

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020**

At 9:03 a.m. Chairperson Jack Seward Jr. called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors which took place in the Washington County Courthouse. Items on the agenda included the following: approval of agenda; public comment; personnel change requests – Conservation; update from the Director of Ambulance Services to include discussion, acknowledgement, or possible action; Coronavirus (COVID-19) update; discussion of items as approved by Board Chairperson; adjourn. Supervisors Stan Stoops, Abe Miller, Richard Young, and Bob Yoder were also in attendance.

Others attending were: Mary Zielinski, The News; Marissa Reisen, County Emergency Management Director; Jeremy Peck, County Ambulance Services Director, and Zack Rozmus, County Conservation Director. Various other individuals listened and/or watched remotely by electronic means.

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

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

There was no public comment regarding items on the agenda.

On motion by Yoder, seconded by Stoops, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for Summer Aide Skyler Juhl involving a change in the rate of pay for Juhl from \$10.00 per hour to \$11.00 per hour effective March 30, 2020.

On motion by Young, seconded by Miller, the Board voted to acknowledge, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, a personnel change request from Conservation for Naturalist Megan Jorgensen involving a change in the rate of pay for Jorgensen from \$21.47 per hour to \$21.98 per hour effective March 30, 2020.

Ambulance Services Director Jeremy Peck updated the Board by stating that a National Provider Information (NPI) number had been obtained which is a unique identification number for covered health care providers that is required in order to conduct administrative and financial transactions under the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Interviews are being conducted in order to fill various positions and job descriptions are also being completed. Peck distributed a chart showing the proposed hierarchy and chain of command for the ambulance which included job descriptions and proposed compensation. Peck explained that that while he will be adding new positions he will also be eliminating some positions currently in existence. He also stated that he plans to no longer out-source training with such training instead being conducted by in-house staff. Other items being addressed include billing software acquisition and finalizing a rental agreement for the ambulance building. The Board took no formal action.

With regard to the present Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic the Board was informed by Emergency Management Coordinator Marissa Reisen that supplies and resources are being acquired and distributed locally. Reisen also shared that a 12-point system based on recommendations from the U.S. Center for Disease Control was being used by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds to determine whether a shelter-in-place order was necessary. Under the system a score is maintained for each of six geographic districts in the state with the Southeast district, which includes Washington County, currently at a score of 9. Reisen stated that a score of 10 or more is the trigger point for the issuance of a shelter-in-place order. Washington County Public Health Administrator Dannielle Pettit-Majewski reiterated the need for social distancing and stated that citizens should not venture out into the public unless absolutely necessary. She also stated that part of the reason that Washington County is presently a leader among Iowa counties in terms of the number of confirmed cases of the Coronavirus is due to citizens of Washington County being proactive in testing for the virus. Young, who operates Washington County Ambulance, warned that the possibility exists that he will be unable to staff ambulances with one paramedic as called for in the contract with Washington County. He asked for permission to staff ambulances with two emergency medical technicians (EMTs) if no paramedics are available. The Board discussed and informally responded that there would likely be no objection from the Board with regard to using two EMTs rather than one paramedic. Conservation Director Zach Rozmus encouraged the Board to be thinking and considering how a mandatory shelter-in-place order would impact the county and also what criteria would be used to designate essential services. He also expressed that at the present time the shortage of personal protective equipment is a serious and very real problem. The Board took no formal action.

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

ATTEST:
April 7, 2020

JACK SEWARD JR.
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

DANIEL L. WIDMER,
County Auditor