

WASHINGTON COUNTY

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025

At 9:00 a.m., Chairperson Richard Young called to order in regular session a meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors which took place at Orchard Hill. Items on the agenda included the following: Pledge of Allegiance, approval of agenda, public comment related to agenda items, Public Hearing regarding review and approval of Preliminary Plat for Pawstang Subdivision, Resolution 25-39 related to acceptance and approval of Preliminary Plat for Pawstang Subdivision, presentation from Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP) regarding the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), approval of Iowa Counties Assurance Pool (ICAP) Statement of Loss regarding Wellman Tower, Discussion and possible action regarding Iowa Association of Counties (ISAC) request for financial assistance for an amicus brief in pipeline lawsuits, Department Head comment, adjourn.

Supervisors Bob Yoder, Jack Seward Jr., and Marcus Fedler were also present. Stan Stoops was absent.

Other individuals in attendance included Jane Drapeaux and Matt Majeski with HACAP, County Engineer Jacob Thorius, Public Health Fiscal Administrator

Peggy Wood, County Dispatch Supervisor Cara Sorrells, Subdivision Coordinator Mya Talbert, Land Use and Planning Commission member Ruth Jones, Ron Amelon with MMS Consultants, Inc., and citizens Ryan and Kate Giannini, Jeff Schiltz, and Kathy Kron. Various other individuals listened and/or watched remotely via Zoom.

Young led the individuals assembled in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

All motions were passed unanimously unless noted otherwise.

On motion by Fedler, seconded by Seward, the Board voted to approve the agenda as published.

There was no public comment.

At 9:01 a.m., Supervisor Yoder made a motion to go into Public Hearing regarding approval of the preliminary plat of Pawstang Subdivision, which is located approximately a quarter mile east of Highway 218 and a quarter mile north of 170th Street. The proposed subdivision contains seven lots including four for residential purposes, one for green space, one for additional public right-of-way, and one for the private road within the subdivision. The Washington County Land Use and Planning Commission met on October 21, 2025, and made recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to not approve the proposed subdivision based on potential issues with water and the impact on the business located north of the area.

Much discussion occurred regard-

ing water availability, including information being presented by Amelon of MMS Consultants, Inc. The amount of water available is uncertain and there is no definitive way to determine the future of wells in the area.

Highland Hideaway Hunting owners, Ryan and Kate Giannini, addressed the Board regarding their property which adjoins the proposed subdivision on the north. Unless owners of any new homes constructed are willing to sign a waiver, their available hunting area would decrease by as much as 200 yards, or approximately 15 acres. They also voiced concerns regarding water availability and soil erosion.

Citizen Kathy Kron also addressed the Board with her concerns, as well as those of her husband, Cullen Kron. Kron stated water is definitely an issue in the area. There is a concern about how this and soil erosion will affect their property and others to the south of the proposed subdivision.

At 9:27 a.m., the Board closed the Public Hearing.

After much discussion, the Board tabled Resolution 25-39 Acceptance and Approval of Preliminary Plat for Pawstang Subdivision until further notice, pending more information.

Supervisor Seward stated he is torn on which way to vote due to the county ordinance requirements appear to have been met; however, it will have a negative effect on the surrounding land. Supervisor Young voiced concerns regarding the water issues previously stated. Supervisor Fedler noted no issues with

the ordinance requirements being met. This item will be on the agenda for a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

Jane Drapeaux and Matt Majeski with Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP) presented information regarding the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). 746 households in Washington County were served between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2025. Low-income households received \$372,139.00 in direct assistance. HACAP serves approximately 8.5% of Washington County residents. 367 households received \$185,368.00 in LIHEAP energy assistance at an average of \$505.00 per household. Homeless housing services stabilized 8 veterans and their families, providing \$9,278.00 for rent, utility, and transportation assistance. Local assistance provided \$42,315.00 in local support to 190 households.

In addition to housing services, 330 families received food assistance from the Food Reservoir or local assistance. 414,622 pounds of food was distributed to 15 partner agencies in the county. This represents an increase of 67% from last year. Head Start provided almost 6,500 meals and snacks to children in the program.

Drapeaux stated that the government shutdown and loss of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits will continue to cause an increase in the food needs of Washington County.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board approved, and authorized the Chairperson to sign, the Statement of Loss regarding the Wellman tower. The total claim amount is \$105,077.42, with a deductible amount of \$750.00 to the county. Approval of this statement also serves to approve the final bill from Racem Corporation in the amount of \$235,764.76 for equipment and services related to the tower.

On motion by Seward, seconded by Fedler, the Board authorized payment of \$500.00 to Iowa Association of Counties (ISAC) for financial assistance regarding Iowa counties pipeline lawsuits. The funding will assist in covering the \$25,000.00 cost of preparing an amicus brief on behalf of all ISAC counties in the event of future litigation.

During Department Head comment, Auditor Stewart advised the Board that today is City/School Election Day. Stewart also noted that she is in process of obtaining a realtor for the sale of county property located at 302 W. Main Street, in Washington.

Supervisor Young alerted the Board that there will be a meeting on Friday, November 7, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. regarding signage at the Orchard Hill complex.

At 10:12 a.m. on motion by Yoder, seconded by Fedler, the Board voted to adjourn.

ATTEST: s/ Tamera S. Stewart, Washington County Auditor

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MID- PRAIRIE CSD

MID- PRAIRIE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
KALONA, WELLMAN, WEST CHESTER
MID- PRAIRIE CENTRAL OFFICE COMMUNITY ROOM, WELLMAN, IA 52356
NOVEMBER 10, 2025 - 6:15 P.M.
WWW.MID- PRAIRIE.K12.IA.US

President Jake Snider called the meeting to order.

Board members present: Mary Allred, Randy Billups, Denise Chittick, Gabrielle Frederick, Ryan Schlaubaugh, Jed Seward, and Jake Snider.

Board members absent: None.

Also Present: Superintendent Brian Stone, Board Secretary/School Business Official Jeff Swartzentruber.

Pledge of Allegiance
Read the School Mission Statement by Vice-President

Adopt the Agenda

Mary Allred moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded by Jed Seward. Motion carried 7-0.

Hawk Highlights

FFA National Convention - Elsa Schmidt and 5 FFA students shared about their recent trip to the 98th Annual FFA National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana from October 29th to November 1st. There were many varied learning and visiting opportunities for the students. The Board thanked the students for their presentation.

Snakenberg Sociology Class Project - Schuyler Snakenberg and 3 students from his Sociology class shared about their recent project to recognize past and current staff. He issued a challenge to his class of 10 students to do something positive in the community. The students made the decision to recognize staff and people who have served in the District. Board members

signed the various canvasses based upon decades served. The canvases will be displayed in the West-end concession area. The Board thanked the group for this project.

Public Forum

No one spoke.

BUSINESS MEETING

Consent Items

Randy Billups moved to approve the following consent items.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of October 13, 2025, and October 27, 2025;

Finance Report

The Finance Report for October 2025;

Payment of Bills

The bills as listed for November 10, 2025; and Prepaid Bills;

Open Enrollment Requests

Open Enrollment In Requests total 3 students;

Open Enrolled Out Requests total 0 students;

Personnel Items

Contracts issued to Katherine Sieren, Special Olympics Coach for Fall and Spring seasons, \$766 per season for \$1,532 per annum;

Fundraising Requests - None Presented for Approval

Mary Allred seconded the consent items. Motion carried 7-0.

Student Learning Reports

The Board reviewed the Administrators' written reports to the Board. Time was allotted to ask questions and discuss the reports. No questions were asked. Appreciation for the reports was expressed.

Finance-Long Range Planning

Public Hearing for Proposed Plans and Specifications for Mid-Prairie West

Elementary Addition and Improvements at 6:25pm

Board President Snider opened the public hearing for the Mid-Prairie West Elementary Plans and Specifications at 6:25 p.m. He asked if anyone was present to speak on the subject. No one spoke. President Snider closed the Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m.

West Elementary Construction Specification Recommendation and Construction Bid

Tad Morrow of Carl A. Nelson and Company (CANCO) presented the Bid Specifications and Bid Results from the bid opening that took place on October 23, 2025. Additionally, Morrow discussed the overall budget for the 2024 General Obligation Bond as the construction at West Elementary is the final project for the bond issue. With the final project now bid, the overall project is estimated to be \$21,291 over the estimated dollars to spend and clearly within the expectations of the bond process. This coverage takes into consideration bond proceeds, and interest earnings on the bond proceeds held during the life of the bond projects. It is conservative in approach with construction contingencies included and estimated interest earned.

The total estimated project cost for West Elementary is \$2,075,000 of which

\$1,349,172 is for the construction costs only for the addition of 2 classrooms and ADA compliant restrooms.

Playground equipment replacement is also included in the \$2,075,000, at a total amount of \$277,000.

Presentation Highlights for West Elementary included a General Construction bid from SG Construction Company for the project of \$1,349,172. SG Construction is the apparent lower bidder at the \$1.35 million amount. An alternate bid package add-on for playground resurfacing of \$110,418 is not recommended and not included in the SG Construction base bid. It is recommended the Board accept the SG Construction Company bid of \$1,349,172 after first accepting the Plans and Specifications

for the West Elementary Classroom addition.

Ryan Schlaubaugh moved to approve the plans and specifications on the Mid-Prairie West Elementary Classroom construction project as presented. Denise Chittick seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Ryan Schlaubaugh moved to approve the bid from SG Construction Company as presented for approval to complete the project totaling \$1,349,172 for the Mid-Prairie West Elementary Classroom Addition. Denise Chittick seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Grant Wood Director for District 2 Election Ballot Approval

School Business Official Jeff Swartzentruber shared that the Grant Wood AEA Board Election timeline is underway. A ballot was sent to President Snider's attention at Central Office with the ballot to be executed no later than November 29, 2025. Carol Montz is the only candidate running. The District has a 9.9% share of the vote for District 2. It is recommended that the Board approve Carol Montz as the candidate. If approved the ballot will be cast on behalf of the District by Board President, Jake Snider and dated today.

Randy Billups moved to approve Carol Montz as District 2 Director on the Board of Grant Wood Area Education Agency for the next Board term. Mary Allred seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Development and Inservice Activities

The Board was reminded of the upcoming IASB Convention on November 19 to 21, 2025. Travel Plans for board members were finalized.

Ribbon Cutting at West Elementary

Playground and set a date and time for Board and Students. Tentatively planned for Friday, 11/14/2025 in the morning. The time will be confirmed.

Announcements and Suggestions for Next Agenda

The next Work Session Meeting will be on Monday, November 24, 2025, at 6:15 p.m. Agenda items to include: Close out the current Board "Sine Die"; Organizational Meeting for the new School Board; Swearing in New Board Members; and Discussion topics that are currently developing.

The next regular Board meeting will be on Monday, December 8, 2025, at 6:15 p.m. at the Central Office Community Room.

The required Open Meetings Training for the Board on December 4th at 5:30 p.m. Brian will coordinate this with the Board.

Annual Superintendent Evaluation and Discussion per Iowa Code 21.5 subsection 1e.

President Snider asked for a motion to go into closed session to conduct the evaluation of Superintendent Stone.

Gabrielle Frederick moved to enter closed session per Iowa Code 21.5, 1e, to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation, and that individual requests a closed session.

Jed Seward seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Gabrielle Frederick - yes; Mary Allred - yes; Jed Seward - yes; Ryan Schlaubaugh - yes; Randy Billups - yes; Jake Snider - yes; Denise Chittick - yes

Motion carried 7-0.

Board Entered Closed Session at 7:14 p.m.

Board Exited Closed Session at 8:03 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

President, Jake Snider
Secretary, Jeffrey C. Swartzentruber

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WASHINGTON COUNTY REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Sept. 29 - Oct. 3

Larry Todd Zwer, Denise Ann Zwer, grantor; Brett m Davis, Morgan E Davis, grantee; warranty deed; S 346.5 FT of Brighton OL NW Brighton Lot OL 6; \$200,000

Cheryl J Richey Estate, Marcy L Free Administrator, grantor; Jeffrey D Gustoff, grantee; court officer deed; N 80 FT Commencing 25 FT E of NW Corn Washington Corbins SD Lot 1; Fractional Washington Northeast Washington Lot 18; \$61,000

Christopher C Graf, Emma S Graf, Emma Graf, Emma S Herman, grantor; Patrick A Congdon, Valerie E Congdon, grantee; warranty deed; Aud Parc C, Cont 9.55 Acres in part W2 NE 21-74-8; \$365,000

Esther Hillyer, grantor; Daniel P Bird, Raelee L Bird, grantee; warranty deed; Brighton Original Town Brighton Lot 6 Block 6; \$2000

Harold Nicholson, Elaine Nicholson, Perry Harold Nicholson Attorney in Fact, grantor; Isiah A Reid, Courtney M Reid, grantee; warranty deed; Haskins Original Town Haskins Lot OL 3 Block 15 vacated Streets & Alleys; \$135,000

Jeremy T Hassman, Oliver K Hassman, Lydia D Runquist, Caleb J Runquist, grantor; Christine Skelley Weber, grantee; warranty deed; Lot 1-A in Lot 1 of Aud Parc B & C in Rural Subdivisions Goose Creek Estates Lot 6; \$205,000

Brian W Matthews, Shantella Matthews, grantor; Karlyn A Ollendick, Todd Ollendick, grantee; Unit 321 in Bldg C, Walnut Towers Condominiums in river-side 77-6-03; \$260,000

Harbison Cattle Company LLC, grantor; Joseph D Hopkins, Shawna L Hopkins, grantee; warranty deed; NW SW 13-74-9; \$320,000

Harold Arbogast, Teresa Arbogast, grantor; Jacob H Cogle Frakes, Jacob H Frakes Cogle, Allison T Frakes Cobble, Allison T Cogle Frakes, grantee; warranty deed; Brighton OP Lot 6 Block 3; \$145,000

Jerry M Murphy, grantor; Beth Murphy, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; Lot 3 Aud Parc B in NW NWFR4 06-76-7

Eric S Roberts, grantor; Emma Josephine Roberts, grantee; quit claim deed; Part Aud Parc D, Acres in S2 SE 24-75-6

Jerry M Murphy