

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018**

Chairperson Abe Miller 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; possible purchase of Federation Bank building, discussion and action regarding funding request from Washington County YMCA; weekly report – County Engineer; equipment purchase – County Engineer; personnel change request – Communications; personnel change request – Public Health; personnel change requests – Conservation; appointment of Karen Witzenburg as civil process server; application for renewal of Class A Liquor License (LA) (Private Club) – Richmond AMVETS Post #107; Secondary Road Use request – Iowa City / Coralville Convention & Visitor Bureau; Resolution 18-24 related to Washington County Riverboat Foundation mini-grant funding; Secondary Road Use request – Crawfordsville Fire Department;; discussion and action regarding selection of Neumann Monson as architect for Communications building; public comment. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Richard Young, Jack Seward, Jr., and Bob Yoder were also present.

Others attending were: Mary Zielinski, The News; Sally Hart, KCII Radio; David Hotle, Washington Evening Journal; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Director; Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Shawn Ellingson, County Sheriff's Office; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Chauncey Moulding, Asst. County Attorney; Amy Schulte and Ryan Schlabaugh, YMCA; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Karyl Miller, Bill Miller, Liz Hall, Charlotte Stalder, Denny Stalder, Teri Hartzler, Rachel Nicola, Edward Weeks, Gerald Franzen, Janet Caldwell, Jeanne Arnold, Jean Peiffer, Augie Goodwin, Eva Bickhart, Shalon Hoyle, Matt Miller, Dana Patterson, Joanne Chalupa, Geraldine Farrier, Eva Arnold, and Les Zickefoose.

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

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

With regard to the possible purchase of property at 102 E Main in Washington that is owned by Federation Bank, Miller stated that a meeting was scheduled for later that afternoon with select department heads as well as Sarah Coleman who is a Project Architect with Martin Gardner Architecture located in Marion. The purpose of the meeting is to initiate conversation as to space needs and whether the Federation Bank building would meet such needs. Seward suggested that input be sought from a commercial property appraiser. The Board took no formal action.

The Board next took up discussion regarding a request for funding assistance in the amount of \$20,000 related to the construction of a new YMCA facility in Washington. Specifically, the \$20,000 request from Washington County would serve as a matching fund element of a planned \$900,000 Enhance Iowa (formerly Vision Iowa) Grant application by the Washington County YMCA (YMCA). Presently \$7.9 million (86%) of the total projected cost of \$9.1 million for Phase I for the entire project has been raised. Upon completion it is planned that Phase 1 of the project will result in a 33,000 sq. ft. two level building, elevator, HVAC, gymnasium, workout areas, locker rooms, and meeting rooms. Phase II of the project will include construction of a six lane pool along with sauna, hot tub, and spectator seating. Discussion began with Seward asking the identity of the source of funding for Enhance Iowa grants to which YMCA Board member Ryan Schlabaugh responded that such funds were a result of state gaming revenue. Stoops stated that emails he had received from the public regarding the question of County financial assistance were split evenly. Young stated that responses he had received were 80/20 with the majority opposing County financial assistance. Seward clarified that to date no public funding had been committed to the project. Citizen Eva Bickhart expressed that should the Board decide to provide financial assistance to a non-profit entity such as the YMCA, a precedent would be set for similar requests in the future. YMCA Chief Executive Officer Amy Schulte responded that such precedent had already been set by way of past County contributions to non-profit groups. Citizen Janet Caldwell reminded those present that the YMCA is a private entity and that individuals must pay before using YMCA facilities. She also recalled the August 2, 2015 public measure regarding the question of building a new YMCA was soundly defeated. Citizen Gerald Franzen echoed the comments of Caldwell. Citizen Liz Hall responded that the vote to which Caldwell and Franzen referred included only citizens of the City of Washington and thus citizens from outside the City of Washington did not have the opportunity to participate in the election. Citizen Ed Weeks clarified that 50% of the approximate \$8 million raised so far came from local donors with the other \$3.5 million resulting from a Washington County Riverboat Foundation grant and \$.5 million coming from the Casino board itself. After displaying a multiple-page list of YMCA donors Seward stated that the list showed a great deal of support and commitment for the YMCA. He added that the YMCA is a valid organization with admirable goals and whose donors/members have "skin in the game". However, according to Seward, there are other individuals who do not share that same commitment and are resentful when they feel their pocket is being picked to pay for something they do not feel is worth-while. Seward referred to Washington County Resolution 15-51, passed unanimously on November 24, 2015, by which the Board agreed to contribute a total of \$10,000 over 3 years to the YMCA contingent upon a successful Vision Iowa/Community Attractions and Tourism (CAT) grant application and stated that the resolution did indeed set precedent. He continued however by stating that he is not concerned with past precedent and instead preferred to consider projects for funding on an individual basis. Seward also noted that in March of 2016 the Board was approached by the YMCA with

a request to increase its funding to \$50,000 in order to assist in securing a Vision Iowa/CAT grant. The Board denied the request and communicated that the Board viewed the increased amount that was requested as bordering on extortion and also that the Board viewed the increased amount as ransom that would have to be paid in order to get a return of tax revenue that was originally paid by residents of Washington County. Seward also stated that he has not heard from even one individual who is not a member of the YMCA and who favors the County providing financial assistance. Citizen Geraldine Farrier commented that she is not personally opposed to the YMCA project but also stated that there are no elderly Washington County residents who are in favor of the County providing financial assistance because such assistance would result in increased property taxes for individuals on fixed incomes whose property taxes are already too high. Miller commented that county residents must remain cognizant of future essential projects that the County will likely have to fund in entirety. Schlabaugh voiced that the YMCA serves people who have little or no choice in life due all or in part to financial constraints and for such individuals the YMCA fills a very important need. Schlabaugh stated that without the County contribution the grant application would be denied. Miller reminded everyone that the YMCA is a private entity. Seward emphasized that the YMCA is an absolutely worthwhile organization that he supports but it is a private organization and must remain so. He summarized by saying he opposes government funding of a private organization and also that he senses a lack of overall support from residents of Washington County. Citizen Les Zickefoose stated his opposition to County financial support of the YMCA. On motion by Stoops, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to not contribute funding toward Washington YMCA fund raising efforts for the purpose of building a new facility in Washington.

County Engineer Jacob Thorius shared that during the past week Secondary Roads staff maintenance activities included blading rock and dirt roads, hauling rock, cutting brush, road shoulder maintenance, replacing crossroad pipe with minor ditching, replacing entrance pipe repairing tile, assisting with Tractorcade, and sign installation. Construction work continues on Riverside Road and the 275th St Bridge, and grinding work is beginning on 220th St (G36). The Board took no formal action.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge a quote from Altorfer Cat, Iowa City, in the amount of \$63,245.00 for the purchase of a 2018 Trail King TK110HDG Advantage Plus trailer. The price includes a trade-in allowance of \$12,000.00 for a 2001 trailer.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Communications for the hiring of Lisa Dohlman as a full-time Dispatcher, at the rate of \$17.10, effective July 1, 2018. 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 approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Public Health for Maternal Health Nurse Carol Detweiler whose employee classification will change from regular part-time to casual part-time effective July 1, 2018. Detweiler will transition from 0.6 FTE to 0.04 FTE.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for the hiring of Kathy Fields as a casual part-time Conservation Center Coordinator, at the rate of \$10.50, effective June 21, 2018. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for the hiring of Jess Fields as a casual part-time Conservation Center Coordinator, at the rate of \$10.50, effective June 21, 2018. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for the hiring of Randi Jenkins as a casual part-time Conservation Center Coordinator, at the rate of \$12.00, effective June 21, 2018. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to approve a certificate of appointment as Civil Process Server ending December 31, 2020 for Karen Witzenburg.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve a Class A Liquor License (LA) (Private Club) for the Richmond AMVETS Post #107 effective July 11, 2018, with an expiration date of July 10, 2019. Washington County Sheriff Jared Schneider expressed no issues with the application.

Auditor Dan Widmer informed the Board that he had placed on the agenda a Secondary Road Use request from the Iowa City / Coralville Convention & Visitor Bureau in anticipation of the request being completed in order for it to be considered for Board action. However, he shared that the application was not complete nor would it be completed in the future due to cancellation of a planned event.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 18-24 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 18-24 on behalf of the Board.

RESOLUTION 18-24

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA,
ACKNOWLEDGING THE APPLICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING BENEFITS FROM
THE WASHINGTON COUNTY RIVERBOAT FOUNDATION**

WHEREAS, the Washington County Riverboat Foundation has grant funds available that target Community Development and Beautification, Economic Development, Art and Education, Human and Social Needs, and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Riverboat Foundation has a grant application cycle that ends June 20, 2018, and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Supervisors is supportive of these targets for improvements to the community and County, and

WHEREAS, on or more applications from Washington County and/or from organizations with projects that will take place on County property, will be submitted to the Washington County Riverboat Foundation by the June 20, 2018 deadline,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa, that Washington County acknowledges the following grant application will be submitted to the Washington County Riverboat Foundation for the June 20, 2018 application cycle:

Tyrone Cemetery Restoration – Dutch Creek Township

On motion by Young, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to approve a request for a Secondary Road Use permit received from the Crawfordsville Fire Department for July 7, 2018, from 6:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The permit is related to closing a one block portion of Vine Avenue (Old Highway 218) in conjunction with a town celebration.

On motion by Young, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to approve Neumann Monson, Iowa City, to serve as the architect for a new Washington County Communications building. Prior to the vote Young stated he was a part of committee composed of various county officials along with Matt Miller and Nick Liston of consultant Carl A. Nelson and Co. who interviewed three architectural firms and recommended the selection of Neumann Monson as architect for the project.

There were no comments from those assembled.

At 9:57 a.m. on motion by Yoder, seconded by Young, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
June 19, 2018

ABE C. MILLER
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor