

**Wright County
Board of Supervisors
April 3, 2023**

Chairman Kluss called the regular meeting of the Wright County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Kluss, Rasmussen, and Helgevoid. Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoid to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carries.

Minutes of the previous regular meeting of March 27, 2023 were read and approved.

Approved claims for payment.
In open forum, Toney Nicholas spoke about the 2023 Assessment Roles that were sent out in the mail on Friday, March 31st. Nicholas stated all the values went up across the County. Nicholas said there is more information in the Assessors Office.

Bob Ritter asked in open forum about the County inspector for the Summit Carbon Solutions pipeline. Synder & Associates, Inc. will replace ISG as the County inspector.

Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoid to approve the second reading of Ordinance #65, Tanning Facility Inspections. Motion carries. The full ordinance is available in the Auditor's Office and Wright County Public Health as well as the County website.

Motion by Helgevoid and seconded by Rasmussen to approve Resolution 2023-18 for Supporting Current Local Option Sales Tax Structure. By roll call vote: Ayes – Kluss, Rasmussen, and Helgevoid; nays – none. Resolution 2023-18 duly passes and reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2023-18
SUPPORTING CURRENT LOCAL
OPTION SALES TAX
STRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the voters of Wright County and cities within the county have voted to enact a 1 cent Local Option Sales Tax in accordance with Iowa Code 423B, and

WHEREAS, the revenue derived from the tax is used for rural property tax relief, rural infrastructure, and rural community betterment, and

WHEREAS, the residents of Wright County have grown to rely on these revenues as a means to reduce property taxes, and

WHEREAS, the 2023 legislative session has seen the introduction of SF 550, which proposes to convert the Local Option Sales Tax efforts into a statewide sales tax and impose the local option sales tax in every jurisdiction, thereby triggering the constitutional amendment to require an allocation of 3/8th of a cent to the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWLL) trust fund, and

WHEREAS, SF 550 proposed to backfill revenues lost due to the proposal, there are concerns of the Legislature ability to continue backfilling revenues, and

WHEREAS, voters across Iowa who have voted to either implement a local option sales tax or not to do so, and

WHEREAS, voters across Iowa who have voted to utilize the local option sales tax have approved revenue purpose statements (RPS), and

WHEREAS, SF 550 also sunsets these provisions on January 1, 2025, after which no jurisdiction will have the authority to take either a LOST proposal or revenue purpose statement to a vote, essentially deleting the local government's ability to have local option sales taxes.

THEREFORE, the Wright County Board of Supervisors would like to express their support of the current Local Option Sales Tax. The current law best represents the interest of voters and furthers the reduction of property taxes, which is a common goal of the County and the Iowa Legislature. The Board of Supervisors unanimously supports the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWLL) trust fund; however, SF 550 as currently written, would not only strip the County of control over Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) revenues, but would effectively disregard the will of the Voters.

BE IT DULY ADOPTED the 3rd day of April, 2023.

Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoid to appoint Snyder & Associates as the County inspector to ensure the construction of Summit Carbon Solutions pipeline complies with the Agricultural land restoration plan. Motion carries.

Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoid to move into

closed session at 9:30 a.m. pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(c) to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. By roll call vote: Ayes – Kluss, Rasmussen, and Helgevoid; nays – none. Motion carries.

Motion by Helgevoid and seconded by Rasmussen to move into open session at 9:57 a.m. Motion carries.

The Board of Supervisors, acting as Drainage District Trustees for DD 107, received a demand letter via email on March 9, 2023 from Bob Goodwin acting on behalf of the Pogge's. Motion by Kluss and seconded by Rasmussen to delay action and response until receipt of Engineer's Report from McClure Engineering on DD 107. The Trustees will consider its tentative approval of the report and schedule a public hearing to formulate a response. Motion carries.

Adam Clemons, Wright County Engineer, presented Resolution 2023-17. Bridge #173 will be closed until crews can replace the pile cap that has cracked due to oversize loads. Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoid to approve Resolution 2023-17 for a Bridge Embargo #173. By roll call vote: Ayes – Kluss, Rasmussen, and Helgevoid; nays – none. Resolution 2023-17 duly passes and reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2023-17
BRIDGE EMBARGO #173**

WHEREAS: The Board of Supervisors is empowered under authority of Sections 321.236 Sub. (8), 321.255 and 321.471 to 321.473 to prohibit the operation of vehicles or impose limitations as to the weight thereof on designated highways or highway structures under their jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS: The Wright County Engineer has caused to be completed the Structure Inventory and Appraisal of certain Wright County bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards and it has been determined that

an adjustment of the bridges load restrictions is needed to allow for correct operating stresses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Wright County Board of Supervisors that:

FHWA No. 358911 (Local Bridge #173) on 120th Street over West Otter Creek in Section 17, T-93N, R-25W, Norway Township is now Closed

BE IT RESOLVED by the Wright County Board of Supervisors that:

Resolution 2021-18 be amended to reflect above changes in Bridge Postings

Passed and approved this 3rd day of April 2023.

Clemons presented the Public Highway At-Grade Crossing Agreement for Bridge #211. This is an agreement between Wright County and Union Pacific Railroad Company to work in the railroad right-of-way to replace Bridge #211. Motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Helgevoid to approve the Public Highway At-Grade Crossing Agreement for DOT #195938B. Motion carries.

Motion by Kluss and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Iowa DOT Secondary Roads Budget. Motion carries.

Motion by Helgevoid and seconded by Kluss to table consideration of the Fiscal Year 2024 Secondary Roads five year program. Motion carries.

Clemons gave an update on the Secondary Roads. There were 8 work orders completed last week. One of the work orders was brush cutting along 160th street, west of HWY 69 to alleviate drifting issues for the future. Trucks are finishing the spring spot loads and will transition into hauling the engineer miles rock. Crews emptied out the sheds ice control sand and moved it to Clarion where it can be covered. Trucks went out Saturday, April 1st for winter operations.

Motion by Helgevoid and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.

*Dean Kluss, Chairman
Wright County
Board of Supervisors
Betty Ellis, Wright County Auditor*