

August 8, 2017

The Page County Board of Supervisors met in session on this 8th day of August 2017, with Jon Herzberg, Chuck Morris and Alan Armstrong present. On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Morris, the board approved the agenda. Present from the public were Jeff Brownfield, Josh Gray, Kris Grebert, Gordon Kokenge, John VanNostrand, Heidi Carter, Chris Porter, Clayton Brownfield, Shari Schmitz, and Mike Peterson.

King met with the board. Blades are out on dirt and gravel roads. Three mowers are out. There is a crew replacing bridge deck planks. The pipe crew finished I Avenue yesterday. Two trucks are hauling rock. Truck #30 was returned to the county yesterday. The road will be closed at the Shambaugh Bridge starting Wednesday for about four weeks. T Avenue and Page Center Road will have base stabilization and seal coating the latter part of August when the proper grade of rock becomes available. In September, we will be letting contracts for Brummett Bridge. JD will not be available August 15.

We received three bids for the pipe work by an outside contractor. King recommends that the bid be awarded to Black Earth Excavating with the low bid of \$20,395. This project involves seven pipes. Jeff Brownfield expressed some concerns about the Black Earth Excavating bid and whether it should be disallowed. Brownfield stated the State of Iowa doesn't allow for additional comments to be part of a bid. Following further examination of the bid and discussion, Morris moved to award the project to Black Earth Excavating with a bid of \$20,395, Armstrong seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Jon Herzberg reported that he had been contacted by Eric McCalla regarding 270<sup>th</sup> St at Shambaugh. Bill Fidler also called Herzberg regarding concerns about the Hawleyville Bridge and Dan Lyddon, who lives at 3089 R Avenue, asked if the flagged pipe near his home was scheduled for repair. King stated that Black Earth Excavating would be taking care of the issue by Lyddons. Mike Johnson of Essex reported the need for rock on 140<sup>th</sup>, 150<sup>th</sup> and 160<sup>th</sup> Streets. Armstrong talked about a weed around Pierce Creek and that there is an obstruction on 160<sup>th</sup> Street, east of P Avenue. He asked that it be added to the list for maintenance. Herzberg also reported that he had received texts from Tom Wagoner and the information has been shared with King.

Herzberg received a call from Mitch Grossoehme requesting approval for Bible reading on the courthouse lawn this September or October. Armstrong moved to allow them to gather and read the Bible on the Courthouse lawn, Morris seconded and the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Armstrong question whether there should be parking allowed directly in front of fire hydrants on the square. Kris Grebert will check with the fire chief.

Angie Dow, Treasurer, met with the Board to discuss assessing a \$5 administrative fee at the time the special assessment is certified. This is in accordance with the Code of Iowa. Dow also presented the Treasurer's Semi Annual Report to the Board and stated that tax statements will be mailed out August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Morris updated the Board on the EMA commission's recommendation for the communications system. The EMA commission wants the county to purchase the infrastructure in the amount of \$1,621,912 which includes all radios (a/k/a subscriber equipment) for the Sheriff's Department and EMA in the amount of \$115,152; this is

Option 1. This option also includes some modifications that shift some responsibilities back to Motorola. Option 2 is for a one-time purchase of radio equipment for all entities, not to exceed \$462,000; bringing the total project to a maximum cost of \$2,084,000. There is \$600,000 in the current E911 budget for this project. Gordon Kokenge explained that for continuity and to get everyone on board he wanted the Board to approve both options. He believes that some communities will have a difficult time coming up with the initial funds to purchase the equipment this first time, while the county as a whole has sufficient valuation against which to levy. He pointed out that a VHF system would also cost over a million dollars; but that with the digital system, we are at 95% coverage with the portable radios. Kokenge estimates that the proposed project would cost about \$200,000 a year for 10 years after the initial payment is made. Sheriff Lyle Palmer explained that a digital system will benefit the entire county. Morris stated that we can write a 28E agreement that ensures that this is a one-time purchase and that at the point the radio equipment is presented to each entity, the repair and/or replacement of these radios become the entities responsibility. Morris also believes a county wide levy is cleaner. Palmer explained that installation and programming is not included in this cost. Therefore, every city will have to cover that cost, in addition to any accessories they deem necessary. Armstrong asked how adding this new digital system is going to affect the county insurance. While this hasn't been looked at, Morris stated that insurance is part of the cost of doing business. Armstrong questioned Grebert about possible grants; including grants that can be used for a system already implemented. Grebert will be looking into possible grants. Shari Schmitz with Motorola was asked about the programming costs. She stated through the State contract, it was \$350 per mobile device and \$76 per portable device. She explained there will be a code plug to ensure every radio has the same coding. Herzberg explained that his concern is finances. Herzberg doesn't know if the county should be responsible for buying all the radios and he believes that the cities do have the ability to budget for the radios. He also feels we need to keep Ann Smisek's, our legal counsel with Ahlers & Cooney, opinion in mind. Kokenge pointed out that Clarinda and Shenandoah have carried the load for the entire county since 911 started, with the county contributing a fraction of the cost annually. Motorola's offer is a 10 year lease-purchase at 3.45%. They currently have thirty-four state wide systems across the country. Morris made a motion that Page County enter into a contract with Motorola Solutions to build a 700 MHz digital radio emergency communication system at a cost of \$1,621,912. Seconded by Armstrong. Herzberg call for roll call vote: Morris – yes; Armstrong –yes; Herzberg – yes, motion carried unanimously. Morris moved that we approve the recommendation of EMA Commission to make a one-time purchase of radios for all entities in Page County for the purpose of making them operational at the time the new communication system goes live, at a maximum cost of \$462,000. There will be a 28E Agreement that specifies that the radio purchase is a one-time buy and will clearly state that once delivered to the entities, the radios will become the responsibility and liability of said entities. Said entities are to maintain the radios under the manufacturer's warranty; or repair/replace at the entities cost. Armstrong seconded. Herzberg called for a roll call vote: Morris – yes; Armstrong – yes; Herzberg – no. Motion carried.

The Board unanimously decided to table the finance option discussion until Auditor Wellhausen is present.

Armstrong talked to Rich Osborn about the recent leaks and the maintenance resolution; Osborn will put it on a six month checklist. Armstrong asked to have Osborn make a list of needed repairs around the courthouse, including carpet replacement on third floor. The Board will review the list and determine how to move forward.

On a motion by Morris, seconded by Armstrong, the board unanimously approved the minutes for August 8, 2107.

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:45 a.m. and will meet again Tuesday, August 15, 2017.

Jon Herzberg, Chairman  
Page County Board of Supervisors

Kim Behrens, Deputy  
Page County Auditor