

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

At 9:02 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. The agenda included the following items: approval of agenda; public comment; proposed changes to employee health insurance benefits; appointment of Veteran Affairs Commissioner; Resolution 22-39 for Approval and Appointment of Washington County Sheriff's Deputy; personnel change requests – Sheriff; appointment of Kathy Sieren as Seventy Six Township Clerk; appointment of Karri Fisher as the Washington County designee to the Heritage Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors; Resolution 22-38 regarding agreement for Living Roadway Trust Fund Grant; potential Secondary Road Assessment Districts on; department head comment; adjourn. Supervisors Marcus Fedler, Jack Seward, Jr., Bob Yoder, and Stan Stoops were also present.

Other individuals in attendance included the following: Jerry Edwards, KCII Radio; Kalen McCain, SE Iowa Union; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Shawn Ellingson, Chief Deputy Sheriff;; Sue Rich, County General Assistance/Veteran Affairs Director; Terry Phillips, Veteran Affairs Commissioner; Amber Armbruster, Deputy Auditor; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Cara Sorrells, County Communications Director; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Larry Simon, Mary Ann Parton, and Abby Sojka. Various other individuals participated by remote means.

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

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

During the public comment portion of the meeting citizen Abby Sojka requested clarification as to who will be responsible for funding improvements to 135th Street and expressed she had no desire to bear a portion of such costs.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve various changes, as recommended by the Washington County Employee Insurance Committee, to Washington County employee insurance benefits effective January 1, 2023. Highlights of such changes include, among other things, a 10% increase in health care premiums, a new Health Savings Account option of \$3,000.00 single/\$6,000.00 family, the discontinuance of Plan 2 that is currently available, and the availability of new voluntary life insurance coverage.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to appoint Darren Dennler to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2024 as a Washington County Veteran Affairs Commissioner.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 22-39 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 22-39 on behalf of the Board.

**RESOLUTION 22-39
APPROVAL AND APPOINTMENT OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 331.903.1 of the Code of Iowa, (2022), the number of deputies for each County office shall be determined by the Board of Supervisors and the number and approval of each appointment shall be adopted by a resolution and recorded in the meeting minutes of the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Washington County Board of Supervisors on this 13th day of September, 2022, that the individual referenced below be added to the staff of the Washington County Office of Sheriff which results in a total of 20 Washington County Deputy Sheriffs and that the individual has been approved and appointed as Sheriff's Deputy for the office of the Washington County Sheriff's Office, as required by Washington County Sheriff Jared M. Schneider.

Andrew Stanley, Deputy Sheriff

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Jaime Love who will begin duties as a full-time non-exempt Jailer at the rate of \$20.88 per hour effective September 14, 2022. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Zach Cornwell whose final day of employment occurred August 29, 2022.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Andrew Stanley who will begin duties as a full-time non-exempt Patrol Deputy at the bi-weekly rate of \$2,314.03 effective September 22, 2022. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to appoint Kathy Sieren to an unexpired term as Seventy-Six Township Clerk that will end December 31, 2022.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to appoint Karri Fisher to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2024 on the Heritage Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 22-38 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 22-38 on behalf of the Board.

**RESOLUTION 22-38
LIVING ROADWAY TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, a Fiscal Year 2023 Living Roadway Trust Fund (LRTF) grant application for a Brush/Tree Chipper has been approved, and

WHEREAS, it is understood the total project cost reimbursement shall not exceed \$15,000.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Washington County Board of Supervisors in session this 13th day of September, 2022, that Jacob Thorius be authorized on behalf of the Washington County Secondary Roads Department to execute Agreement No. 90-92-LR23-241 with the Iowa Department of Transportation.

The Board, along with County Engineer Jacob Thorius, took up discussion regarding potential paving projects involving portions of 135th Street and 140th Street in northern Washington County. Thorius explained that a total of 133 properties, which he defined as a potential “assessment district”, would be affected with the majority of the properties located in various subdivisions which include Timberline Estates 1, 2, and 3, along with St. Anne’s and Stone Ridge Estates. The roads under consideration for improvements are classified as local roads and as such Thorius explained that his department does not have the funds necessary to cover the full cost of the projects. He continued by saying that one solution to the funding problem would be to look to property owners in the assessment district to defray anywhere from 50% to 100% of the project costs by way of annual interest-free payments over 10 years. In turn Thorius provided three different payment scenarios to the Board showing various portions of the total costs to be reimbursed to the county by landowners in the assessment district. Thorius estimated the total cost for the Timberline Estates project involving paving and grading of an 0.85 mile portion of 135th Street west of Highway 218 to be approximately \$1,150,000.00, the estimated total cost for the Stoneridge Estates project involving grading and paving of a 0.75 mile portion of 140th Street from Vine Avenue east to be approximately \$670,000.00, and an estimated total cost of \$480,000.00 for a project involving grading and paving of a 0.2 mile portion of Deer Run Drive south from 135th Street. Thorius stressed that at the present time such costs are very preliminary. Passage of any agreement between the County and the assessment district regarding cost-sharing would require a simple majority of at least 50 per cent. Thorius concluded his remarks by stating that it would be the responsibility of the Board to propose the mix of funding from property owners and the County for the proposed project. While discussion followed the Board took no formal action.

There was no comment from department heads.

At 10:23 a.m. on motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
September 13, 2022

RICHARD L. YOUNG, CHAIRPERSON
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor