

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022**

At 9:02 a.m. Vice-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. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; public comment; request from Secondary Roads to establish bid letting date for abutment repair on Dogwood Avenue over Smith Creek, Project L-C-272; approve applications for Disabled Veteran Homestead Tax Credit; acknowledge drone program proposal from Emergency Management and Sheriff's Office; department head comment; adjourn. Supervisors Marcus Fedler, Jack Seward, and Stan Stoops were also present. Supervisor Richard Young was absent.

Other individuals in attendance included the following individuals: Jerry Edwards, KCII Radio; Kalen McCain, SE Iowa Union; Christina Loeffler, County Assessor's Office; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Director; Shawn Ellingson, Chief Deputy Sheriff; John Gish, County Attorney; and Jacob Thorius, County Engineer. Various other individuals participated by remote means.

All motions were passed unanimously by those Supervisors in attendance unless noted otherwise.

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

There was no public comment related to agenda items.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to establish 8:30 a.m. on August 9, 2022, as the deadline for the submission of bids for Project L-C-272. Such bids are to be dropped off in the Auditor's Office which is located in the Washington County Courthouse. According to County Engineer Jacob Thorius the project will involve improvements to a bridge located on Dogwood Avenue that spans Smith Creek.

Appraisal Clerk Christina Loeffler, from the Washington County Assessor's Office, presented the Board with a list of individuals each of whom she recommended receive a 2022 Disabled Veterans Homestead Tax Credit. On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to approve the 2022 Disabled Veterans Homestead Tax Credit applications as recommended by the Washington County Assessor and to authorize the Chairperson to sign pertinent documents.

Emergency Management Director Marissa Reisen briefed the Board on the joint efforts of the Sheriff and Emergency Management to establish a drone program for Washington County. According to Reisen a declaration letter from the Washington County Attorney is needed as a part of the overall process leading to being able to legally operate a drone. The \$22,000.00 total cost of the package, which includes the purchase price of two DJI Mavic drones, extra battery packs, carrying cases, licensing, accessory packages, user training, and a certificate of operation will be offset with a grant in the amount of \$11,000.00 from the Washington County Riverboat Foundation. It is envisioned that the drones will be used to assist in search and rescue operations, identification of "hot spots" in burning structures, identification of areas in need of weed control that are not easily accessible, damage assessment, and photographing roadways in need of maintenance, improvements, and/or construction. Reisen explained that once the initial expenses are paid there will be little ongoing costs other than training. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge the Washington County drone program proposed by the County Sheriff and County Emergency Management.

There was no comment from department heads.

At 9:18 a.m. on motion by Stoops, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
JULY 5, 2022

ROBERT C. YODER, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor