

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2017**

Chairperson Richard Young called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. with Supervisors Abe Miller, Jack Seward, Jr., Stan Stoops, and Bob Yoder present. The public hearing was held at the Kalona Chamber Building, 514 B Avenue, Kalona, and its purpose was to gain public input regarding the possible road vacation of a portion of Nutmeg Avenue north of Richmond and south of the English River and located in Section 17 & 20 of English River Township.

Young reviewed the rules of conduct, order, and procedures relating to the public hearing and emphasized it was related to Nutmeg Avenue and not the Bunker Mill Bridge that spans the English River. He also explained that everyone who wished to speak had been asked to sign up as they entered the room. He also stated that two minutes would be allowed to each individual who wished to speak.

Washington County Engineer Jacob Thorius addressed the group and listed three different options regarding the possible vacation of the portion of Nutmeg Avenue presently under consideration. One option would be to do nothing and leave the road status unchanged. The second option would be to downgrade the road to Class B or Class C status which would result in minimal maintenance, retention of County easement rights, and a barrier to limit access in the case of Class C. The third option would involve completely vacating the road, resulting in the land being returned to private ownership and completely eliminating County maintenance responsibility as well as County access.

The following individuals addressed the Board:

Scott Allen, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
David Finley, Richmond	opposed to road vacation
Dennis Yoder, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Mary Marek, Hills	opposed to road vacation
Doris Park, Wellman	opposed to road vacation
Andrew Yoder, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Mike Niffenegger, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Robert Yoder, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Marlin Yoder, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Henry Swantz, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Steve Maxon, Wellman	opposed to road vacation
John Canady, Iowa City	support of road vacation
Angie Hofer, Joetown	opposed to road vacation
James Graham, Kalona	suggested downgrading to Level C or Level B rather than vacating
Cynthia Charlton, Wellman	opposed to road vacation
Chris Grier, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Tom Marsh, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Travis Yeggy, Washington	opposed to road vacation
Clayton Borntrager, Washington	opposed to road vacation
Steve Shaeffer, Kalona	favors road vacation
Dale Miller, Kalona	opposed to road vacation
Dennis Murray, Richmond	urged consideration of those who would use the road and the purpose
Jim Hussey, Kalona	opposed to road vacation

RICHARD L. YOUNG
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:
February 22, 2017

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor