

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020**

Chairperson Jack Seward Jr. 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 animal confinement feeding operation – JDSD Farms LLC – Riverside Site, Section 8, Highland Township; application for National Provider Identifier (NPI) number; acknowledgement of animal confinement feeding operation – JDSD Farms LLC – Riverside Site, Section 8, Highland Township; Quarterly Report – Sheriff; personnel change request - Public Health; discussion and action regarding proposed improvements to County-owned farm ground; receive and discuss interview committee results and recommendations for the position of Ambulance Services Director; discussion and possible action regarding the hiring of Ambulance Services Director; public comment; adjourn. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Abe Miller, Richard Young, and Bob Yoder were also present.

Others attending were: Bill Monroe, Southeast Iowa Union; Mary Zielinski, The News; Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director; Amber Day, Deputy Auditor; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Director; Jennine Wolf, County Environmental Health Director; Bill Fiordelise, Deputy Sheriff; Rachel Rinner, Knee Deep Solutions; David Collins, Washington Economic Development Director; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Tom Duwa, Bette Brant, Charlotte Stalder, Dennis Stalder, Bruce Murphy, Karyl Miller, Bill Miller, and Tom Dayton.

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

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

On motion by Seward, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to open a public hearing related to an animal confinement feeding operation being proposed by JDSD Farms LLC – Riverside Site and to be located in Section 8 of Highland Township. The proposed project will be designed for a maximum of 4,960 head of swine and will include two 71'2" x 277' buildings each with 8' deep below-ground pits. There was no public comment. Auditor Daniel Widmer stated that his office had received no public comment prior to the hearing and he also stated that notice of the public hearing had been published as required. On motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to close the public hearing.

Danielle Pettit-Majewski, County Public Health Director, informed the Board that the application process for a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number related to the future Washington County Ambulance Service had been completed. Notification as to the exact NPI number is expected very soon.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge an animal confinement operation to be located in Section 8 of Highland Township and owned by JDSD Farms LLC – Riverside Site.

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Washington County Sheriff's quarterly report for the 2nd quarter of FY20. The report, presented by Deputy Bill Fiordelise, included a beginning balance of \$10,144.80, total receipts including unallocated funds in the amount of \$53,975.47, total disbursements of \$57,510.51, and an ending balance of \$6,609.76.

On motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Public Health for the hiring of Jackie Brown as a 32 hour per week full-time Home Health Aide, at the rate of \$14.25 per hour, beginning February 3, 2020.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to approve an improvement project that will involve two tiling projects located on County farm ground located near Building 2 at the Orchard Hill complex and south of the Kewash Trail. G & R Miller Construction, Washington, Iowa, will perform the work at each of the two locations which will involve the installation of a combined total of 6,670 feet of tile at an estimated total combined cost of \$8,190.00.

With regard to the results and recommendations for filling the position of Ambulance Services Director, Seward stated the item was included on the agenda in anticipation that the interview committee would be prepared to provide a recommendation. In response Miller, who is a member of the interview committee along with Young, said that the committee had narrowed down the list of candidates. However per a request, a second round of interviews would be scheduled to include those Supervisors not involved in the initial interviews. Seward asked whether a consensus was reached among the members of the interview committee as to the top candidate after the first round of interviews and Miller replied that three of the four candidates that were interviewed had emerged as front runners. According to Young, it was during the past week when the committee was attempting to reach a consensus that they were informed by Miller that another round of interviews would need to occur in order to directly include more of the Supervisors in the hiring process. Miller explained that during the first round of interviews some information had come to light that would have made it difficult to reach a decision and thus a second round of interviews would need to take place. Discussion followed regarding who would sit in on the second interviews and what questions would be asked of the candidates. Young reminded that the new Ambulance Services Director will have a great deal of work to complete by July 1, 2020, and so it is vital that the position be

filled as soon as possible. In response to a question from Seward, Yoder stated while he had not requested that a second round of interviews take place he could be involved in such interviews. Seward expressed some frustration with how the entire interview process was going and requested that communication between the 1st interview committee and the 2nd interview committee occur. Young again shared the importance of hiring someone as soon as possible while Miller reminded that it was also important to hire the best candidate. Discussion next took place with regard to whether 1st interview committee should share its findings, conclusions, opinions, etc. with the 2nd interview committee or whether the 2nd interview committee should conduct its interviews in a completely unbiased manner with no input from the 1st interview committee. Citizen Bruce Murphy cautioned that further delays in the hiring process would have serious implications not only for ambulance service in Washington County but also for 1st responders in Washington County as well. Ultimately the Board took no action with regard to receiving and discussing interview committee results and recommendations for the position of Ambulance Services Director.

The Board took no action regarding discussion and possible action regarding the hiring of an Ambulance Services Director.

There was no public comment.

At 9:43 a.m. on motion by Young, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
JANUARY 28, 2020

JACK SEWARD JR.
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor