

Jeanette Beekman  
3554 130<sup>th</sup> St  
Pierson IA 51048

Pat Gill  
Woodbury County Courthouse  
620 Douglas St. - Room 103  
Sioux City IA 51101

PATRICK F. GILL  
WOODBURY COUNTY  
AUDITOR RECORDER  
COMM OF ELECTIONS

2023 JAN 17 PM 4:03

January 10, 2023

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is in response to the vacancy on the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors. With over 16 years of experience working in a government position with knowledge of government accounting and the budget process, I feel I would be an asset on the board. I am someone that prides themselves on always researching issues and coming to meetings prepared. Over the years, I have continuously gained knowledge through attending IMFOA conferences, Iowa League conferences and have stayed on top of Legislative issues and changes to the Iowa Code. Having lived in Woodbury County most of my life, I have the desire to see the county continue to grow and be a place people are proud to call home.

More details on my qualifications can be found in the attached resume outlining my experience and I would appreciate an opportunity to meet in person. I can be reached at 712-870-3134 or by email at [jbeekman4@gmail.com](mailto:jbeekman4@gmail.com)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Jeanette Beekman

**Jeanette Beekman**  
**3554 130<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Pierson IA 51048**  
**jbeekman4@gmail.com**  
**712-870-3134**

## **SUMMARY & EXPERIENCE:**

I grew up on a family farm in rural Woodbury County, and currently I am the 3rd generation to live on that same acreage. The 16 acres I still own are used as a hobby farm for our horses, chickens and goats. My children used these as 4H projects at the Woodbury County Fair and the animals are now enjoying their retirement. I have lived in rural Woodbury County for most of my life and enjoy using the county parks for camping and hiking and, as a kayaker, I enjoy the waterway access points that are available on the Little Sioux. I think, as a rural resident, I could bring a fresh perspective to the Board of Supervisors offering a unique look at the issues presented by living in the rural part of the county. I take great pride in always giving 100% to every project I take on. Through my years working with a local government, I have learned the importance of researching every issue that is presented to not only learn history as to why it has been presented, but also what issues could arise in the future with a policy change. I am currently employed as a City Clerk for the cities of Pierson and Quimby. I have 16 years of experience with government budgets and accounting. I have knowledge of the tax levies, roll backs and assessments and I know that I could step into this position during the budget season with good understanding of the process and knowledge of each of the county departments. During my time working with municipalities, I have:

Prepared and directed development of all department's budgets, goal, and objectives. Most recently working with a \$70,000 deficit in the City of Quimby from a former clerk that did not have a good understanding of the budget process. I have prepared a path forward to help that city move toward a positive balance.

- Applied for grants, procured loans and provided oversight for several projects. A new water plant, street construction, sewer line replacement and a Housing Rehabilitation Grant program.
- Worked with Woodbury County secondary roads procuring funding for bridge replacement.
- Worked with the County Auditor on city elections, maintaining the integrity of the election by ensuring all documents were filed timely and legally.
- Worked with FEMA on disaster declarations and funding.
- Maintained public records and handled open records requests to support transparency in our local gov't.
- Received the designation of Certified Municipal Finance Officer.
- Prepared Ordinances, Resolutions, Agendas, recorded minutes and publicized information required by law to facilitate city council meetings.



- Fielded requests for information from the general public, municipal officials and state agencies.
- Worked extensively with the public resolving issues and concerns.
- Worked with the County Landfill Board keeping records and oversight on compliance and helping to prepare, distribute, and collect the amount owed by each Agency member
- Created a Source Water Protection Plan along with designing a native plant area over and around our municipal well to help alleviate nitrate issues.
- Created, designed and maintain the website for Pierson
- Supervise public works employees
- Worked with an engineer firm to develop a Capital Improvement Plan and a Comprehensive Plan.
- Received and maintained the following certifications for the Iowa DNR: Water Treatment grade 2, Water Distribution Grade 1 and Waste Water Grade 1
- Operate and maintained the water system in Pierson for the past 6 years. This includes sampling water/waste water, filing all tests and reports, and maintaining compliance as required by DNR and EPA.
- Utility budget preparation for new requirements to ensure funding is available for the future.
- Worked with the Census promoting the importance of the process to make sure we had everyone counted to ensure our future per capita funding.
- Assist the volunteer Fireman Association with finances.

Prior to City employment I worked for Greenberg Jewelers, and Tyson Foods in their accounting departments performing the following duties: Followed up with vendors, managers, and other employees to resolve open issues and discrepancies. Coded and processed accurate invoices to obtain timely payments. Researched payment issues and outstanding checks. Coded and entered invoice data to accurately track invoice status and payments rendered. Processed daily invoices and payments to keep accounting records current.

In closing I would like to reiterate the fact that the rural area is not very well represented by the Board of Supervisors and would welcome the chance to provide a new perspective to the position.

Thank you for your consideration.

  
Jeanette Beekman

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE PUBLIC

Information for appointment interview to Woodbury County Board of Supervisors

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name Jeanette Beekman

Phone 712-870-3134

Home Address 3554 130th St Pierson IA 51048  
Street City/State Zip

Email Address jbeekman4@gmail.com

Employer City of Pierson

Phone Business 712-375-5015

Business Address 201 Main St Pierson IA 51048  
Street City/State Zip

**PLEASE ANSWER ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

Are you a resident of District 3, Woodbury County? ☒ Yes ☐ No

How many years have you been a resident? 28 years

Are you a registered voter? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Have you reviewed Iowa Code §331 to have a general understanding of the office, its powers, and its duties as a member of the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**SERVING ON A BOARD** – Are you currently serving on any other appointed Board, Commission, or Committee?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, list here:

Secretary of the Woodbury County Solid Waste Agency

Have you previously served on any other appointed Board, Commission or Committee? Yes ☒ No

If yes, list here:

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** – Please describe your past and present community involvement including voluntary, social, city, church, school, business, and/or professional associations you have been involved in and are applicable to this application. (Include dates of involvement and any offices or leadership positions held.)

Currently serving as Treasurer of the Pierson Volunteer Fire Department. Past experience includes Pierson 4 H Club Leader, Woodbury County Fair superintendent of the poultry department, volunteered with the American Legion and Auxiliary on various projects, and a Member of the Meadow Star Methodist Church serving as church board secretary.



**POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT** – The position of Woodbury County Board of Supervisors is elected every 4 years, except of cases of vacancy. There are slightly less than two years remaining on the vacant position for which you are applying. At this time, are you interested in running for the position after you fulfill the balance of the term?

☒ Yes    ☐ No

If yes, please list any campaign experience or involvement that you have had, including dates.

Placing signage for candidates is the only experience I have with campaigns. I do have experience with the election process and understand the timelines and legal requirements of candidates.

**REPRESENTATION** – The position of Woodbury County Board of Supervisors is elected to serve all of Woodbury County, not just those in the district in which you live. Are you able to serve all of the constituents of Woodbury County – those who live in the rural areas, the small communities, in addition to those living in Sioux City? Explain how any applicable experience and qualifications would facilitate your ability to represent and serve all of Woodbury County?

If chosen to serve on this board I would make a commitment to attend the council meetings of each town in the rural county. I feel by attending these meetings you can learn issues not only in the towns but also in the rural areas surrounding them. My years of working with the public will be beneficial in representing both the rural and the Sioux City metro. It's important to listen to the residents and if you don't have the answer to their question, find the answer and get back to them. I have learned over the years that just listening to people tends to solve many problems.

**SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS** – Please list any special qualifications for serving as a Woodbury County Board of Supervisor including skills, training, licenses, and certificates that you feel are applicable:

After reading the ISAC manual for supervisors, I feel my years of experience working in government gives me a great skill set to bring to the board position. I have 16 years government accounting and budget experience that would be a tremendous help in this position. In 2013, I received my Certified Municipal Finance Officer designation. My job has given me experience with the following: libraries, public works, elections, planning and zoning, supervision of personnel, public records, and public meetings. I have worked with engineering firms on projects including: streets, building construction, and utilities. While the city position is on a much smaller scale, knowing the processes will be advantageous. I make a point to attend as many legal/procedural trainings as I can each year. Please see the attached resume for my complete list of skills that would be useful in this position.

**INTEREST** – State why you would like to serve as a Woodbury County Board of Supervisor and what contributions you believe you can make:

I am interested in serving on the board because I feel the rural areas have long been under-represented and I hear that from every community I have talked to. By stepping in at budget time I can offer the understanding of government accounting and the budget process. I would like to see the county continue to be fiscally responsible, along with spurring economic growth, as well as being a place people feel safe living. I also feel that the county could help

small rural businesses with very little investment. It is my belief you need to get out in the county to understand its needs.

**WORKING RELATIONSHIP** – Please state your basic understanding of the working relationship between the Board of Supervisors and other elected officials in Woodbury County, i.e., Attorney, Auditor, Sheriff and Treasurer.

My understanding is the boards primary responsibility is financial. They also make appointments to non-elected county offices and to boards and commissions, along with filling vacancies in elected county offices between elections. The Board approves the budgets for all county departments setting the annual county levy rate. They work with the auditors office on certifying elections and the auditor is the clerk for the Board. The county attorney's office provides legal advice to the board.

**NEPOTISM DISCLOSURE** – Please list any County employees and their department that you are related to. (Nepotism will not disqualify an applicant)

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL REFERENCES** – Please list 2 references. The Committee may contact your references:

Name: Tom Hardie

Address: 203 Front St

Phone: 712-375-5587 712-251-4331

Email: tombarb70@gmail.com

Name: Nick Lahrs

Address: Bronson

Phone: 712-281-1588

Email: nwlahrs@wiatel.net

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES** – Please list 2 references. The Committee may contact your references:

Name: Chad Kehrt

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 712-204-0638

Email: ckehrt@v-k.net

Name: Jason Butler

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 712-299-0688

Email: jbs.llc@yahoo.com

**WOODBURY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REFERENCE** – Have you met or communicated with any of the current or past members of the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors to understand the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Supervisors? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**CRIMINAL HISTORY** – Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a simple traffic misdemeanor in the last 10 years? (A conviction will not necessarily disqualify an applicant from appointment.) Yes ☐ ☒ No

If yes, please explain and include the type of offense, jurisdiction in which it occurred, and date of conviction.

Is there any other relevant information that you believe is important for this committee to know about you in considering your application for the vacant seat on the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors?

In 2014, I had the mayor, 3 councilmen, and the public works employee all quit. With only 2 council people left, they were unable to hire or make decisions until after a special election. As the only employee left, I dug in and was able to obtain my water and wastewater license from the Iowa DNR to keep the town in compliance. I also mowed the parks and cemetery that summer until we were able to hire a new public works employee. While this doesn't specifically pertain to the Board job, it does show that I am a dedicated employee that is willing to go the extra mile for whatever task is in front of me. I always look forward to learning new skills and taking on challenges. I am constantly researching and thinking outside the box. Through conversations and expressing my reluctance to spend millions of dollars on wastewater upgrades in Pierson, the University of Iowa/BES contacted me on a pilot project proposal that could save the town approx 3 million dollars and keep us in compliance with permit regulations.

I understand the role and responsibilities of the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors, and I am willing to serve?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Signature Jeanette Bookman

Date 11/16/2023