

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 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; proposed amendment #4 to the Washington Downtown Urban Renewal Area in the City of Washington; discussion & potential action regarding 2019 Dust Control Policy; appointment of various commission, board, and committee members; discussion and action regarding the use of East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) for assistance in preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for new ambulance service contract; public comment. Supervisors Bob Yoder, Jack Seward, Jr., and Richard Young were also present. Supervisor Stan Stoops was absent.

Other individuals in attendance included Gretchen Teske, Washington Evening Journal; Mary Zielinski, The News; Sally Hart, KCII Radio; Cyndie Sinn, County IT/Budget Director; Jeff Garrett, County Treasurer; Jo Greiner, County Recorder; Shawn Ellingson, County Sheriff's Office; Jacob Thorius, County Engineer; Brent Hinson, City of Washington; Amber Williams, Board of Supervisors Administrative Assistant; and citizens Karyl Miller, Bill Miller, Tom Duwa, Bette Brant, Les Zickefoose, Randy Berg, Richard Long, Charlotte Stalder, and Denny Stalder.

All motions were passed unanimously unless noted otherwise.

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

Washington City Administrator Brent Hinson provided the Board with information related to a proposed amendment to the Washington Downtown Urban Renewal Area in the City of Washington. The City intends to amend the plan to revise the previous adopted amendment for the Sitler Drive improvements to also include the South Avenue E improvements with the same not-to-exceed debt amount of \$1,000,000.00 already adopted for Sitler Drive in Amendment #1. The City also intends to enter into a Development Agreement with Citizen Greg Wiley to incur certain infrastructure costs for the Wiley Subdivision and reimburse itself from incremental revenues to be created by development on the property. According to Hinson a future retail development is slated for construction which will essentially provide the tax increment and cover the infrastructure costs. Hinson confirmed that plans are in place for construction of a sidewalk leading to the new retail development. On motion by Seward, seconded by Young, the Board voted to acknowledge proposed amendment #4 to the Washington Downtown Urban Renewal Area in the City of Washington.

County Engineer Jacob Thorius looked to the Board for revisions to the Washington County Dust Control Policy. The current version of the policy, established by way of Resolution 14-05 on February 18, 2014, includes sections on statement of policy, contractor requirements, and a section related to the permitting process as well as procedures. All individuals desiring dust control services in Washington County shall apply for a dust control permit through a pre-approved contractor by May 1. Permit applications received after April 30 shall be considered late applications. The fee for permit request received before May 1 is \$50 while the fee for a permit request received after April 30 (late application) is \$100. The typical dust control treatment will be a minimum of 20 feet wide and 500 feet long with an initial control treatment taking place sometime during the last two weeks of May at a cost of approximately \$130 per location and a second application occurring in early August at a cost of \$30 per location. During the previous calendar year there were 202 applications resulting in just over \$10,000 in fees collected. However, Thorius estimated the cost to prepare and maintain such locations at roughly \$43,000. Seward, Young, and Miller stated that they had received no negative public comments regarding the current policy while Citizen Richard Long described the current method of dust control as being ineffective at his residence located on 335th Street near Brighton. The Board informally expressed satisfaction with the policy in its present form and took no formal action.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to appoint Randy Berg to a 4-year term as English River Township Trustee with such term ending December 31, 2022. The vote on the motion was as follows; Aye-Miller, Seward, Young; Nay-Yoder.

On motion by Miller, seconded by Young, the Board voted to appoint John Stumpf to complete an unexpired term as English River Township Trustee with such term ending December 31, 2020.

On motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to appoint Edward Whitmire to a 4-year term as English River Township Clerk with such term ending December 31, 2022.

Yoder shared that he had been in touch with Chad Sands of East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) regarding assistance from ECICOG in preparing a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a new contract for ambulance service for Washington County. The present contract between Washington County Ambulance and the County will expire July 1, 2019. Yoder stated that ECICOG was willing to assist in the RFP and contract selection process at a price of \$1,260.00 (20 hours @ \$63.00/hour). Yoder added that County Attorney John Gish advised that it was permissible to enlist the assistance of ECICOG without first seeking bids. On motion by Seward, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to authorize the Chairperson to engage ECICOG, at a maximum cost of \$1,500.00, to assist in preparing a RFP for an ambulance service contract. Discussion took place with Young expressing skepticism that ECICOG could complete the process of negotiating a new ambulance contract at a cost of \$1,260.00 or even \$1,500.00 as stated in the motion. Seward responded that he included the \$1,500.00 in his motion as a starting point with any amounts in excess of \$1,500.00 requiring further Board action. The vote on the motion was as follows; Aye-Miller, Seward, Yoder; Abstain-Young.

During the time for public comment Thorius addressed legislation (Senate File 184) currently being considered in the Iowa Senate. The proposed legislation would allow the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) or the local government to issue a permit for a vehicle transporting raw forest goods, such as logs, to exceed normal weight restrictions and travel over non-primary roads. Thorius stated that the IDOT is not knowledgeable about whether non-primary roads in Washington County are in a condition to allow such heavy loads and as a result there would be damage to roads. He further commented that it would be the responsibility of Washington County to repair such damage and that there would be no compensation from the IDOT for the cost of the repairs. Thorius expressed concern that similar such permits could become available for other commodities in the future if the legislation currently under consideration becomes law. Thorius suggested that if such permits do become available they not be valid on non-primary county roads. At the present time the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) opposes Senate File 184.

At 9:53 a.m. on motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:

February 26, 2019

ROBERT C. YODER
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER
County Auditor