



Community Meeting Southwest Story County

Attendees: Jerry Linn-Grant Township, Ron Finch-Grant Township, John Haldeman-City of Huxley, Lauris Olson-Supervisor Candidate, Drew Kamp-Story County, Rick Sanders-Story County BOS, Wayne Clinton-Story County BOS, Paul Toot-Story County BOS, Leanne Harter-Story County

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, August 27, 2014
9:00 am – 10:30 am
Safe Room – Huxley, Iowa

- I. Welcome and Introductions
Attendees introduced themselves.

- II. What's happening in Story County?
Paul Toot provided an overview of the budget practices in Story County and the current positive financial situation. Mr. Toot commented on the TIF projects underway and noted the difference in Zearing along main street and business development related to the Dakins Lake projects and city initiatives.

Wayne Clinton noted that additional campsites will be phased in with the Dakins Lake project.

Rick Sanders commented that an ISU study demonstrated an expected annual economic impact as a result of the improvements in the range of \$700,000 to \$800,000.

Mr. Sanders addressed bridges and roads and challenges ahead in regards to funding and decisions to reduce existing inventory. Mr. Sanders comments that the Board of Supervisors budget practices have resulted in reduced county-wide levy rate from \$5.81 to \$5.39.

Mr. Clinton reviewed the mental health redesign, describing the region and Central Iowa Community Services. He noted that the region is a 10-county region, and is overseeing the transition of the Community Life Program from a (Story) County run facility to a private delivery system prior to June 30, 2015.

Lauris Olson commented that the change in wages for employees will be decreasing when transitioning from CLP to a private entity in the range of \$8,000 less.

Mr. Sanders noted the ongoing challenge was the maintenance of staff through the transition to ensure continuing levels of service for clients.

III. Discussion and updates

Board members were asked whether plans exist to build a new Secondary Roads shed now that the Slater shed is closed and the one serving southwest Story County was coming from the shed on Ontario in Ames.

Mr. Sanders responded that construction of a new shed was identified on the County's CIP three years out.

Mr. Toot commented that the current shed doesn't accommodate the sizes of the new motor graders and equipment.

Mr. Toot outlined the motor grader lease program and described potential savings in maintenance and meeting new fuel requirements.

The question was posed whether the County could provide dust control on all gravel roads. Members discussed costs associated with such and financial limitations to paving roads and other options.

Mr. Toot asked attendees to provide feedback on the proposed pipeline. Attendees discussed the various locations that have been brought up and the potential damage to existing tile and drainage systems.

John Haldeman questioned whether paving of 560th was being considered by Story County to the south to connect with the improved road in Polk County. Board members responded that it was not listed on the five year plan nor has it been outlined in the CIP.

The question was posed to the Board members as what portion of the overall County budget was the Sheriff's Office's budget and whether various contracts tax county citizens twice. Board members commented that the communities that contract for service are not being taxed any differently than those that provide their own law enforcement services.

Mr. Clinton asked that the questions be emailed to him on this topic and he would follow-up in response.

IV. Adjournment

Mr. Toot thanked everyone for taking time to attend the meeting.