

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019**

Chairperson Bob Yoder called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse chambers in regular session. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; public hearing regarding review of amendments to FY19 Washington County budget; discussion and action regarding FY19 Washington County budget amendment; discussion and action regarding Resolution 19-16 pertaining to adjustments of appropriations for FY19; discussion and action regarding Resolution 19-17 related to property tax abatement; discussion and action to consider extending the Washington County Ambulance contract; approval of Agreement No. 2020-TS-021 for Traffic Safety Improvement Program Funding – Portable Traffic Signals; discussion and action regarding right-of-way along portions of Redwood Avenue between 230<sup>th</sup> and 240<sup>th</sup> Streets; Secondary Road Use Request – American Legion Post 29; Eastern Iowa Tourism Association Report; Liquor License application – Flightline LIVE; personnel change request – Sheriff; public comment; adjourn. Supervisors Jack Seward, Jr., Abe Miller, Stan Stoops, and Richard Young were also present.

Others attending were: Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Mary Zielinski, The News; Gretchen Teske, Washington Evening Journal; Shawn Ellingson, County Sheriff’s Office; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director; John Gish, County Attorney; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Michelle Hyman, Deputy Auditor; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Bill Young, Washington County Ambulance; Alisha Davis, Washington Chamber of Commerce; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Charlotte Stalder, Karyl Miller, Bill Miller, Tom Duwa, Bette Brant, and Denny Stalder.

All motions were passed unanimously unless noted otherwise.

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

On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board opened a public hearing regarding amendments to the FY19 Washington County budget. Deputy Auditor Michelle Hyman shared that with regard to expenses the budget amendment was necessary due to repairs to the McCreehy building, re-shingling of the Courthouse Tower roof, and increased expenses incurred by the Secondary Roads Department due in large part to the recent harsh winter. There was no comment from those assembled. Auditor Dan Widmer stated that notice of the public hearing was published as required and he added that no public comment was received in the Auditor’s office prior to the public hearing. On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to close the public hearing.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to accept the Record of Hearing and Determination on the Amendment to the Washington County FY19 budget and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 19-16 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 19-16 on behalf of the Board.

**RESOLUTION 19-16  
ADJUSTMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa, that the following adjustments of appropriations as a result of the budget amendment resolution dated May 21, 2019 are approved:

<b>REVENUES</b>				
<b>DEPARTMENT</b>		<b>FUND</b>	<b>SERVICE AREA</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
	<b>ADDITIONS:</b>			
20	Secondary Roads	0020	7903	29,477
23	Public Health	0001	3000	8,500
23	Public Health	0001	3010	1,200
				<b>39,177</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
	<b>ADDITIONS:</b>			
20	Secondary Roads	0020	7110	405,000
20	Secondary Roads	0020	7120	47,000
23	Public Health	0001	3000	2,875
23	Public Health	0002	3000	1,125
51	Building and Grounds	1500	0220	50,000
				<b>506,000</b>

On motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 19-17 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 19-17 on behalf of the Board.

**RESOLUTION 19-17  
WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Notice of Property Tax Abatement**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington has acquired the following parcels which were assessed for taxation on January 1, 2017 (covering fiscal year 2018 and payable in fiscal year 2019):

<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date Acquired</b>	<b>2017 Tax</b>
1117381001	302 S 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave	12/28/2017	\$1,280.00
1117378012	202 E Jefferson St	6/29/2018	\$1,472.00

**AND, WHEREAS**, property taxes for the 2017 tax year remain unpaid,

**AND WHEREAS**, The Washington County Treasurer advised the City of Washington of the delinquency by mailed notice on May 1, 2019,

**AND WHEREAS**, section 445.63 of the Code of Iowa requires the board of supervisors to abate property tax owing against a parcel before the parcel was acquired by a political subdivision upon notification to the governing body and their failure to immediately pay the taxes due,

**AND WHEREAS**, the City of Washington, Iowa, has requested that the Washington County Board of Supervisors abate the unpaid property tax for the properties,

**NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, by the Washington County Board of Supervisors to abate the \$1,280 tax appearing on receipt 917498 and the \$1,472 tax appearing on receipt 917474 as well as all accrued penalty and costs and make adjustments to records as necessary.

County Attorney John Gish informed the Board that he had prepared an Ambulance Contract Modification to address the current contract between Washington County and Washington County Ambulance (WCA) which is scheduled to expire June 30, 2019. Highlights of the modification include an extension of the contract to June 30, 2020, a payment of \$20,000 per month from Washington County to WCA, and acknowledgement by WCA that Washington County may solicit bids through a Request for Proposals (RFP). Terms of the agreement also call for WCA to assist Washington County in a good faith effort in developing the RFP by providing necessary and accurate data and information on existing services. The modification shall take effect July 1, 2019. On motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to approve the extension to the contract with Washington County Ambulance and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. The vote on the motion: Aye-Yoder, Seward, Miller, Stoops; Abstain-Young. Prior to the vote various members of the Board expressed appreciation for the valuable and dedicated service provided by Washington County Ambulance.

County Engineer Jacob Thorius asked for Board approval of an agreement between the County and the Iowa Department of Transportation for funding through the Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) and specifically per Agreement No. 2020-TS-021 for Traffic Safety Improvement Program Funding. Thorius stated that the Washington County Secondary Roads Department application was approved on December 11, 2018. The TSIP award, in the amount of \$60,000, will be used to purchase portable traffic signals to be used in Washington, Henry, and Keokuk Counties so that the signs can be better utilized. On motion by Miller, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to approve Agreement No. 2020-TS-021 for Traffic Safety Improvement Program Funding – Portable Traffic Signals and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

The Board took up discussion regarding the right-of-way along portions of Redwood Avenue between 230<sup>th</sup> and 240<sup>th</sup> Streets. At a work session held on May 6, 2019 the Board learned of the right-of-way situation that came about due to the plans of Eastern Iowa Light and Power to replace aging utility lines along the property referenced above. According to Thorius, the utility company submitted its permit application and upon review it was determined that the road right-of-way was 66 feet rather than 44 feet where poles are presently in place and where farming is taking place. Thorius observed that one solution to the problem would be to vacate a portion of the right-of-way to legally allow the farming that is currently taking place. Thorius continued by saying that to do so would result in less area in which to work should a road upgrade (from Class B to Class A) ever occur. Thorius expressed doubt that any such upgrade will ever occur unless requested by landowners and under such a scenario the landowners would have to donate the right-of-way back to Washington County and pay for a portion of the costs to upgrade. In talking with farmers who would be directly affected by any Board decision that is made with regard to the right-of-way, Thorius informed that Board that the prevalent opinion is to reduce the right-of-way to enable farming as has been the practice. The Board discussed the matter and upon motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to direct the County Engineer to pursue releasing a portion of the right-of-way along Redwood Avenue between 230<sup>th</sup> and 240<sup>th</sup> Streets.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a Secondary Road Use Request from American Legion Post 29, Washington, for May 27, 2019. On that date, American Legion Post 29 will hold a Navy/Marines Memorial Day tribute. The event will take place at the Crooked Creek Bridge on Old Highway 92 shortly after 8:00 a.m.

The Board reviewed a summary report of the May 1, 2019 meeting of the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association (EITA) provided by Fred Stark who represents Washington County on the EITA. EITA membership currently includes 26 counties and 214 business members. Present concerns of EITA members include school starting dates in Iowa as well as the motel/extended stay tax. Attendees at the meeting heard a presentation regarding the various differences among age groups in the workforce along with a presentation from the Iowa Group Travel Association whose purpose is to promote Iowa for motor coach travel. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the report of the May 1, 2019 meeting of the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association as prepared by Fred Stark.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to approve an application for a Special Class C Liquor License (BW) (Beer Wine) from the Washington Chamber of Commerce – Flightline LIVE event for the period of May 29, 2019 through June 2, 2019. Sheriff Jared Schneider expressed no objection to the application.

On motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from the Sheriff for the hiring of Jack Guengerich as an on-call non-exempt employee at the rate of \$11.00 per hour effective May 21, 2019. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

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

ATTEST:  
May 21, 2019

ROBERT C. YODER  
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

Daniel L. Widmer  
County Auditor