

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2022**

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. The agenda included the following items: approval of agenda; public comment; public hearing regarding proposed animal confinement feeding operation – Michael Martin, Section 16, Lime Creek Township; proclamation naming October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month; acknowledgment of proposed animal confinement feeding operation – Michael Martin, Section 16, Lime Creek Township; WEMIGA Waste Management Systems report; personnel change requests – Sheriff; Resolution 22-40 regarding the approval and appointment of Washington County Deputy Treasurers; personnel change requests – Treasurer; personnel change request – Communications; personnel change request – Washington County Ambulance Services; discussion and action regarding job descriptions for various staff positions at Washington County Ambulance Services; approval of final payment for BROSCHBP-C092(109)--NC-92, 130<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge east of Wellman; application from Riverside VFW Post #6414 for renewal of Class C Liquor License (LC) (Commercial); potential sale of county-owned property; discussion and action regarding proposed Washington County Ordinance for special valuation of wind energy conversion property (Iowa Code Chapter 427B.26), department head comment; adjourn. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Jack Seward, Jr. and Bob Yoder were also present while Supervisor Marcus Fedler participated by remote means.

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; Amber Armbruster, Deputy Auditor; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Cara Sorrells, County Communications Director; Jeremy Peck and Pat Curl, County Ambulance Services; John Gish, County Attorney; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Rachel Rinner, Knee Deep Solutions; Allison Tippe and Garyn Simpson, Domestic Violence Intervention Program; and Lynn Whaley, WEMIGA Waste Management Systems. Various other individuals participated by remote means.

All motions were passed unanimously unless noted otherwise.

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

There was no public comment.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to open a public hearing regarding an animal confinement feeding operation proposed by Michael Martin to be located in Section 16 of Lime Creek Township. Plans call for the construction of a 71'2" x 285' swine confinement building with an 8' deep below-building concrete pit. There was no public comment. Auditor Dan Widmer confirmed notice of hearing had been published according to Iowa Code and his office had received no public comment prior to the hearing. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to close the public hearing.

Allison Tippe and Garyn Simpson, on behalf of the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP), shared the mission of the DVIP is to end domestic abuse through education, accountability, and social justice. DVIP spent 1,160 hours of service providing 801 services to 108 individuals in Washington County during FY22. Such services included, among other things, civil legal advocacy, individual counseling, criminal justice support, and housing advocacy. In FY23 DVIP expects to spend \$73,100.00 providing services in Washington County and will receive \$65,941.00. On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve a proclamation related to Domestic Violence Awareness Month – October 2022 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the proclamation on behalf of the Board.

**PROCLAMATION  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH  
OCTOBER 2022**

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking affects women, children and men of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds, causing long-term physical, psychological and emotional harm; and

**WHEREAS**, one in three Americans has witnessed an incident of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, children who experience domestic violence are at a higher risk for failure in school, mental illness, substance abuse, suicide, and may choose violence as a way to solve problems later in life; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence in rural communities exists as a hidden, silent and often unrecognized crime that is often underreported; and

**WHEREAS**, through the inspiration, courage and persistence of victims of domestic violence, their children and advocates, our communities are learning to recognize the impact of violence in the home and within intimate relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, the Domestic Violence Intervention Program has worked to end violence in intimate relationships for more than 39 years through the collaborative partnerships of advocates, volunteers, local municipalities, criminal justice, health and human services, faith communities, business leaders and private citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, our community's achievements should be commended and we must continue our commitment to respect and support victims of domestic violence and to prevent future violence in our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that we, the Washington County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2022 to be:

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

in Washington County, Iowa, and urge all citizens to work together to eliminate domestic violence, dating violence and stalking from our community.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to acknowledge an animal confinement feeding operation proposed by Michael Martin to be located in Section 16, Lime Creek Township.

Lynn Whaley of WEMIGA Waste Management Systems (WEMIGA) presented a report that detailed WEMIGA activities for the first nine months of calendar year 2022 as well as historical annual data beginning with calendar year 2015. For the current calendar year WEMIGA has processed 613.73 landfill tons, 17.64 tons of paper, 19.74 tons of plastic, 461.06 tons of cardboard, 47.17 tons of tin and aluminum, 141.42 tons of recyclable material, 160 appliances, 281 televisions and other electronic devices, 95 tires, and 89 gallons of used oil. The Board took no formal action. The complete report is available for review in the Auditor's office.

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 Dustin Stuelke who will begin duties as a full-time non-exempt Jailer at the rate of \$20.88 per hour effective October 5, 2022. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for Frank Muntz who will begin duties as a casual part-time non-exempt Jailer at the rate of \$20.88 per hour effective October 5, 2022. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 22-40 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 22-40 on behalf of the Board.

#### **RESOLUTION 22-40**

#### **APPROVAL AND APPOINTMENT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY DEPUTY TREASURERS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 331.903(1) of the Code of Iowa, 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 resolution and recorded in the minutes of the Board.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Washington County Board of Supervisors this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022, that the following individuals have been approved and appointed as Deputy Treasurers for the office of the Washington County Treasurer, as requested by Washington County Treasurer Jeffrey A. Garrett:

Lindsay Adam – Deputy Treasurer  
Alicia Pacha – Deputy Treasurer  
Adrienne Gorsch – Deputy Treasurer  
Danielle Imhoff – Deputy Treasurer

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Treasurer for Teresa Long whose final day of employment occurred October 3, 2022.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Treasurer for Adrienne Gorsch who was promoted to the position of Deputy Treasurer effective October 6, 2022, and whose rate of pay will increase to \$23.95 with the change.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Treasurer for Danielle Imhoff who was promoted to the position of Deputy Treasurer effective October 6, 2022, and whose rate of pay will increase to \$23.95 with the change.

Remote communication with Fedler was interrupted.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Communications for Susan Holub whose final day of employment occurred September 26, 2022.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Ambulance Services for Dakota Connolly whose final day of employment occurred October 1, 2022.

The Board held no discussion and took no action regarding job descriptions for various staff positions at Washington County Ambulance Services.

Remote communication with Fedler was restored.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve a final payment for project BROSCHBP-C092(109)--NC-92, 130<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge east of Wellman and to authorize the Chairperson to sign pertinent documents. Prior to the vote Thorius explained final payment in the amount of \$15,694.24 was due on the project. The total cost of the project was \$537,894.38 which according to Thorius was approximately \$11,000.00 over the initial awarded project amount due to the need for more rock than was estimated and having to re-seed grass. Approximately 50% of the funding for the project came from a Federal Highway Bridge Program grant.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to approve an application for renewal of a Class C Liquor License (LC) (Commercial), including outdoor services and Sunday sales, from Riverside VFW Post #6414, Riverside, for the period of November 10, 2022, through November 9, 2023. Sheriff Jared Schneider recommended approval of the renewal.

Discussion next turned to the possible sale of county-owned property located directly west across the street from the Washington County Courthouse at 302 W. Main, Washington. Young stated that the property was purchased by the County in 2017 to be used for parking at some point in the future. However, according to Young, plans have changed and the property is no longer needed. Discussion focused on whether to enlist the help of a realtor to facilitate a sale while Auditor Dan Widmer suggested consideration be given to marketing the property without the help of a realtor. Discussion ensued as to the pros and cons of using a realtor or whether to solicit bids from various entities, groups, individuals, etc. while reserving the right to reject any and all bids. On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to authorize the Washington County Auditor to prepare a public notice of intent to sell property at 302 W. Main, Washington including a date as to when the bids would be opened along with wording stating that bidders will have the opportunity to increase their bids at the time bids are opened.

The Board began discussion regarding a proposed Washington County Ordinance for special valuation of wind energy conversion property (Iowa Code Chapter 427B.26). Young stated that he had been made aware that two different companies are exploring the possibility of erecting wind mills in northern Henry County and southern Washington County. Young encouraged his fellow supervisors to attend an upcoming public meeting where interested individuals can learn more about such plans. Young opined the County should move forward with passage of an ordinance, or multiple ordinances, regarding wind energy production in order to be prepared and ready if such wind energy production becomes a reality. Seward expressed agreement with Young and suggested work be resurrected on an ordinance that was being proposed in 2021 until the wind energy production company looking at Washington County for wind power production lost interest. County Engineer Jacob Thorius opined two ordinances would be needed with one ordinance addressing the special assessment and one ordinance addressing where the windmills could be located. Discussion continued until on motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to pursue preparing ordinances related to special valuations and for sight requirements.

There was no comment from department heads.

At 9:58 a.m. on motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:  
October 4, 2022

RICHARD L. YOUNG, CHAIRPERSON  
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER  
County Auditor