

Ida Grove, Iowa  
February 21, 2024

The Board of Supervisors met for a budget workshop on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 9 a.m. Members present Chair Creston Schubert, Devlun Whiteing, and Raymond Drey.

Jeff Williams with Secondary Roads due to a conflict in scheduling, he and Asst. Engineer Ryan neither were able to attend. Zach Hall with County Conservation met with the Board and presented his FY25 budget with a 14% increase. After reviewing, the Supervisors asked Hall to reduce the budget so that the department comes in with no more than an 8% budget increase. This is the percentage that the departments are being asked to limit increases for the FY25 budget. Recorder, Julie Phillips was within the 8% increase on her FY25 budget. Phillips said, next year her office would be looking into a scanner for digitally saving all documents instead of keeping paper copies. Phillips was asked to get more information for a future FY26 budget. Treasurer, Traci Riessen's FY25 budget also fell within the 8% threshold. The Supervisors requested that Auditor Folk email the prior year's levy rates and also the County comparison to all other 98 counties within Iowa to them for review.

Due to this session only being a budget workshop, minutes from the February 13, 2024, meeting will be read at the Boards next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2024.

Ida Grove, Iowa  
February 27, 2024

The Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 9 a.m. Members present Chair Creston Schubert, Devlun Whiteing and Raymond Drey. The minutes of the February 7<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> meetings were read and approved. All voting Aye.

Joe Lageschulte was approved as the Weed Commissioner for 2024 on a motion by Drey and second by Whiteing. Motion carried, all voting Aye. Lageschulte was provided with the Applicators Field Guide for 2024. Resolution 24-03 was presented. After Board review, Drey moved, and Whiteing seconded the motion to approve Resolution 24-03 on Destruction of Weeds.

Jeff Williams, Engineer and Colin Ryan, Assistant Engineer, at approximately 9:30 a.m. as scheduled, were present for the bid letting and bid opening for two road graders. Also present were a representative from Zeigler Cat and Murphy's John Deere. Williams proceeded to open the bids. Ziegler Cat's bid for 2 motor graders was \$748,989.28. Murphy's John Deere, bids for 2 - 672 motor graders came in at just over \$814,000 and \$855,210 for the 772 model. After discussion, Drey moved to accept the Zeigler Cat bid of \$748,989.28, Whiteing second the motion. Motion approved all voting Aye.

An approval for Westel Systems to lay cable near Highway 31 near Washta was moved by Drey with Whiteing seconding. Motion carried all voting Aye. A request from Frontier Communications of Iowa for placing 1.25" duct by directional bore at the intersection of 240<sup>th</sup> and Keystone Ave. was moved by Whiteing to approve and Drey seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

The Board reviewed a bid from Broken Concrete Crushing by Schmillen Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$100,000 to crush the Counties stockpiled concrete. Whiteing moved to accept the bid and Drey seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

Williams presented a request from Ingios Geotechnics, Inc to do testing of the county gravel roads that have more than 25 vehicles per day of traffic. The testing would provide information on road conditions. Testing will take about a week to complete. Whiteing moved to approve the testing and Drey seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

Discussion was held if the county should become a part of the Counties Coalition that would hire a lobbyist fighting for the amendment of HF718. The cost to the county would be about \$2,500. If the law stays as it is at this time, it will cost the county a loss in revenues due to the limitation on taxes levied and then limit/eliminate the Farm to Market funds that the county is able to receive due to not having enough county match. Williams shared that he would have funds in his budget to cover the lobbyist fee. Whiteing moved to approve the hiring of a lobbyist with the Coalition of Counties, Drey seconded the motion. Motion carried all voting Aye.

County Conservation Director, Zach Hall, shared a proposal from Sac County Mutual Telephone Co. that was bidding to install Fiber Optic for internet/ cell service at Crawford Creek Recreation Area/campgrounds. Bid shows approximately \$16,350 per mile to get fiber optics to the park. The project would be two phases with the first phase getting internet service to the Shelter House, then 2<sup>nd</sup> stage would be getting it from the shelter up to the campground area. After discussion, Hall was asked to get a contract, bring it back to a board meeting for review. Hall confirmed that he hadn't budgeted any of this into his FY25 budget.

Grant Patera with The Hoffman Agency and attending from the County were, County Attorney-Meghann Whitmer, Treasurer-Traci Riessen and Recorder-Julie Phillips were present to verify bond coverage for all elected officials and their employees. Patera confirmed that all elected officials, except for the Treasurer, have \$20,000 in bond coverage. The Treasurer is covered by the \$20,000 and has an additional \$80,000 in bond coverage due to that amount of money that office is responsible for. Treasurer Riessen asked about employees within the offices and how much they are covered for. Patera stated, \$20,000 same as elected officials. Patera handed out Declaration pages for the counties bond coverage for the County and will get coverage cost to Auditor Folk. Whitmer commented, after receiving actual costs, the Board may want to consider increasing the amount of coverage for the other elected officials and their employees.

