

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020**

At 9:00 a.m. Vice-Chairperson Richard Young called to order, in regular session, a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors. The meeting took place in the Washington County Board of Supervisors chambers which are located in the Washington County Courthouse. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; public hearing related to General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A; Resolution 20-10 related to General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A; Washington County Recycling update – Lynn Whaley, WEMIGA Waste Systems; personnel change request – Secondary Roads; approval of Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement No: 5-20-CHBP-017 for Project BROSCHP-C092(109)--NC-92 on 130th Street east of Wellman; discussion and action regarding possible acquisition of property; Washington County Conservation update; General Safety Manual update; Employee Handbook update; personnel change requests – Board of Supervisors; public comment. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Abe Miller, and Bob Yoder were also present. Supervisor Jack Seward, Jr. was absent.

Others attending were: Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Mary Zielinski, The News; Bill Monroe, The SE Iowa Union; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director; Amber Day, Deputy Auditor; Jared Schneider, County Sheriff; Shawn Ellingson, Deputy Sheriff; Zach Rozmus, County Conservation Director; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Jennine Wolf, County Environmental Health Director; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Lynn Whaley, WEMIGA Waste Management; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Charlotte Stalder, Dennis Stalder, Karyl Miller, Bill Miller, Tom Duwa, Bette Brandt, and Bruce Murphy.

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

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

On motion by Miller seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to open a public hearing regarding General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A. Treasurer Jeff Garrett and Auditor Dan Widmer explained to the Board that the County, upon the recommendation of Robert Josten who is with Dorsey and Whitney and provides legal advice related to tax exempt bonds as well as the recommendation of Michael Hart who is with Northland Securities and provides public finance services to counties, the County intends to enter into a Loan Agreement and to issue General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A, in an amount not to exceed \$1,825,000.00 for the purpose of refinancing General Obligation jail bonds with a final payoff scheduled for 2026. The refinancing will allow the County to benefit from lower interest rates resulting in an estimated net savings of approximately \$35,000.00 over the remaining life of the bonds. Widmer added that notice of the public hearing had been published as required by Iowa Code and his office had received no public comment prior to the public hearing. There was no public comment from those gathered.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to close the public hearing.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Miller, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 20-10 as follows and to authorize the Vice-Chairperson to sign Resolution 20-10 on behalf of the Board.

RESOLUTION 20-10

Expressing Intent to Enter into a General Obligation Refunding Loan Agreement and issue General Obligation Refunding Bonds and approving Preliminary Official Statement

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, State of Iowa, has heretofore proposed to enter into a General Obligation Loan Agreement (the "Loan Agreement"), pursuant to the provisions of Section 331.402 of the Code of Iowa, for the purpose of refunding the outstanding balance of the County's General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A, and has published notice and held a hearing on the proposal; and

WHEREAS, the County intends to enter into a Loan Agreement and to issue General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A, in an amount not to exceed \$1,825,000 (the "Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, a preliminary official statement (the "Preliminary Official Statement") has been prepared in connection with the sale of the Bonds, and it is now necessary to make provision for the approval of the Preliminary Official Statement and to authorize its use by Northland Securities, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its intent to enter into the Loan Agreement and issue the Bonds in the future and further declares that this resolution shall constitute the "additional action" required by Section 331.402 of the Code of Iowa.

Section 2. The use by Northland Securities, Inc. of the Preliminary Official Statement relating to the Bonds, in substantially the form as has been presented to and considered by the Board of Supervisors, is hereby approved, and Northland Securities, Inc. is hereby authorized to prepare and use a final Official Statement for the Bonds substantially in the form of the Preliminary Official Statement, but with such changes therein as are required to conform the same to the terms of the Bonds and the resolution, when adopted, providing for the issuance of the Bonds, and the County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to execute a final Official Statement for the Bonds, if requested. The Preliminary Official Statement as of its date is deemed final by the County within the meaning of Rule 15(c)(2)-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Section 3. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

The Board reviewed a report prepared and presented by Lynn Whaley of WEMIGA Waste Systems (WEMIGA) that detailed activity at the Washington County Recycling Center (WCRC) for the month of January 2020. During the month WEMIGA processed 64.46 landfill tons, 4.69 tons of paper, 3.0 tons of plastic, 5.36 tons of cardboard, 4.97 tons of tin and aluminum, 18.02 tons of recyclable material, 8 appliances, 19 televisions and other electronic devices, 2 tires, and no used oil. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge the monthly report for the Washington County Recycling Center provided by Lynn Whaley of WEMIGA Waste Systems. The report is available for review in the Auditor's office.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Vice-Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Secondary Roads for Assistant Maintenance Superintendent John Wagner involving a six-month step increase in compensation from \$2,142.40 biweekly to \$2,177.60 biweekly, effective March 16, 2020.

County Engineer Jacob Thorius requested Board approval of an agreement between the County and the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for funding assistance from IDOT on a project involving the replacement of a bridge located on 130th Street over Smith Creek east of Wellman. The existing bridge, constructed in 1917, has a 6-ton weight limit with a detour of 4 miles. Thorius stated that the County is slated to receive Competitive Highway Bridge Program federal funding assistance for approximately 50% of the estimated \$504,000 total cost of the project. The other 50% of the cost will be paid with County bridge funds. According to Thorius the project is included in the Five-Year Road plan and contract letting will occur in August or September of 2020. On motion by Miller, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation (5-20-CHBP-017) for funding assistance related to Project BROSCHBP-CO9291090-NC-92.

Thorius shared that earlier in the month the County received communication from Attorney Robert Schlegel regarding 0.41 acres of real estate owned by Sally Williams that she is preparing to sell. The land is adjacent north of the Washington County Secondary Roads site and adjacent east of Ms. Williams' home. According to the communication from Attorney Schlegel, the County holds a first right of refusal on the 0.41 acres. A brief discussion ensued. On motion by Yoder, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to waive its right of first refusal on 0.41 acres owned by Sally Williams and located on East 7th Street, Washington, Iowa and to direct the County Attorney to communicate such Board action to Attorney Robert Schlegel.

Conservation Director Zach Rozmus provided a Conservation update and began by saying that recently the Washington County Izaak Walton League had deeded approximately 20 acres of timberland to the County. The land is adjacent to the Clemmons Creek Wild Life Area which is owned by Washington County and managed by Washington County Conservation. While the 20 acres had always been open to public access the change in ownership will result in the need for additional resources to adequately maintain the property. Rozmus also informed the Board that plans are in place for the 2nd phase of the Kewash Trail paving project which will involve the paving of an additional 1.4 mile portion of the trail at an estimated cost of \$530,000.00. Part of the cost will be offset by way of a \$317,000.00 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant from the federal government. Rozmus stated he is pursuing additional grants with the goal of having the entire project funded without the use of local property taxes. The Board took no formal action.

Deputy Auditor Amber Day addressed the Board regarding proposed revisions to the Washington County Safety Manual. Day shared that the various proposed revisions included, among other things, changes to reporting forms used when a work-related injury occurs. Assistance in the revision process was provided by Iowa Municipalities Workers Compensation Association (IMWCA) who is the County's workers compensation insurance carrier. Day informed the Board that all of the proposed revisions had been vetted by the County Attorney, members of the Washington County Safety Committee, and Washington County Department Heads. It is planned that the revisions will take effect March 1, 2020. On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve revisions to the Washington County Safety Manual.

Day next shared a variety of proposed revisions to the Washington County Employee Handbook. Day stated that the changes include modification of policies related to call-back time, comp time, return to work, and the County's drug and alcohol policy. CJ Cooper & Associates, located in Hiawatha, will be assisting with after-hour drug and alcohol testing and providing annual training regarding the concept of reasonable suspicion loosely defined as the ability to recognize behavior indicative of drug or alcohol abuse. Day informed the Board that all of the proposed revisions had been vetted by the County Attorney, Washington County Department Heads, and by the County's independent Human Resources Advisor Renee VonBokern. It is planned the revisions will take effect on March 1, 2020. On motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve the revisions to the Washington County Employee Handbook.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Board of Supervisors for Jeremy Peck who will begin duties as a regular part-time non-exempt Ambulance Services Director at the rate of \$40.55 per hour on March 2, 2020. During discussion prior to the vote, Miller expressed concern with the proposed compensation and benefit package for Peck. The vote on the motion: Aye-Young, Yoder, Stoops; Nay-Miller; Absent-Seward. 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 to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Board of Supervisors for Ambulance Services Director Jeremy Peck whose employment classification will change, effective March 23, 2020, from regular part-time non-exempt to regular full-time non-exempt and whose rate of employment will also change, effective March 23, 2020, from \$40.55 per hour to \$85,000.00 annually. The vote on the motion: Aye-Young, Yoder, Stoops; Nay-Miller; Absent-Seward.

There was no public comment.

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

ATTEST:
FEBRUARY 25, 2020

RICHARD L. YOUNG
Vice-Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor