

The Kalona News

05/14/2009

County road project bids under estimates by \$45,000

By: Larry Christenson

The two road construction project bids accepted by the Washington County Board of Supervisors at the Tuesday May 12 meeting were about \$45,000 under estimates prepared by the County Engineer's Office. Both projects involving State and Federal funds are to take place this summer on Vine Ave. (old Hwy. 218) south of the Hwy 22 intersection. County Engineer David Patterson originally had concerns regarding bids coming in under the estimates, because of the competition with all of the road projects released due to stimulus funding. The State conducted the bid generation procedure as the projects involve State funding.

The first project bid for \$234,917.38 was accepted from Winfield Contractors, Inc. of Wapello for a large concrete box culvert on Vine Ave. near 192nd St. Bids ranged from that selected to \$290,000 and the bid estimate was \$270,000.

The second project bid for \$1,445,798.32 was accepted from Concrete Foundations, Inc. of New Hampton, Iowa for approximately 4 miles of concrete surface overlay on Vine Ave. south of the Hwy. 22 intersection.

Patterson stated that the paving project would start in July and would be completed before school started. \$700,000 of Federal stimulus funds received by the County have been allocated to this project.

The board approved the re-appointment of Jim Redlinger as Weed Commissioner for the 2009 season. The appointment starts May 12 and continues for four months with \$300 per month compensation.

Lori Bauer of Washington was appointed by the Board to fill a term on the Board of Health. The term continues to the end of 2010 and fills a vacancy left with Mike Christensen's resignation. Lori Bauer is involved in community organization fund raising activities and has lead several food booth efforts.

The board approved the application for the renewal of the State liquor license for Lagos Acres in Keota.

May 26, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. was set by the board regarding bid opening for the annual fuel supply contract with the County. County Engineer David Patterson stated that all area suppliers are invited to bid.

The Secondary Roads Department will utilize a 5 percent biofuel mixture in the diesel fuel to support the products produced in the County. The Department will monitor the equipment performance in anticipation of improved efficiency and reduced maintenance.

The board approved a quit claim deed for the county to return approximately .35 acres of unused right of way to Taylor Rentals, LLC of Ainsworth.

The transaction resolves issues, which resulted from an incomplete survey after the relocation of State Highway 92 west of the old 4 corners area. The R-O-W line actually extends through the center of a building constructed on the parcel and the release will clear the title.

The board approved the application for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Formula Program prepared by the Sheriff's Department. This grant utilizes stimulus funds, which are required to enhance existing programs.

Sheriff Jerry Dunbar stated the grant would be designated toward the K-9 unit to expand services and training in that area.

Sheriff Dunbar reported a good response to the open house conducted on Friday and Saturday May 8 and 9 at the new Sheriff's office located at the Orchard Hill complex.



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