

January 24, 2012

The Page County Board of Supervisors met in session on this 24th day of January with all members present. On a motion by Richardson, seconded by Armstrong, the agenda for today's meeting was approved unanimously.

Jerry Pritchett and Kent Dinnebier were in attendance.

On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Richardson the board unanimously approved tabling the signing of the union contract until it is received by the board. On a motion by Richardson, seconded by Armstrong, the board unanimously approved the contract for LFM-12-15-7X-73. The secondary roads amendment was discussed. Engineer Skinner is asking for an amendment of \$494,000 to cover additional expenditures for the current fiscal year. There however is no additional revenue to offset the expenditures therefore resulting in a direct decrease in fund balance of \$494,000. Auditor Wellhausen discussed her concern for this stating that if each department head were allowed to overspend their budget to this extreme the county could be in financial difficulty quickly. She stated each department head needs to be financially responsible for their budget and before over spending their budget it needs to be brought to the board's attention and addressed. Armstrong and Herzberg also discussed their concern over this budget amendment. County Treasurer, Kim Behrens, also addressed the board with concerns over funding due to this substantial of an amendment with no revenues to offset this. The amendment conversation was postponed until after the board's other appointments.

Kevin McCall with the NRCS office met with the board to discuss Pierce Creek and budget funding. Brandon Pease, and Robert Henke joined this discussion. Funding and work for different areas were discussed.

Jan Frank-de Ois, Brenda Franks, and Andrew Hoppmann met with the board to discuss the libraries in Page County and usage. Ruth Falk, Georgine Johnson, Jeannine Lujedahl, Julie Ohara, Margie Boylan, and Brian Holmes were all in attendance. Each library is requesting an additional \$2,500 each for the Clarinda, Shenandoah, and Essex libraries for a total of an additional \$7,500.

Brooke Turner, Brian Orme, and Mark Cutler met with the board to discuss budgeting. The fair board would like their continued annual donation.

Kim Behrens, Treasurer, met with the board to request approval of a cancelation of a county held tax sale certificate. On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Richardson the board unanimously approved the cancelation of four county held tax certificates as well as the taxes due, current and delinquent due to the fact these mobile homes are no longer located in Page County. Behrens also discussed her budget.

Joel Dirks, West Central, met with the board. West Central is requesting the same \$3,000 contribution this year.

On a motion by Richardson, seconded by Armstrong the board unanimously approved the tax abatement for Lots 329 & 330 of the Original Plat of the City of Essex, 612 Central Street.

On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Richardson the board unanimously approved Stanley Johnson to the Board of Health for a three year term to 2014.

Jeremy Peterson, County Attorney, met with the board to discuss the assistant county attorney's salary. The board discussed the salary would be 80% of the county attorney's new salary when switched to full time. Sonksen's salary will be \$58,001 from \$49,455.

Brad Skinner, Engineer met with the board again to discuss the current proposed budget amendment. Armstrong proposed the amendment be decreased to approximately \$400,000. The board then discussed cutting the rest of this year's new equipment budget of \$45,942.08. Therefore reducing the budget approximately \$46,000. Therefore the board discussed his ending budget amendment would be \$448,494.92. The board also discussed with Skinner that the new equipment budget of \$400,000 for next year is not to be spent until the board approves the purchases to ensure another budget amendment is not needed next year as well.

The board then worked on the budget.

On a motion by Armstrong, minutes of today, January 24th, were approved unanimously.

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m. and will meet again next Tuesday.

Jon W. Herzberg, Chairman

Melissa Wellhausen

Page County Board of Supervisors

Page County Auditor