

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 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; proclamation of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month; application for Class C Liquor License – Riverside VFW Post #6414; quarterly report – Veterans Affairs; quarterly report – General Assistance; personnel change request – Outreach; public comment; 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; adjourn. Supervisors Abe Miller, Richard Young, and Jack Seward were also present. Supervisor Stan Stoops was absent.

Others attending were: Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Mary Zielinski, The News; Bill Monroe, SE Iowa Union; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; John Gish, County Attorney; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Coordinator; Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director; Sue Rich, County Veterans Affairs/General Assistance Director; Terry Philips, Veteran Affairs Commissioner; Kristie Doser and Xiomara Levsen, Domestic Violence Intervention Program; and citizens Bill Miller, Karyl Miller, Tom Duma, Bette Brant, Charlotte Stalder, and Dennis Stalder.

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

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

Kristie Doser and Xiomara Levsen, on behalf of the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP), shared that the group's mission is to provide comprehensive support and advocacy services to victim/survivors of intimate partner abuse, focusing on immediate and long-term safety, empowerment, dignity, and hope. In collaboration with the community, the group strives to end domestic abuse through education, accountability, and social justice. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Iowa and in order to communicate the scope of the problem Levsen stated that 48 individuals from Washington County had been served during the past fiscal year of which 28 were from the City of Washington. Overall in the 8 counties served by DVIP there were over 560 individuals served. Employees of the DVIP work closely with local law enforcement and often accompany victims/survivors to court hearings in the role of an advocate. Levsen added that she works closely with staff of the Washington County Attorney's office. Emergency shelters are also available for victims and Levsen stated that on November 12 an all-day training session on human trafficking will be held at the Washington County Library for individuals wishing to learn more about the topic. County Attorney John Gish complimented the DVIP and stated that the DVIP provides valuable assistance to his office. On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to approve a proclamation related to Domestic Violence Awareness Month – October 2019 as follows:

**PROCLAMATION
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
OCTOBER 2019**

WHEREAS, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking affects women, children and men of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds, causing long-term physical, psychological and emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, one in three Americans has witnessed an incident of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, children who experience domestic violence are at a higher risk for failure in school, mental illness, substance abuse, suicide, and may choose violence as a way to solve problems later in life; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence in rural communities exists as a hidden, silent and often unrecognized crime that is often underreported; and

WHEREAS, through the inspiration, courage and persistence of victims of domestic violence, their children and advocates, our communities are learning to recognize the impact of violence in the home and within intimate relationships; and

WHEREAS, the Domestic Violence Intervention Program has worked to end violence in intimate relationships for more than 40 years through the collaborative partnerships of advocates, volunteers, local municipalities, criminal justice, health and human services, faith communities, business leaders and private citizens; and

WHEREAS, our community's achievements should be commended and we must continue our commitment to respect and support victims of domestic violence and to prevent future violence in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that we, the Washington County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2019 to be:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in Washington County, Iowa, and urge all citizens to work together to eliminate domestic violence, dating violence and stalking from our community.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to approve an application for renewal of a Class C Liquor License (LC) (Commercial), including outdoor services and Sunday sales, from Riverside VFW Post #6414, Riverside, for the period of November 10, 2019 through November 9, 2020. Sheriff Jared Schneider recommended approval of the renewal.

County Veterans Service Officer Sue Rich presented the 1st quarter Washington County Veterans Affairs report for FY20. She reported that during the quarter \$450.00 in benefits were paid to four successful applicants for rent, utility, and provision assistance (groceries). Veterans Affairs Commissioner Terry Philips attributed the low amount paid in benefits during the quarter in large part to the efforts of Rich in assisting veterans to obtain federal assistance rather than county assistance. He added that Rich is willing to travel to conferences in order to become more knowledgeable in providing services to veterans and he thanked the Board for enabling Rich to attend such conferences. On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the FY20 1st quarter Veterans Affairs report. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

General Assistance Director Sue Rich presented the 1st quarter Washington County General Assistance report for FY20. She reported that during the quarter \$350.00 in benefits were paid to two successful applicants for rent assistance. On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the FY20 1st quarter General Assistance report. The complete report is available in the office of the Washington County Auditor.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Outreach for Errin Dessner whose employee status will change from full-time to casual part-time effective October 10, 2019. The rate of compensation for Dessner will not change.

During the public comment portion of the meeting Emergency Management Coordinator Marissa Reisen outlined various activities that are taking place this week in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week.

At 9:25 a.m. on motion by Miller, seconded by Seward, 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 9:50 a.m. the Board returned to open session and on motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
October 8, 2019

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor

ROBERT C. YODER
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors