

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023**

At 9:00 a.m. Vice-Chairperson Marcus Fedler 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 approval of agenda; public comment related to agenda items; discussion and possible action regarding citizen's petition regarding potential relocation of Washington County offices; Treasurer's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected; Veteran Affairs Quarterly Report; General Assistance Quarterly Report; personnel change requests – Sheriff; personnel change request – Ambulance Services; appointment of Todd Troyer to fill unexpired term as Lime Creek Township clerk which ends December 31, 2026; department head comment; adjourn. Supervisors Jack Seward, Jr., Stan Stoops, and Richard Young were also present. Board Chairperson Bob Yoder participated remotely.

Other individuals present at the meeting included Jennifer Wilkerson with KCII Radio, Kalen McCain with the SE Iowa Union, County Engineer Jacob Thorius, General Assistance/Veteran Affairs Director Sue Rich, Deputy Sheriff Shawn Ellingson, County Treasurer Jeff Garrett, County Recorder Teresa Mangold, and Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant Amber Williams. Also in attendance were citizens Dale Torpey, Lorraine Williams, Dorothy Miller, Jim Miller, Cathi Currie, Susan Fisher, Millie Youngquist, Karen Bates Chabal, Abe Miller, Karen Gorham, Jim Gorham, and Loree Stogdill. 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 Seward, the Board voted to approve the agenda as published.

Downtown Washington business owners Lorraine Williams and Karen Bates Chabal, along with others, encouraged the Board to reconsider its apparent plans to renovate county-owned facilities at Orchard Hill in order to relocate various employees of Washington County to the Orchard Hill site. Such plans are currently being considered by the Board as a solution to the problem of insufficient office space. The Board was also urged to take time to consider and research other possible solutions to the problem. A lengthy discussion ensued. Some of the key points in such discussion included Young's statement that fiscal responsibility is a major component in any decision reached by the Board and added that more information regarding costs was needed before a final decision could be reached with regard to spending the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Fedler stated that he planned to work with staff from Encite Architecture & Design PLLC to explore other possible remedies to the problem of inadequate space.

Williams forecasted that vacant stores on the Washington square will result if County offices are removed from downtown Washington and relocated to Orchard Hill. Stoops and Yoder differed with their fellow Supervisors by stating that they favored the County acquiring the Federation Bank building. Seward voiced reluctance to the concept of acquiring the Federation Bank and adding more square footage which he deemed as unnecessary. Fedler reminded that in addition to the purchase cost of the Federation Bank there would also be the costs of renovation and upkeep as well as the fact that the property would no longer be on the tax rolls. The Board took no formal action.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge the Treasurer's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of FY23 and to authorize the Vice-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 \$2,379,140.93 collected during the quarter ending March 31, 2022, with the county retaining \$77,134.15 (3.2%) of that total. The report listed other fees of \$116.04 that were collected which resulted in a total of \$77,250.19 in fees retained during the quarter. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Treasurer.

Washington County Veteran Services Officer Sue Rich presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Washington County Veteran Affairs report for FY23. She reported that during the quarter four applications were received with three of the applications being denied and one of the applications being approved for utility assistance in the amount of \$98.27. On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Veteran Affairs report for FY23. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

Washington County General Assistance Director Sue Rich presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Washington County General Assistance report for FY23. She reported that during the quarter two applications for benefits were received with one of the applications being denied and one application being approved for \$200.00 in rent assistance. On motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter General Assistance report for FY23. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Vice-Chairperson to sign on behalf of the Board, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Dylan Evans who will begin duties as a non-exempt on-call Rescue Worker at the rate of \$14.00 per hour effective April 25, 2023. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Vice-Chairperson to sign on behalf of the Board, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Vicktoria Entsminger who will begin duties as a non-exempt on-call Rescue Worker at the rate of \$14.00 per hour effective April 25, 2023. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Vice-Chairperson to sign on behalf of the Board, a personnel change request from Washington County Ambulance Services for Jordan Heyvaert who will begin duties as a non-exempt regular part-time Paramedic at the rate of \$30.73 per hour effective April 21, 2023. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to appoint Todd Troyer to fill an unexpired term as Lime Creek Township Clerk which ends on December 31, 2026.

There was no comment from Washington County Department heads.

At 9:40 a.m. on motion by Young, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:  
April 18, 2023

MARCUS J. FEDLER, VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER  
County Auditor