

**WOODBURY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM(S) RE**

**#15**

Date: May 28, 2015

Weekly Agenda Date: June 2, 2015

ELECTED OFFICIAL / DEPARTMENT HEAD / CITIZEN: Supervisor Matthew Ung

SUBJECT: Scheduling first County Board meeting of 2015 in a rural community

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

Approve Ordinance

Approve Resolution

Approve Motion

Give Direction

Other: Informational

Attachments

**WORDING FOR AGENDA ITEM:** Discussion and action on scheduling the first Woodbury County Board joint-meeting of 2015 in a rural area with a city council

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** In contrast to most Iowa counties, Woodbury's county seat in Sioux City is not geographically located near the center. This presents County Supervisors with the unique challenge and opportunity to increase accessibility to rural residents by periodically relocating our Board meetings in collaboration with rural city governments. This also betters transparency and accountability when county government is committed to traveling to ideal locations where rural residents can see county business conducted in their town.

**BACKGROUND:** At our January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Board meeting, the Board voted 5-0 "to authorize chairperson to proceed to set up joint meetings with the cities of Woodbury County." Less than a week later, Merville Mayor Jim Fisher notified all County Supervisors that Merville would "very much enjoy being your first meeting site." Due to budget meetings through March, the county was unable to schedule rural meetings, but now that we are past that stage, it is a perfect time to make good on that commitment. Per conversations with Mayor Fisher, the Merville City Council is willing to undertake a joint-meeting at Merville City Hall on **Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**, and further to allow the County Board to conduct their meeting at 4:30pm to accommodate the county's normal time. The City Council's normal meeting would take place after our adjournment.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** N/A

**RECOMMENDATION.** The Board should accommodate the Merville City Council's normal meeting day of Wednesday. The Board should conduct its normal business at this meeting, and endeavor to schedule more agenda items of rural interest and for public comment. Given the lead-time of three weeks, the coordinating governments will have time to plan and notify constituents, and to arrange for or transport our recording equipment to ensure the Board's meeting recordings may continue to be posted to YouTube for full transparency.

**ACTION REQUIRED / PROPOSED MOTION:** "I move the Board reschedule its June 23<sup>rd</sup> (4:30pm) meeting of the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors to June 24<sup>th</sup> (4:30pm) at Merville City Hall, in conjunction with the Merville City Council meeting afterwards, and to authorize the chairperson to coordinate details with Merville."

*Approved by Board of Supervisors March 3, 2015. Revised May 5, 2015.*