

February 19, 2019

The Page County Board of Supervisors met in session on this 19th day of February 2019, with Alan Armstrong, Chuck Morris, and Jon Herzberg present. On a motion by Morris, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve the agenda. Present from the public was John VanNostrand.

King gave a roads update. Blades are out pushing back snow. All trucks and blades were out on Sunday. Blades were out half a day on Monday. All snowplow trucks are running and on the road; cutting edges are being replaced with blades. The sign truck is still in Omaha. The Braddyville culvert check is to be submitted today and progress is being made on A Avenue north of Shenandoah. King will be back working on DOT Budget and programs. King toured a building similar to what they are proposing for the new storage building. King will be attending the Hungry Canyon meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> as well as the ISAC meeting and County Day at the Capital later in the month of March. Mike Peterson joined the meeting.

Kris Grebert and Lyle Palmer joined the meeting. Grebert talked to the board regarding a request for an EMA budget amendment. Grebert is asking for an amendment of \$25,000 to help cover dispatch wages that were paid out of EMA funds versus Dispatch funds. Grebert is also requesting \$210,000 in E911 to be spent out of E911 fund balance. On a motion by Herzberg, seconded by Morris, the board moved to approve a \$25,000 budget amendment for EMA. Grebert updated the board on the need for a signal booster in the amount of \$4,800 for the Shenandoah Police Department. On a motion by Morris, seconded by Herzberg the board moved to approve the signal booster for the Shenandoah Police Department.

Palmer updated the board on the Iowa Code regarding cell phone policies for the Sheriff's Department. The board would like to make sure all policies are up to date, including the cell phone policy and fleet guideline policy.

Jacob Holmes, Doug Hobson, Greg McClarnon, Mitch Grossoehme, Jim Young, Ed Burch, Scott Davison, Eldon Homer Sowards, Joseph Justesen and Kalen Fulk joined the meeting. Jacob Holmes read a statement prepared for the board regarding overspending taxpayer dollars. Holmes wants the board to be aware that citizens realize what is happening and want to see a trend toward fiscal conservatism. This group of taxpayers expressed concerns over the spending trends of this board and county. They feel that the estimate of \$625,000 for an engineer's office and a storage/workshop is ridiculous, excessive spending. Scott Davison stated that Buchanan Township has had an estimated 40% tax increase in three years. He is concerned about tax and insurance increases when spending this amount of money, plus the fact that several roads need tended to in their area. Blacktops need maintained and kept up. Morris stated some of this increase could be state regulated versus board controlled. Holmes stated that the board can control the levy rates. Ed Burch has spent several hundreds of dollars on gravel. The question was asked about getting better rock from Red Oak since Braddyville quarry is out of rock. King stated he will not haul rock from Corning to Teak Avenue; he will wait for Braddyville to get rock. Sowards stated there are no yellow markings on some of the new county roads because it was too expensive. Davison mentioned that the Sheriff's Department needs good vehicles, and then these should be passed down to other County Departments when they are replaced. Herzberg stated that the \$625,000 might be a little high, and they are hoping more like

\$250,000 for office and \$325,000 for storage in order to keep it under \$575,000. Herzberg also stated the funds will be taken out of the new equipment line versus raising taxes. Holmes asked how many pieces of equipment are not under a roof. King stated one truck and a few pieces of equipment are currently not under a roof of any sorts, but he prefers an enclosed garage versus the current lean-tos. Fulk discussed how oils today are made to be cold and warm and asked how many maintenance issues are a direct result of the equipment not being in an enclosed garage. King stated that currently no maintenance issues are directly caused by vehicles not being in an enclosed garage. Fulk mentioned the possibility of moving equipment that is scheduled to be used the next day into bays at the current shop so they are ready to go. Morris stated he appreciates the passion and feedback brought to the board room today. Holmes asked if any of the Supervisors were against having a \$500,000 cushion, and if the surplus gets big enough would the board look at lowering the levy. Holmes states he feels it is very extravagant to spend this amount of money on these buildings when it could be used on gravel and roads. The questioner was asked if there are standard operating procedures that require road chains to be put on the snowplows once they receive a certain amount of snow. King stated currently this is up to the discretion of the driver.

Gary McClarnon and John Thomas joined the meeting. McClarnon asked for a tax abatement on the property located at 522 E Main St in Clarinda. On a motion by Herzberg, seconded by Morris, the board moved to approve the tax abatement in the City of Clarinda parcel #74-0736278100000. It is 522 W Main Street Clarinda, Iowa.

**RESOLUTION #15-2019**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Page County, Iowa, sitting in session on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019, and approved the abatement of all taxes on the following property owned by the City of Clarinda:

North 150 feet of the West 65 feet of Block 7 in Power's Addition, in City of Clarinda, Page County, Iowa.

Also known as 522 W. Main Street, Clarinda

Parcel #74-0736278100000

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

ATTEST:

Melissa Wellhausen  
Page County Auditor

Alan Armstrong  
Jon W. Herzberg  
Chuck Morris  
Page County Board of Supervisors

John Thomas, project director, gave the board an update on the Hungry Canyon Alliance Program. Page County has received \$2.2 million for 29 projects over the years.

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:40 am and will meet again Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Alan Armstrong, Chairman  
Page County Board of Supervisors

Kristi Clark  
Page County Deputy Auditor