

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

At 9:00 a.m. Chairperson Jack Seward Jr. called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors. The meeting took place in the Washington County Board of Supervisors chambers which are located in the Washington County Courthouse. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; public hearing regarding proposed amendment to FY20 Washington County budget; personnel change request – Communications; discussion and action regarding FY20 Washington County budget amendment; discussion and action regarding Resolution 20-07 regarding proposed amendment to FY20 Washington County budget; discussion and action regarding Resolution 20-08 to establish a date for a public hearing related to entering into a refunding loan agreement; 4th Quarter Secondary Roads Report of Activities – County Engineer; discussion and action to disband the Washington County Ambulance Advisory Committee; discussion and action regarding hiring for the position of Washington County Ambulance Services Director; public comment; adjourn. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Abe Miller, Richard Young, and Bob Yoder were also present.

Others attending were: Mary Zielinski, The News; Bill Monroe, SE Iowa Union; Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Amber Day, Deputy Auditor; Shawn Ellingson, Deputy Sheriff; Zach Rozmus, County Conservation Director; Cara Sorrells, County Communications Director; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Director; and citizens Charlotte Stalder, Dennis Stalder, Hogan Miller, Aaron W. Olson, Daniel Stigers, Jamie Brame, Kasey Wieland, Jordan Wright, Amanda Wallace, Bruce Murphy, Tonia Rebling, Karyl Miller, and Bill Miller.

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

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

On motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to open a public hearing regarding a proposed amendment to the FY20 Washington County budget. Seward provided a general explanation of the proposed amendment by stating that if passed the amendment would allow for the transfer of unspent spending authority contained in the FY19 county budget to the FY20 county budget. In response to a question regarding the amount of budget carryover from Bill Monroe, who is with the SE Iowa Union, Seward stated that the adjustment to revenue totaled \$271,606.00 while adjustments to expenses totaled \$1,169,781.00. There were no additional comments from those gathered and on motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to close the public hearing.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Communications for the hiring of Delainey Parish as a non-exempt casual part-time employee, effective February 11, 2020, at the rate of \$19.17 per hour for 1st shift, \$19.52 per hour for 2nd shift, and \$19.67 per hour for 3rd shift. 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 accept the Record of Hearing and Determination on the Amendment to the Washington County budget for the fiscal year that ends June 30, 2020 and to authorize the Chairperson to sign the document on behalf of the Board.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 20-07 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 20-07 on behalf of the Board.

RESOLUTION 20-07

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 February 11, 2020 are approved:

REVENUES

DEPARTMENT	FUND	SERVICE AREA	AMOUNT
ADDITIONS:			
00 Operating	0001	0300	15,000
00 Operating	0027	0300	30,000
05 Sheriff	0001	1050	45,000
20 Secondary Roads	0020	7918	26,907
20 Secondary Roads	0020	7903	147,299
23 Public Health	0001	3000	7,400
			271,606

EXPENDITURES

DEPARTMENT	FUND	SERVICE AREA	AMOUNT
ADDITIONS:			
00 Operating	0014	0300	15,000
00 Operating	0023	0300	30,000
04 Attorney	0001	1100	15,000
05 Sheriff	0001	1000	10,031
05 Sheriff	0001	1010	2,633
05 Sheriff	0001	1030	14,648
05 Sheriff	0001	1060	7,069
22 Conservation	0027	0210	70,000
23 Public Health	0001	3000	3,900

23	Public Health	0002	3000	-700
20	Secondary Roads	0020	0201	450,000
20	Secondary Roads	0020	7200	250,000
20	Secondary Roads	0020	7210	35,000
99	Non Departmental	1500	0220	275,000
				1,169,781

On motion by Stoops, seconded by Miller, the Board voted by way of roll call vote to approve Resolution 20-08 as follows and to authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution 20-08 on behalf of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-08

Resolution to fix a date for a public hearing on a General Obligation Refunding Loan Agreement in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,850,000

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors (the “Board”) of Washington County, Iowa (the “County”), has previously issued \$3,145,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A (the “Series 2012A Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the Series 2012A Bonds, the County reserved the right to call for payment prior to maturity any or all of the Series 2012A Bonds maturing after June 1, 2019 (the “Callable Series 2012A Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to fix a date of meeting of the Board at which it is proposed to take action to enter into a loan agreement (the “Loan Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$1,850,000 for the purpose of refunding the Callable Series 2012A Bonds as of April 7, 2020, and to give notice thereof as required by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. This Board shall meet on the 25th day of February, 2020, at the County Courthouse, Washington, Iowa, at 9:00 o’clock a.m., at which time and place a hearing will be held and proceedings will be instituted and action taken to enter into the Loan Agreement.

Section 2. The County Auditor is hereby directed to give notice of the proposed action on the Loan Agreement, setting forth the amount and purpose thereof, the time when and place where the said meeting will be held, by publication at least once and not less than 4 nor more than 20 days before the meeting, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the County.

The notice shall be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION TO INSTITUTE
PROCEEDINGS TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT
IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,850,000**

(GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING)

The Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa (the “Board”) will meet on the 25th day of February, 2020, at the County Courthouse, Washington, Iowa, at 9:00 o’clock a.m., for the purpose of holding a hearing and taking action to enter into a loan agreement (the “Loan Agreement”) in an amount not to exceed \$1,850,000, for the purpose of refunding the outstanding balance of the County’s General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A.

The Loan Agreement is proposed to be entered into pursuant to authority contained in Sections 331.402 and 331.441 of the Code of Iowa. The Loan Agreement will constitute a general obligation of the County.

At the time and place of the hearing, oral or written objections may be filed or made to the proposal to enter into the Loan Agreement. After the hearing, the Board may take action to enter into the Loan Agreement, in which case, the decision will be final unless appealed to the District Court within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Iowa.

Daniel L. Widmer
Washington County Auditor

Section 3. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

On motion by Young, seconded by Yoder, the Board voted to acknowledge the 4th Quarter Secondary Roads Report of Activities. County Engineer Jacob Thorius was unable to attend the meeting. According to the report a total of 16,310 tons of rock were applied to gravel roads and 3,560 tons of rock were applied to road shoulders during the quarter with the report noting that when compared to other quarters, less rock is hauled during the 4th quarter due to the onset of winter and the desire to maximize the amount of rock that is affixed to the roadway which in turn lessens the amount of rock that is removed by snow plows. All rock was hauled by county employees in county vehicles. Snow removal and maintenance

costs for the quarter totaled \$50,994.09 which consisted of \$16,261.00 for salt and sand, \$32.80 for brine, \$11,573.16 for 297 hours of regular wages, \$2,687.55 for 47.50 hours of holiday wages, \$1,442.79 for 25.50 hours of overtime wages, \$2,305.82 for 61.13 hours of compensation wages, and \$16,690.97 for 285.50 hours of equipment time. Also during the quarter a total of \$11,308.60 was spent on snow blades, \$3,804.04 on tire chains, and \$72,403.70 for diesel fuel. While no actual construction took place during the quarter, preparation work was performed related to upcoming projects scheduled for calendar year 2020 which include the Premier 1 Supplies paving project southwest of Washington, the Spruce Avenue grading project, and the Vine Avenue Slope Stabilization and Culvert extension project. All of the work performed during the quarter was done so with an average of 4 staff members out of 31 being gone each day due to illness or vacation. In addition, there were 5 holidays that resulted in staff being gone. According to the report, staff members are dedicated to their jobs and on numerous instances chose to limit their time off in order to ensure that an adequate work force was available for snow removal. The complete report is available in the Auditor's office.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to disband the Washington County Ambulance Advisory Committee effective immediately. This committee met weekly since early November 2019 for the purpose of performing research and providing input to the Supervisors regarding ambulance service in Washington County beginning July 1, 2020. Seward stated that even with the formal end of the committee the Board of Supervisors would still welcome citizen input regarding the future of ambulance service in Washington County.

The Board next took up discussion related to the hiring of an individual for the position of Washington County Ambulance Services Director. Seward began by reminding that due to the importance of maintaining confidentiality and upon the recommendation of Gish the four candidates being considered would be identified only by an alphabet letter that was randomly assigned to each individual. He continued by providing a summary of the events leading up to Candidate D accepting a contingent employment offer. It was communicated at that time that a final employment offer would not be extended until four contingency items were addressed by Candidate D. These items include a criminal history check through the Department of Criminal Investigation, a pre-employment physical, a drug screening, and approval of the Ambulance Service Medical Director. Seward stated that in the days since the contingent offer was made the name of Candidate D had become public knowledge as Seward had personally received credible first-hand information regarding Candidate D and that such information was not conducive to the hiring of Candidate D. Seward added that had he known of such information prior to establishing the preference list for hiring his ranking of the four candidates would have been significantly different. He concluded his remarks by stating he no longer favored the hiring Candidate D for the position of Washington County Ambulance Services Director and opined that the contingent employment offer to Candidate D should be rescinded and instead extended to Candidate B. Miller asked why Seward had changed his mind to which Seward replied that the differences between the four candidates was so small that even just a small bit of information could change the overall preference order of the four candidates. Miller responded that despite speaking with multiple individuals, including quite possibly the same individuals that spoke with Seward, he still favored hiring Candidate D. Yoder stated that based on conversations he had held with members of the public he was in agreement with Seward. Young voiced that he had also received numerous calls over the past few days from citizens who provided first-hand information which caused him to be in agreement with Yoder and Seward. Stoops shared that he too had spoken with various individuals and that those conversations caused him to agree with the opinions of Yoder, Seward and Young that the contingent offer to Candidate D should be rescinded and instead offered to Candidate B. On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to communicate to Candidate D that he was no longer being considered for the position of Washington County Ambulance Services Director. The vote on the motion was Aye-Seward, Young, Stoops, Yoder; Nay-Miller.

Stoops moved, and Miller seconded, a motion that a contingent employment offer be made to an individual identified as Candidate B for the position of Washington County Ambulance Services Director. Discussion took place with Young proposing that the motion be amended to include the naming of Seward, Deputy Auditor Amber Day, and Auditor Dan Widmer to a committee for the purpose of composing a compensation proposal to be extended to Candidate B. Stoops amended his motion to include the amendment and Miller seconded. Seward called for a vote and the amended motion was passed.

There was no public comment.

At 9:40 am on motion by Stoops, seconded by Young, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:
FEBRUARY 11, 2020

JACK SEWARD JR.
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor