

January 12, 2023

To whom it may concern:

My name is Mark Nelson and I am a resident of rural Correctionville within Supervisor District 3 in Woodbury County. The purpose of this letter is to convey my interest in the District 3 Supervisor Seat either through an appointment process or a special election. As laid out on our county website, the role of the Supervisors is to be “a general business manager for the county government, play a major role in matters of county taxation and finance, and be the governmental authority responsible for the construction and maintenance of the county road system.” I have many years of experience both working for others and for myself that fit the roles and duties of a County Supervisor and would ensure success in the march for the continued progression of Woodbury County.

I have well over 10 years of experience managing the finances of various businesses; from service, to retail, to production agriculture, as well as the experience of budgeting, forecasting, and auditing for for-profit and nonprofit entities. In owning and running a business in retail and service, I got first-hand experience on sales taxation. Whereas my experience owning and running a farming operation I have gotten first hand experience on property taxation. Both of these means of taxation are a main part of the Supervisor's role thus my knowledge of their functions will prove beneficial to the board and the county. In my role as treasurer of Woodbury County Farm Bureau I am entrusted with hundreds of thousands of members' dollars to budget, track, forecast, and assist in yearly audits. My work there will be a near mirror image to the work that will be demanded of me by the taxpayers of this county and my integrity and knowledge will prove once again beneficial to the board and the county.

The wheels in an entrepreneur's mind are always turning, which is why I have also been the creator and co-creator of several different economic development activities across the county. The Beef Passport program, Dine at the County Line, an Annual Tractor Ride, and the Rural Route Ramble have brought in countless people from other counties and states to spend time and money throughout all areas of Woodbury County, both urban and rural. My district has four of the largest rural towns in the county: Merville, Lawton, Correctionville and Anthon. It should be imperative that a person appointed to this body should be actively involved with a vast amount of the people in the district for which they serve. With my leadership in the economic development activities listed above, and my many hours of service to Woodbury County Farm Bureau, the Woodbury County Cattlemen, Woodbury County 4-H, various local FFA chapters across multiple rural towns, and the Woodbury County Fair, I can confidently say I have my finger on the pulse of the people in my district and the work I've done has been 100% volunteer hours with no compensation for my time and commitments.

Through these activities I have developed working relationships and lines of communication with former sheriff Dave Drew, current sheriff Chad Sheehan and staff, and with county engineer Mark Nahra. I drive nearly 100 miles of county paved and gravel roads daily. With routine routes from Lawton to Merville to Correctionville to Anthon, I can be found in almost every corner of my district daily. As a farmer I have many hours of experience running and maintaining heavy equipment and vehicles as well as negotiating the purchase and sale of such items to maximize both use and monetary value. I have lived on a secondary gravel road my entire life here in Woodbury County. I did my K-12 education at Woodbury Central and my children will attend the same. I think those are valuable characteristics for a rural district Supervisor.

There are currently four major issues in Woodbury County: the secondary road improvement project, construction of the new jail, potential wind turbine projects and the carbon pipeline project. Three of those directly affect rural citizens like me, which is why Woodbury County needs a proven, trusted, rural leader to be their voice. I have routinely attended Supervisor meetings for many years and have always followed the weekly agenda and watched meetings when attendance wasn't an option. Everything I have done in my time here has been to further the economic viability of everyone in Woodbury County and to be a voice of trust and reason.

I look forward to an opportunity to talk more about my qualifications and how my leadership and experience would be a great asset for the citizens of Woodbury County. I can be reached via phone or email at 712-540-1259 or menelson1026@gmail.com at any time to discuss this further. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Nelson

Mark E. Nelson

3773 180th St. Correctionville, IA 51016

(712) 540-1259

menelson1026@gmail.com

EDUCATION:

Iowa State University

Graduation: May 2013

Degree: Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Studies | Minors: Agronomy and Agribusiness

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- *Hungry Canyon Cattle Co., Owner-Operator* *May 2013-Present*
 - Daily care of 200 head cow-calf operation from genetics selection to calving and sale of progeny.
 - Management of 250 acres of personally-leased or owned crop ground including, but not limited to: product selection, pest management, harvest and delivery of crop for further processing.
- *Bar N Feedlots, Farm Manager* *January 2005-Present*
 - Recruited, hired, and managed talented farm employees and contract workers for permanent, daily, and seasonal work.
 - Fostered relationships with coworkers, industry partners, landlords and more.
 - Maintenance of 2000 head of cattle including but not limited to: feeding, animal care, and marketing.
 - Performed repairs and preventive maintenance on equipment and property.
- *Mark's Farm Toys, Founder & CEO* *Oct 2010-March 2020*
 - Built a 10,000 customer business across the globe by implementing effective marketing and customer engagement plans.
 - Brought in consistent revenue with sharp marketing tactics, promoting business expansion and diversification of offerings in both e-commerce and a physical brick and mortar in a small, rural town.
- *Good Times Transportation LLC, Co-Founder and CEO* *March 2018-Dec 2020*
 - Navigation of state and federal regulatory processes to ensure proper conduct and regulations to promote a high standard of professionalism for event bus rental service business.
 - Developed and maintained customer prospect relations from acquisition through completion of job.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

- FarmHouse Fraternity Member 2009-2013, Alumni Director 2011-2012
- Woodbury County Farm Bureau Director 2013-Present, Treasurer 2014-Present
- Immaculate Conception Church Member 2013-Present, Knights of Columbus 2013-Present
- Siouxland Agriculture in the Classroom Volunteer and Fundraiser 2014-Present
- Lawton-Bronson FFA Chapter Advisory Council Member 2016-2018
- Iowa FFA District Ag-Sales Judge 2018-Present
- Woodbury County Cattlemen's Association Director 2017-Present, President 2018-Present
- Tri-State Antique Tractor Club Member 2017-Present, Vice President 2020-2021, President Currently
- Woodbury County Farm Bureau Annual Antique Tractor Ride Committee Chair 2017-Present
- Dine at the County Line Organizer 2017-2019
- Iowa Cattlemen's Association MCOOL Committee Task Force Appointed Member 2020-2021
- Woodbury County Beef Passport Program Chair 2021-2022
- Rural Route Ramble Team Member 2020-Present

Information for appointment interview to Woodbury County Board of Supervisors

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name Mark Nelson

Phone 712 540 1259

Home Address 3773 180th St. Correctionville IA 51016
Street City/State Zip

Email Address menelson1026@gmail.com

Employer Self

Phone Business _____

Business Address _____
Street City/State Zip

2023 JAN 17 PM 3:54
PATRICK F. GILL
WOODBURY COUNTY
AUDITOR RECORDER
COMM OF ELECTIONS

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? 26

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:

Commission to Assess Damages

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.)

Farm Bureau County Director 2013-P Treasurer 2014-P / Merville Chamber Member 2015-2020 / County Cattlemen's Board Director 2017-P President 2018-P / K of C 2015 - P / Tri-State Antique Tractor Club 2017-P VP 2021-22 Pres 2022-2023 / Lawton Bronson FFA Chapter Advisory Council 2016-2018 / Woodbury County Beef Passport Chair 2021-2022 / IC Church Merville 2013-P

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.

In regards to government positions, no. But I know what it takes to become an elected officer in the many groups I've been a part of. I also have very recent experience knocking on doors, getting petition signatures, & getting folks to turn out

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 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? ^(wind turbine petition & meetings)

Yes. My time involved with Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's, Tractor Club, all have members & directors from across the county. My involvement in the Beef Passport, Dine on the County Line, Rural Route Ramble, & the annual tractor ride have benefited towns, cities, businesses, groups, & people in every corner of this county.

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:

Started & operated 2 different businesses besides farming. Have had to manage finances, budgets, forecasting, people, correspondence, compliance

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

I believe through many devoted hours of service across this county, I have built a reputation of integrity & leadership & feel the need to represent the interests of our citizens to continue to grow our economic prosperity & use my service to continue to be a rising tide for all the ships

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.

The board acts as a general business manager for county government. They work with the attorney's office to stay within the parameters of the law. The auditor is the 'check' of the board & oversees their operations. The auditor & treasurer are responsible for the collection of taxes certified by the board. The board is responsible also for appointing & fixing the salaries of elected officials & officers, deputies, finding temporary help, & filling vacancies. The board also determines the cost & care for the prisoners in the county jail, as well as other functions of the jail.

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

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

Name: Dec McKenna
Address: 1079 Charles Ave Sioux City, IA 51108
Phone: 712-635-6868
Email: ddbmcenna5@gmail.com

Name: Cody Griffin
Address: 2751 140th St. Merville, IA 51039
Phone: 712 389 7038
Email: Cody.griffin@fcsamerica.com

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

Name: Troy Leininger
Address: 311 East 3rd St. Spencer IA 51301
Phone: 712-346-7846
Email: tleininger@ifbf.org

Name: Dr. Tom Paulsen
Address: 3004 S Paxton St. Sioux City, IA 51106
Phone: 712 830 2733
Email: tpaulsenisu@gmail.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 all the years of coming to board meetings, working with county employees & officials, & through all my involvement in numerous groups, all of it was done without any compensation. Strictly me donating my time to help Woodbury County thrive

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

Yes No

Signature



Date

1/13/23