

The Committee met on 5/31/16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Story County Administration Building. Lucy Martin, Auditor; Stacie Herridge, Recorder; and Renee Twedt, Treasurer, convened as the Vacancy Committee, pursuant to *Code of Iowa* §69.14A (1). (all audio of meetings storycountyiowa.gov)

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Twedt moved, Herridge seconded the approval of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (MCU) on a roll call vote.

**MINUTES:** 5/17/16 – Herridge moved, Twedt seconded the approval of the Minutes. Roll call vote. (MCU)

**OVERVIEW OF APPOINTMENT PROCESS:** Herridge reported on discussions with 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant County Attorney Jessica Reynolds and Human Resources Director Alissa Wignall regarding the conduct of a background screening for either finalist or an appointee. Herridge wants to verify during the question portion that applicants have no prior criminal history. Martin stated she also spoke separately with Reynolds about the issue. Herridge read her suggested question. Twedt moved, Martin seconded to adopt Herridge’s additional question. Roll call vote. (MCU) Martin stated at least three applicants inquired if the order of presentation can be altered to allow for schedule conflicts. Twedt noted two requested to go later but are present. Martin stated a third asked to present first. Herridge stated the committee can make allowances and determine the order of the remainder of the presentations by drawn lot. Martin stated since applicants will be sequestered when not presenting, she requested that members of the public in the meeting not communicate with sequestered applicants by text message or social media. Herridge stated she had copies of comment and observation sheets used by Story County for job interviews and distributed copies to the committee members. Supervisor Wayne Clinton announced the location of restroom and water fountains. Herridge thanked all the applicants and stated the large number of applicants is a tribute to Paul Toot. Twedt echoed the appreciation.

**DETERMINATION OF QUALIFIED APPLICANTS BASED ON COMPLETION OF APPLICATION:** Martin provided a brief overview of the application materials requested. Herridge stated applicant George Belitsos had provided a list of references but no letter(s) of references. Martin and Twedt concurred that the application was not complete. Herridge moved, Twedt seconded to remove the application by George Belitsos from consideration. Belitsos cited his recent travel schedule as the reason he did not include letters. Roll call vote. (MCU) Arden Greiner asked to have his name removed from consideration. Herridge moved, Twedt seconded to accept Greiner’s removal from consideration. Martin stated Brenda Brink requested to speak first as she has another obligation later in the evening. Seeing no objection from other candidates, it was agreed that Brink would present first. For the remaining order of presentations, Twedt drew names and Martin announced the order: Brenda Brink, Roxanne Dass, Elizabeth Baird, Charles Good, John Kruzich, David Whitaker, Linda Murken, Galen Wilke, Lauris Olson, Scott Schaben, Ted Tedesco, Dane Nealson, and Martin Chitty. Twedt asked if candidates return to the conference room after speaking. Martin stated yes, and reminded applicants of the extra question and to be prepared for any additional questions from the committee.

Martin called a short recess at 6:42 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS BY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS:** Martin stated presentations are limited to seven minutes. The applicants presented in the following order: Brink, Dass, Baird, Good, Kruzich, Whitaker, Murken, Wilke, Olson, Schaben, Tedesco, Nealson, Chitty. Herridge asked each applicant about prior activity which was criminal in nature or would otherwise embarrass the County. Martin asked each applicant about how an appointment would affect current responsibilities. Twedt asked applicants about gender balance.

Following the final presentation, Martin called for a short recess at 8:01 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Martin asked for comments from the public. Rody Laudencia, Ames supports Roxanne Dass. Floyd Manwiller, Ames, supports Roxanne Dass. George Weston, Ames, supports Dane Nealson. Evan Burger, Slater, supports Brenda Brink. Susie Petra, Ames, supports two of the candidates but did not identify them by name. Mike Bryant, Ames, supports David Whitaker. Andrew Naumann, Nevada, supports Charles Good. Emmanuel Dass, Ames, supports Roxanne Dass. Ann Whitaker, Grant Township, supports David Whitaker. Ressie Dass, Ames, supports Roxanne Dass.

**APPOINTMENT OR SELECTING FINALISTS FOR JUNE 8:** Martin asked the committee for an indication if an appointment will be made tonight or deferred to June 8. Herridge remarked on the qualities that she is looking for and stated several applicants are similar in ability and practicable knowledge. She is in favor of an applicant willing to run for the vacant seat in November. Twedt stated the committee does not take this decision lightly. She agreed that the appointee should be someone who wants to run for office in November. Martin stated each candidate did excellent job tonight and no one should be personally affronted if s/he is not chosen. The committee is looking to fill a specific vacancy and there are many factors. Twedt stated she favored selecting finalists tonight and making final decision on June 8. Herridge asked about the number of finalists. Martin stated a firm number is the place to start. Discussion took place. Twedt moved to select finalists and reconvene on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Motion died for a lack of a second. Martin moved to appoint Linda Murken. Motion died for a lack of a second. Herridge moved, Twedt seconded to appoint Martin Chitty to the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors. Herridge amended the motion to make the appointment contingent on passing the background check. Roll call vote. Herridge: Aye. Twedt: Aye. Martin: Nay. Motion passes.

**ADDITIONAL ACTION AS NECESSITATED BY CHOSEN OPTION:** Martin stated the swearing of the appointed Supervisor will be on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Meeting Room of the Story County Administration Building.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Herridge thanked all applicants again. Herridge moved, Twedt seconded to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.

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Lucy Martin  
Auditor & Chairperson

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Stacie Herridge  
Recorder

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Renee M. Twedt  
Treasurer