failed and thus the matter required no formal action from the Board.

Kalona City Administrator Ryan Schlabaugh shared information regarding a proposed annexation of property by the City of Kalona. All property being considered for annexation adjoins the City of Kalona with plans calling for the property to be annexed voluntarily. A portion of the land being considered for annexation is owned by Shiloh, another portion owned by Marilyn Farms, Inc., and yet another portion owned by Larry and Evelyn Hershberger. According to Schlabaugh the three voluntary annexation requests total over 600 acres. Buildings presently located on the Shiloh property would be razed. Planned uses for the property include recreation opportunities, wetlands, development, agricultural land, and a proposed trail under a 28E Agreement with Washington County Conservation (WCC). With regard to development plans at the present time call for 52 residential lots with houses selling in the \$400,000.00 to \$500,000.00 range. Present plans call for Schlabaugh reminded the Board of the positive impact on the county tax rolls as much of the property being considered for annexation is currently tax exempt. Seward stated that he failed to see a reason for Board opposition of the proposed annexation. Schlabaugh stated that preliminary discussions had taken place with WCC to provide land management on various portions of the property under a 28E agreement. WCC Director Zach Rozmus expressed his support of the project and added that it would provide a greater presence for WCC in the northern part of Washington County. County Engineer Jacob Thorius stated that if the proposed annexation occurs the County would no longer be responsible for road maintenance in the annexation. However he also stated that he was reasonably confident that a maintenance arrangement could be worked out with City of Kalona which does not possess the necessary maintenance equipment. After a brief discussion, on a motion made by Young and seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to draft a letter in support of the annexation plan proposed by the City of Kalona with consideration of such a letter to take place at the March 31, 2020, regular meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Lynn Whaley of WEMIGA Waste Systems (WEMIGA) presented, by way of telephone, a report that detailed WEMIGA activities for the month of February 2020. During the month WEMIGA processed 44.39 landfill tons, 4.71 tons of paper, 3.93 tons of plastic, 5.66 tons of cardboard, 4.78 tons of tin and aluminum, 19.08 tons of recyclable material, 9 appliances, 13 televisions and other electronic devices, 10 tires, and no used oil. He also shared that the current Coronavirus/COVID-19 situation was creating difficulty in disposing of recyclables and that he may be forced to dispose of recyclables at the landfill. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge the monthly report for the Washington County Recycling Center provided by Lynn Whaley of WEMIGA Waste Systems. The report is available for review in the Auditor's office.

With regard to the Communications/Emergency Operation Center building project on motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve Change Order #3 for Raycom in the amount of \$5,882.85 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board. The change order involves replacement of existing VHF Radios interfaced to Secure Tech Alarm panels with 7/800 MHz P25T Radios and interface of Washington County Secure Tech Alarm panels to new P25 trunked Radio System.

With regard to the Communications/Emergency Operation Center building project on motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve Change Order #2 for Peak Construction in the amount of \$14,325.84 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board. Much of the change order involves casework revisions.

With regard to the Communications/Emergency Operation Center building project on motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve Change Order #1 for Frank Millard & Company in the amount of \$1,655.00 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board. The change order involved the addition of a series of valves to the geothermal dry cooler system in order to simplify maintenance.

With regard to the Communications/Emergency Operation Center building project on motion by Young, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve Change Order #2 for DeLong Construction in the amount of \$1,310.00 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board. The change order is related to concrete demolition and paving replacement as required for power conduit to an alternate transformer located behind the existing Washington County Jail.

With regard to the Communications/Emergency Operation Center building project on motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve Change Order #1 for Mohrfeld Electric in the amount of \$4,610.06 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board. The change order is related to various electric work, fire rated sleeves for cable tray, additional electrical outlets, and date changes.

On motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to approve an Iowa Department of Transportation Federal Aid Agreement for an Iowa Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) project and to authorize the Chairperson and the Auditor to sign the agreement. Prior to the vote Conservation Director Zach Rozmus explained that the agreement relates to a \$317,000.00 TAP grant which will be used to offset the costs of Phase 2 of a project involving additional paving of a portion of the Kewash Trail. He added that the Washington County Attorney had reviewed the document and expressed no legal issues with the document.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve an application from Revasser Winery, 1749 Yucca Avenue, Ainsworth, for a Class C Native Wine Permit to include living quarters, outdoor service, and Sunday Sales, with an effective date of May 9, 2020, and an expiration date of May 8, 2021. Washington County Sheriff Jared Schneider expressed no issues with the application.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Communications for Cassie Manley whose final day of employment occurred March 18, 2020.

The Board held a discussion regarding the current Coronavirus/COVID-19 situation with Seward stating that various options are being researched with the goal of conducting Board meetings that are open to the public yet minimizing as much as possible the risks associated with the Coronavirus/COVID-19. Seward also said that the Board was giving consideration to moving the public comment portion of Board meetings to the beginning of the Board's agenda. The Board took no formal action.

There was no public comment.

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

ATTEST:  
March 24, 2020

JACK SEWARD JR.  
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER  
County Auditor