

March 19, 2019

The Page County Board of Supervisors met in session on this 19th day of March 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 met with the board to provide a roads update. On a motion by Morris, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve signing the resolution opposing senate file 184 the 130,000 pound raw forestry load bill in the legislature.

RESOLUTION #19 -2019

PAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE STUDY BILL 1045 AND SENATE FILE 184 PASSED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Transportation Committee in the Iowa Senate has passed House Study Bill 1045 (SF 184) which would amend and make changes to Iowa Code Chapter 321 related to transportation of indivisible loads and raw forestry products on primary and secondary highways, and;

WHEREAS, Page County owns and maintains secondary roads and highways, and is fiscally and legally responsible for the secondary roadways within the County, and;

WHEREAS, Page County owns and maintains 180 structures classified as bridges by the National Bridge Inspection Standards, and;

WHEREAS, fifty six (56) bridges owned by Page County are defined as structurally deficient, which is fully 31%; and

WHEREAS, current funding is not adequate to replace or rehabilitate these bridges at the rate their conditions are deteriorating, despite the increase in gas tax in 2015, and;

WHEREAS, the secondary roads and bridges owned by Page County serve a critical need for residents, agricultural users, businesses, schools, post offices, and emergency responders, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed bill would allow the Iowa Department of Transportation to issue annual permits to forestry industry haulers for loads up to 130,000 pounds on secondary highways throughout Iowa, without knowledge of or notice given to the agencies which own these highways and the structures thereon, and;

WHEREAS, bridges within Page County have been designed for loads that were legal on Iowa roads at the time of their construction, and bridges have only been rated or posted with weight restrictions for loads that are currently legal on roads, and;

WHEREAS, each bridge within Page County is unique based on its age, design, and current condition, and;

WHEREAS, load rating to ensure safe passage of loads greater than 80,000 pounds would be unique for each load on each individual bridge, and;

WHEREAS, the traversing of Page County bridges by loads up to 130,000 pounds without the County being afforded the knowledge of or the ability to restrict each occurrence, would result in accelerated deterioration and possible failure of bridges within the County, and;

WHEREAS, Page County would likely bear legal and financial liability for subsequent failure of its bridges, even if such failures are caused by loads they did not permit, and;

WHEREAS, Page County and its residents, farmers, businesses, schools, post offices, and emergency responders, would be subjected to operational and economic hardships by further degradation of its road system and the structures thereon; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Page County Board of Supervisors strongly encourages all Legislators in Southwest Iowa to vote against SF 184.

Resolved this 19th day of March, 2019.

ATTEST:

Melissa Wellhausen
Page County Auditor

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Page County Board of Supervisors strongly encourages Senator Mark Costello and Representative Cecil Dolecheck to vote against increasing raw forestry loads to 130,000 pounds through SF 184 or similar bill.

Resolved this 19th day of March, 2019.

ATTEST:

Melissa Wellhausen
Page County Auditor

Alan Armstrong
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Page County Board of Supervisors

King brought in several pictures of roads that were damaged by the flooding. Herzberg mentioned that 170th and the Tarkio Bridge needs rock. He stated there are a lot of potholes that need to be addressed. Roads in College Springs were discussed. Shirley Long joined the meeting. Nutmeg and Missouri Avenue through College Springs were discussed. It was questioned what the county is responsible for and what the city

is responsible for. Long mentioned that the roads need to be maintained, and rock needs to be put down. Morris stated he would like King to research and see what the county is responsible for. Long mentioned that road AB Avenue needs rock. Armstrong asked if rock had been hauled to Kathleen Davison's residence. King stated rock had been hauled.

On a motion by Herzberg, seconded by Morris, the board moved to approve Armstrong to attend the SMART economic development conference on May 9, 2019.

Morris stated he recommended 18 months ago we hire a safety person. He stated there has been no one apply to be an assistant to the engineer. Morris recommends the county move away from hiring an assistant to the engineer and hire a safety coordinator.

On a motion by Morris, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve to go into closed session per Chapter 21.5.1.c of the Code of Iowa, Herzberg, aye, Morris, aye, Armstrong, aye at 9:00 am. On a motion by Morris, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to go out of closed session at 10:32 am. Herzberg, aye, Morris, aye, Armstrong, aye. No action was taken.

On a motion by Morris, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve the minutes of March 19, 2019.

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:00 am and will meet again Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Alan Armstrong, Chairman

Page County Board of Supervisors

Melissa Wellhausen

Page County Auditor