Corey Trucke, EMS Director and Medical Examiner Department Head was present to discuss Indigent Death cases. Trucke requested that the Board consider a budget of \$1,000-\$2,000 per year to defray expenses of the undertaker when it is a true indigent case,

where no one is responsible to pay for the funeral homes cost of handling the body. Trucke doesn't want to get in a situation where the funeral directors aren't willing to pick up the body of a deceased person that the medical examiner was called to, because they don't have anyone to pass on their cost of services to. Since item was not on agenda, Trucke will bring concern to a future Board meeting for approval.

Trucke stated that EMS/Essential Services has found a location that they are interested in purchasing. An attorney for the seller is creating a contract and that with the signing has requested a \$5,000 earnest payment. Funding availability and repayment was discussed. Schubert suggested perhaps the lending agency that they plan on taking the loan out with would be willing to include that \$5,000. Trucke advised that the intention of the EMS Advisory Committee was to send the specs out to all banks within the County. The Board agreed with this proposal.

Owen Bolte, Ida Grove Economic Development President, presented the Board information on the plans for the new Splash Pad in Ida Grove at the City Park. Fund raising is underway and Bolte asked, if IGED have a grant that has to have the counties investment/approval in order to be considered for the grant, would the Supervisors be willing to do so. Bolte shared that he believes it would make sense that the County budget some funds, approximately 5 to 10 thousand dollars per city in the county annually for requests from cities on projects that require county investment to get the grants. Board consensus is they would have to consider investing on a case-by-case basis.

Change Order #31 from L&L Builders for removing the ceilings in the annex offices and insulating up to the open area, to help eliminate the creation of exterior icicles. The cost of doing so is \$43,925. Whiteing moved to accept the change order bid and Drey second the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

The ISAC/AssuredPartners benefit proposal for beginning FY25 was presented, along with information on possible changes to the following FY26 to look at more options for Family Plan insurance coverage. The Board chose to table FY26 information search. Whiteing moved to approve and chair to sign the FY25 plans with Drey seconding the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

Whiteing moved to approve, with Board signatures, Resolution 24-02 approving the assessed mileage valuation for railroads lines, utilities, equipment, pipeline transmission lines and lesser taxing districts in the county as fixed by the Iowa Department of Revenue. Drey seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

The consideration of Emergency Managements Updated 5 County Hazard mitigation Plan that includes Ida, Woodbury, Cherokee, Monona, and Plymouth Counties was presented. The Ida County's share of commitment to the project shall not exceed \$4,130.10. Whiteing moved to approve with Chair to sign and Drey seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting Aye.

A discussion was held regarding the State of Iowa selling ½ an acre of land. Board members stated that unless Secondary Roads was interested in the property, they didn't see any use for the County to purchase said property.

Resolution 24-05, the returning of the Opioid Abatement funds to the State was presented. After discussion the Board opinion is to keep the funds if the county doesn't have a deadline of when funds need to be used. Auditor Folk raised the question about who will be responsible for the required reporting on the funds. The Board will investigate it further. Drey moved to not return the Opioid Abatement Funds to the State, Whiteing seconded the motion. The vote to approve the return of the Opioid Funds was not approved, all voting Nay.

Information on Resolution 24-02, 24-03, and 24-05 is available at the Auditors Office or on the county website at [idacounty.iowa.gov](http://idacounty.iowa.gov).

Claims were approved for payment to Benefits, Inc. \$3,335.81, and service fee on Bond GO #2021A in the amount of \$600 to UMB bank.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned meeting again at 9:00 a.m., on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., 2024, for a Budget Workshop, then on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for their regularly scheduled meeting or on call of the Chair.

/s/ Charlys A. Folk  
Auditor

Creston Schubert  
Chair

Ida Grove, Iowa  
February 27, 2024

The Board of Supervisors met for a Project Progress meeting Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 1 p.m. Members present Chair Creston Schubert, Devlun Whiteing, and Raymond Drey.

The board received updates on the courthouse improvement project from Chris Stramm, Project Manager and Josh Kleider, Supervisor both from L&L Builders; Bob Anderson, Architect by Design. Also present were County Recorder-Julie Phillips, County Treasurer-Traci Riessen, and County Deputy Auditor-Shelley Bruning.

Signed Change Order #31, New Acoustical Ceiling/HVAC Diffuser ADD in the amount of \$43,925.00 was delivered to L&L Builders.

No completion date is available at this time. Due to this session only being a project progress meeting, minutes will be read at the Boards next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

/s/ Shelley Bruning  
Deputy Auditor

Creston Schubert  
Chair