

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021**

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; acknowledgement of K9 Fund donation; review and award bid for L-C-149 128th Place culvert project; Quarterly Fee Report – Treasurer; Quarterly Report – Recorder; personnel change requests – Conservation; personnel change requests – Ambulance; COVID-19 update; department head comment; adjourn. Supervisors Jack Seward, Jr., Bob Yoder, Marcus Fedler, and Stan Stoops were also present.

Others attending were: Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Jeremy Peck, County Ambulance Services Director; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Marissa Reisen, Emergency Management Coordinator; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant. 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 Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve the agenda as published.

There was no public comment.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge a donation to the Washington County Sheriff's K9 fund in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the Kalona Sale Barn, Kalona, IA.

County Engineer Jacob Thorius presented the board with one bid for Project L-C-149 which will involve culvert replacement work at 128th Place northwest of Wellman in Lime Creek Township. The lone bid was received from Iowa Bridge and Culvert, LLC, Washington, Iowa, in the amount of \$175,511.70. The Engineer's estimated cost for the project was \$225,000.00. On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to award the bid for Project L-C-149 involving culvert replacement work at 128th Place northwest of Wellman in Lime Creek Township in the amount of \$175,511.70 to Iowa Bridge and Culvert, LLC, Washington, Iowa, and to authorize the Chairperson to sign pertinent contract documents. Terms of the contract call for a late start date of August 16, 2021, and a maximum of 25 work days. The start date for the project is yet to be determined.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge the Treasurer's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected for the 3rd Quarter of FY21 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the report on behalf of the Board. Highlights of the report, presented by Treasurer Jeff Garrett, included total motor vehicle fees of \$2,392,079.89 collected during the quarter ending March 31, 2021 with the county retaining \$78,412.56 (3.3%) 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 necessary to mail license plates, and \$7.00 for each driver's license issued. Garrett also stated other fees of \$51.00 were collected which results in a total of \$78,463.56 in fees retained during the quarter. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Treasurer.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Recorder's 3rd quarter report for FY21 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the report on behalf of the Board. The report, presented by Recorder Jo Greiner, reflected revenues for the quarter in the amount of \$106,460.39 with the county retaining \$43,079.66. A total of 1,442 documents were recorded during the quarter and Greiner added that during the same period of time her office handled 23 marriage applications, 35 passport applications, and 258 boat, ATV and snowmobile renewals and new registrations. Finally, a total of 555 certified copies of birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage licenses were provided to the public. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Recorder.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for Ranger Brett Johnson whose rate of pay will increase to \$25.00 per hour, effective April 12, 2021, due to Johnson receiving his pesticide applicator license.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for seasonal worker Kyle Harland whose last day of employment occurred April 13, 2021.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Ambulance Department for the hiring of EMT Dakota Connolly, at the rate of \$18.55 per hour, effective April 15, 2021. 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 the Ambulance Department for the hiring of EMT Aimee Buol, at the rate of \$18.55 per hour, effective April 15, 2021. 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 the Ambulance Department for the hiring of EMT Travis Handy, at the rate of \$18.55 per hour, effective April 15, 2021. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

Washington County Public Health Administrator Danielle Pettit-Majewski reported that in Washington County as of 8:15 a.m. on April 13, 2021, tests had been conducted on 11,885 individuals to detect for COVID-19 with such tests yielding 2,486 positive results. Positive test results in the previous 7 days totaled 21 while positive test results in the previous 14 days totaled 43. Meanwhile, in Washington County a total of 2,374 individuals have recovered from COVID-19 according to Pettit-Majewski. At the present time in Washington County there are a total of 63 active cases. A total of 644 serology tests have been conducted in Washington County with such tests yielding 130 reactive cases. The Return to Learn percent positivity rate for Johnson and Jefferson County is 5.8% and 1.0% respectively while the Washington County rate is 4.0%. A total of 5,857 deaths in Iowa have been attributed to COVID-19 which includes 49 in Washington County. A total of 220 Iowa residents are presently hospitalized due to COVID-19 including 4 Washington County residents. The statewide number of vaccines administered is 1,876,843 including approximately 12,807 vaccines that were administered in Washington County. Pettit-Majewski explained that presently the state COVID-19 dashboard is erroneously showing that Parkview Manor, an assisted living facility located in Wellman, is experiencing an outbreak. She continued by saying the error was due to a web coding issue and that local public health personnel are working with Iowa Department of Public Health personnel to correct the error. The administration of Johnson & Johnson's single-dose COVID-19 vaccine is temporarily suspended due to six confirmed cases in the United State of a rare and severe blood clot among 6.8 million doses that have been administered. Public Health staff have recently noted a slight but consistent increase in hospitalizations and positivity rates believed to be related to the increase in cases of the United Kingdom variant. Pettit-Majewski stressed that the various vaccines currently available are effective against the United Kingdom variant. In closing Pettit-Majewski announced that on-line scheduling for vaccine appointments is now available. The Board took no formal action.

There was no comment from County Department Heads.

At 9:42 a.m. on motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
April 13, 2021

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor

RICHARD L. YOUNG
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors