

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019**

Chairperson Bob Yoder called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in the Courthouse chambers in regular session. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; Resolution 19-55 regarding approval of Southeast Iowa Link (SEIL) Region 28E Agreement; National Voter Registration Month and National Voter Registration Day Proclamation; United States Constitution Week Proclamation; personnel change request – Public Health; public comment; closed session per Code of Iowa Chapter 21.5 (1)(j) to discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property; official canvass of the September 10, 2019 Highland Community School District Special Election; adjourn. Supervisors Abe Miller, Stan Stoops, Richard Young, and Jack Seward were also present.

Others attending were: Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Mary Zielinski, The News; Bill Monroe, SE Iowa Union; Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; John Gish, County Attorney; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Jennine Wolf, County Environmental Health Director; David Collins, Washington Economic Development Group Executive Director; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Charlotte Stalder and Dennis Stalder.

All motions were passed unanimously unless noted otherwise.

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

The Board took up discussion regarding proposed Resolution 19-55 regarding approval of an amended Southeast Iowa Link (SEIL) Region 28E Agreement related to mental health and disability services. Seward explained that the signing by Governor Reynolds of HF690 resulted in changes to the make-up of the SEIL Governing Board which in turn necessitates changes to the existing SEIL Region 28E Agreement. Presently the eight voting members of the SEIL Governing Board consist of one County Supervisor from each of the eight counties which make up the SEIL Governing Board. These counties include Henry, Lee, Jefferson, Washington, Des Moines, Keokuk, Van Buren, and Louisa. The proposed new agreement calls for the same eight voting members as before along with the addition of one voting member who utilizes mental health and disability services or is a relative of someone who utilizes such services, one non-voting member representing service providers in the SEIL Region, one non-voting member representing children's behavioral health service providers in the region, one voting member representing the education system in the region, and one voting member who is either a parent or an actively involved relative of a child who utilizes children's behavioral health services. Seward emphasized that the changes have nothing to do with mental health itself. The new quorum for the SEIL Board will be seven in order to prevent members who have no authority with regard to establishing taxes to override board members, such as those members who also serve as County Supervisors, who do have taxing authority. Seward recommended that no action be taken until a later date in order to allow further study and consideration by the Supervisors. The Board took no formal action.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to approve a proclamation related to National Voter Registration Month and National Voter Registration Day and to authorize each Supervisor to sign the proclamation. The proclamation is as follows:

**PROCLAIMING  
NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION MONTH  
AND  
NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY**

**WHEREAS**, registering to vote empowers eligible citizens to exercise their right to vote on Election Day; and

**WHEREAS**, this year is the centennial celebration of women gaining the right to vote through the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the leaders of the women's suffrage movement was Iowan Carrie Chapman Catt; and

**WHEREAS**, Iowa is one of the nation's leaders in voter registration and voter participation, with more than two million residents currently registered to vote, making up 90 percent of the eligible population; and

**WHEREAS**, 17-year-olds are now eligible to register to vote so they can participate in Iowa's primary elections; and

**WHEREAS**, the voter registration process in Iowa is easier and more convenient than ever before, with online voter registration, Election Day registration, and applications available through government agencies across the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Iowa's online voter registration system enables citizens to register to vote and update their registration status quickly and easily, any time of day; and

**WHEREAS**, we encourage all interested citizens and all appropriate media outlets and civic organizations to participate in this non-partisan voter registration awareness campaign to encourage the maximum participation of qualified voters in Iowa.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Washington County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2019 as National Voter Registration Month and Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 as National Voter Registration Day in Washington County, Iowa.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto signed this proclamation and caused the Seal of the County of Washington (Iowa) to be affixed this 17th day of September, of the year 2019.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to approve a proclamation related to United States Constitution Week and to authorize each Supervisor to sign the proclamation. The proclamation is as follows:

**PROCLAIMING  
UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WEEK  
IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA**

**WHEREAS**, The Constitution of the United States of America, the guardian of our liberties, embodies the principles of limited government in a Republic dedicated to rule by law; and

**WHEREAS**, September 17, 2019, marks the two hundred and thirty-second anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

**WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary, and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate it; and

**WHEREAS**, **United States Public Law 915** guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,

**NOW, THEREFORE, the Washington County (Iowa) Board of Supervisors** join with the President of the United States and do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as

**UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WEEK**

and ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto signed this proclamation and caused the Seal of the County of Washington (Iowa) to be affixed this 17th day of September, of the year 2019.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Washington County Public Health for the hiring of Jessica Haro-Ponce as a Parent Educator at the rate of \$20.00 per hour effective September 23, 2019. The County Auditor is hereby authorized to issue pay warrants upon proper certification from the Department Head.

There was no public comment.

At 9:23 a.m. on motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to go into closed session pursuant to Code of Iowa Chapter 21.5 (1)(j) – to discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property.

At 10:15 a.m. the Board returned to open session and on motion by Seward, seconded by Young, voted to go into recess.

At 10:20 a.m. the Board returned to open session.

The Board canvassed the results of the September 10, 2019 Highland Community School District Special Election.

**STATE OF IOWA**  
**ABSTRACT OF VOTES**

**Washington County, Iowa**

We, the undersigned Members of the Board of Supervisors and ex-officio County Board of Canvassers for this County, do hereby certify the following to be a true and correct abstract of the votes cast in this County at the Highland Community School Special Election held on the 10th day of September, 2019, as shown by the tally lists returned from the election precincts.

**For the public measure**

**Public Measure A**

Shall the Board of Directors of the Highland Community School District in the Counties of Washington and Johnson, State of Iowa, be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$3,700,000 to provide funds to replace and improve the HVAC system and windows in the Middle/High School building; construct, furnish and equip an addition to the Fine Arts area of the Middle/High School building, including related remodeling; and improve and equip the playground area of the elementary building?

**For the question, there were:** Four hundred twenty (420) votes

**Against the question, there were:** One hundred sixty-nine (169) votes

**TOTAL** Five hundred eighty-nine (589) votes

**We therefore declare the public measure**

**"Shall the Board of Directors of the Highland Community School District in the Counties of Washington and Johnson, State of Iowa, be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$3,700,000 to provide funds to replace and improve the HVAC system and windows in the Middle/High School building; construct, furnish and equip an addition to the Fine Arts area of the Middle/High School building, including related remodeling; and improve and equip the playground area of the elementary building?"**

**to be adopted.**

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and caused to be affixed the seal of this county by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Done at Washington, Iowa, the county seat of Washington County, Iowa, this 17th day of September, 2019.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to accept, as official, the results of the September 10, 2019 Highland Community School District Special Election as canvassed.

At 10:25 a.m. on motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:  
September 17, 2019

ROBERT C. YODER  
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER  
County Auditor