

## COMMISSION MINUTES, August 31, 2015

The Board of County Commission (BOCC) for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, August 31<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in the Commission room at the Washington County Courthouse. Members present: Tim Mueller, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner; Roger Otott, Chairman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commissioner; and Gary Ouellette, Vice-Chairman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner. Denae Jueneman, County Clerk, was present to record meeting minutes.

Due to conflicting schedules and the County offices being closed on Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Labor Day, the next regular meeting will be Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Otott called the meeting to order.

Mary Tate and Anita Bott, Pawnee Mental Health, presented a proclamation declaring September as Recovery Month. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to sign the proclamation. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to approve all consent agenda items. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Bills and payroll totaling \$381,603.37.
- Payroll change notice for Whitney Meyer who completed 6 month training period.
- Payroll change notice for Don Bisping who was discharged.

Commissioner Ouellette requested executive session for non-elected personnel and to include Elizabeth Hiltgen, County Attorney. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken upon returning to regular session.

Jueneman said she received a phone call from Vince Bruna regarding the railroad crossing in Spence. Bruna reported the crossing had been closed for 5 days. The Board has no control over the situation. Commissioner Mueller received a message to return a call to Loren Jorgenson regarding the plans to turn a portion of All American Rd., south of Barnes, into a gravel road.

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Department updates were given by Jueneman, Deb Swoboda, Emergency Management Director; Sheila Ouellette, Communications Director; and Gloria Moore, Tourism Director.

Justin Novak, Road & Bridge Supervisor, said the Union Pacific Railroad indicated the crossing in Spence may be closed up to two weeks. Overlay at Mahaska will begin tomorrow. Norfolk Construction is repairing a bridge on Fox Rd. and has made arrangements with a landowner to use an alternate route through the landowners' crop; thus, the County does not need to make an alternate route for traffic during construction.

Chairman Otott opened four (4) sealed bids for the lease/purchase of a 2015 Western Star 4700 Dump Truck. Commissioner Mueller made a motion to accept the bid from Citizens National Bank, Greenleaf, as low bidder at 2.48%, providing all aspects of the bid were in order. Commissioner Ouellette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Otott opened three (3) sealed bids for the purchase of 7,000 gallons of propane fuel. Commissioner Mueller made a motion to accept the bid from Sapp Bros., Hanover, as low bidder at \$0.58/gallon, providing all aspects of the bid were in order. Commissioner Ouellette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 for lunch and reconvened at 1:00.

Justin Cordry, Sheriff, reported he hired a new Corrections Officer who had several years of experience in larger facilities and asked permission to start the new officer, Britta Haberstroh, at a higher starting wage than \$10.00/hour. After discussion, Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to hire Haberstroh at \$10.50/hour and waive the \$0.50/hour increase when the 6 month training period ends. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Otott signed the payroll change notice for Haberstroh.

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Roxanne Schottel, Washington County Hospital CEO, gave an update on the hospital remodel project. Schottel reported Dr. Sherlock has started and the next Hospital Board meeting will be on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Commissioners and Jueneman began acting as the Public Building Commission (PBC) at 1:35 p.m. Lou Kern and Elizabeth Hiltgen joined the meeting. The Board returned to regular session at 2:00 p.m.

Duane Bruna, Environmental Science Director, presented a resolution adopting the Washington County Solid Waste Management Plan. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion pass Resolution 08-15 establishing the plan. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Board, Hiltgen and Bruna discussed implementing a biological control plan for thistles in Washington County. Hiltgen affirmed that Bruna is provided, by law, access to inspect properties as the County Weed Director and that Bruna is going above and beyond the law by providing notice to landowners prior to entering their property for inspection. Hiltgen also indicated that the biological plan does not require the Board's signatures. The Board told Bruna to visit with citizens to see who is interested in the biological plan. Commissioner Mueller offered to draw up letters to landowners who do not participate in the biological plan or are not controlling a thistle problem on their land with the use of chemicals.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS**

(SEAL)

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Tim Mueller, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner

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Roger Otott, Chairman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commissioner

Attest:

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Dena Jueneman, County Clerk

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Gary Ouellette, Vice-Chairman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner