



Pen City Current

Tuesday, January 10, 2017 | 4 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 18

County budget workshops begin

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Newly minted Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber told supervisors Monday that he didn't want to come across as want...want... want, but he said a canine presence and two additional deputies would help set the department for high level operations.



At Monday's Lee County Board of Supervisor's budget workshop, Weber asked the board for the additional staffing including the dog as part of his annual budget submission for 2017-2018.

Weber indicated the dog would have upfront costs of about \$20,000 including purchase, training of officers, and outfitting a vehicle to accommodate and protect the animal in high speed situations.

The dog would serve multiple functions including a search dog for criminals or citizens that have become disoriented and/or wandered away from loved ones. The dog would also serve to help identify narcotics in facilities and on potential criminals.

Weber said there are several breeds that work well in law enforcement but he said he would prefer a German Shepherd.

"We have spoken with one canine unit in Iowa, North Iowa Canine, and I spoke to them to get a ballpark figure with the dog and the training and of course the officer up in the hotel, this would be

See **BUDGETS**, page 2

Ludwick prepares to turn over reins



Photo courtesy of Emily Woodruff, Iowa Public Radio

A look back

Current warden Nick Ludwick chats with an Iowa Public Radio reporter during the opening of the new ISP facility in 2015. Patti Wachtendorf, a former ISP staffer, will be taking over in early February. Ludwick is retiring on medical advice after a twelve-year battle with cancer.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Most young children have dreams of what they want to be when they grow up. Typically those dreams change as we mature and move into adulthood. But sometimes they don't.

When Patti Wachtendorf takes over the helm of the Iowa State Penitentiary in early February it will be a culmination of a dream she had as a young teenager in Carthage.



WACHTENDORF

"You didn't want to be a warden when you were growing up?," Wachtendorf said in a Monday morning interview at the ISP facility.

"I watched a movie, and I wish I could think of the name of it, it was back in the late 60s- early 70s and the inmates were abused. And I thought it was terrible so I was gonna go in and change the world."

She said most kids when she was in school thought they had to be a cop to change the world. When she was in high school she wrote letters to wardens to see if she could go see their facilities and three said yes.

"So I went from Carthage to

Rockwell City which was a long way and then to two prisons in Illinois," she said.

Wachtendorf began her career

“*Nick's done all the hard stuff. He did the hard stuff moving from old to new and dealing with the construction...He got the staff to adapt and offenders to adapt.*”

-Patti Wachtendorf
Incoming ISP Warden

with the Department of Corrections in 1983 at ISP. She was a Correctional Officer, Investigator, Senior

Correctional Officer, Correctional Counselor and Treatment Services Director. She left Fort Madison in December 1997 when she was appointed as Treatment Services Director at the Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility. In January 2001, she became the Security Director at Iowa Correctional Institute for Women in Mitchellville and then Deputy Warden in July of 2006.

"I'm excited to come back home. I have children and grandchildren here," she said. "I've always wanted to work in corrections and my ultimate goal has always been maximum security warden and Fort Madison is home."

Wachtendorf will be replacing current Warden Nick Ludwick, who is retiring after close to 42 years in Iowa and Michigan prison systems on advice of his medical care team. Ludwick has been battling melanoma cancer for close to 12 years, the last five in Stage 4.

"My medical team told me it was time to go play," he said.

Wachtendorf credits Ludwick with positioning the new facility for success.

"Nick's done all the hard stuff. He

See **REINS**, page 2

Committee searching for land

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - If Fort Madison High School Principal Greg Smith gets his wish, a regional educational center would be built somewhere in Lee County in the next two years.

Smith made mention of the idea at Monday's report session by district principals in front of the Fort Madison School Board and said a committee has already been formed to look into the project.

Volunteers from the Southeastern Community College, Lee County Economic Development Group, Fort Madison Community Schools along with several officials with local industries have met on several occasions and even driven to visit other

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For the Record/Local News

Wachtendorf: Nick did the hard stuff

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Photo courtesy of Iowa State Penitentiary

Outgoing warden

Nick Ludwick will be retiring as warden at ISP after seven years at the facility and forty-two years total in the Michigan and Iowa prison systems.

did the hard stuff moving from old to new and dealing with the construction," she said. "We had some (in Mitchellville) too but we're not maximum security. He got the staff to adapt and offenders to adapt. He's handled all the hard work of construction and got most of the bugs worked out. I think there's still a few bugs to work out. Nick will get me up to speed on all the issues remaining as far as construction."

Part of that hard stuff was getting the new facility up and running and offenders transferred over from the old site. Ludwick said the public perception was tough but internally everyone stayed on message.

"We managed that here. I spoke with staff often about our delayed moves and getting raked over the coals, if you will, with the delayed move and the additional budget. I convinced staff that this was no fault of our own. Our work is ongoing and the move is only one facet of the assimilation and continuation of the process of getting this place up and running."

He said he's lauded staff about their strong family ties at the prison and a real sense of community at and away from the workplace. And that focus helps offset the bad news on the outside.

Lee County Supervisor Ron Fedler, who spent more than two decades as a guard at the prison, said he wished Wachtendorf all the best. "As a supervisor I look forward to working with her and the Lee County Board looks for a long and prosperous relationship with her and the Iowa State Penitentiary."

Ludwick said he's leaving completely confident in Wachtendorf's leadership.

"I leave begrudgingly, because I'm leaving before I wanted to leave for medical reasons," Ludwick said. "But I leave very confident in Patti. Our styles are very similar in walking and talking, we have high expectations for staff, we're both extremely accessible. We believe that humor, when used appropriately in the workplace, really helps in this type of environment. Every day can go bad in this type

of institution. There are two types of silence in a prison and only one of which is acceptable. The potential is always there for unrest, but when we do what we do and train others do the same you can prevent things from going wrong."

He also said that he believes, in a spiritual sense, that he's been afforded special favors in his battle with cancer for the work that he's done.

"I'll return home to my family and I may write. My only regret is not coming to Iowa sooner," Ludwick said. "It's been that positive of an experience. To see the staff interactions and interactions with offenders. It's just been great to have been a part of that culture change."

"I would like to thank the people of Iowa and my staff. Everyone has known I've been battling a medical situation, but I've had an open book about it," Ludwick said. "The biggest thing for me is thanking citizens of Fort Madison and the support they've given me. I leave with head held high,

sooner than I would have preferred, but knowing full well that I have a capable replacement who is also a personal friend. My work is complete."

Wachtendorf said she's looking forward to becoming a part of the Fort Madison community and helping to continue educating and updating locals on the prison's operations.

"It's part of our job to talk about the positive things that happen. It's not all gloom and doom and there are great things the prisons do. It's not all negative. I like to go out and speak to the Kiwanis and local groups and help educate the community. I don't want them to be afraid of the prison. We employ a lot of people and I want those people to be proud they work here and see we can help make a difference in people's lives. That's why we're here."

"There are two types of silence in a prison and only one of which is acceptable. The potential is always there for unrest, but when we do what we do and train others to do the same you can prevent things from going wrong."

-Nick Ludwick
Outgoing ISP Warden

Industry may help pay for K-9 unit

BUDGETS - Continued from Page 1

held in Fort Dodge, would be \$14,000," Weber said.

"I was approached by one of the industries in the county and they wanted to help out with that and when I told them the figure, they acted like that really wasn't that big of a deal. So perhaps one of our local industries would be willing to step in and help with that."

"I can tell you one particular night my phone rang and the family was worried because it was supposed to drop below freezing that night, we were able to get a ISP plane but it takes a while to fuel that up, but if we had a dog we could have reacted quicker.

Supervisor Ron Fedler, spoke to the value of the dog. When he was a guard at the ISP when an incident occurred in the gym where offenders had taken a couple of guards and the canine officer came and released the dog in the gym.

"They all just hit the ground. One dog took down 80 to 90 inmates in that situation. They are invaluable," Fedler said. "I think it's long overdue that the county have this."

Weber said he was leaning heavily on the Shepherd.

"The reason I want a Shepherd is because they are bigger. I've seen other dogs, but they can grab the bad guys and they can kind of swing them around a bit, but you bring a full male Shepherd in here his back's gonna reach this table and he's gonna get your attention.

Weber said any dog in the county, he would want to have working hand in hand with ISP because they have the best training and award winning handlers. He said grants and individual donations and even possible industry commitments could help offset the costs of the Shepherd.

"Two small business owners have already contacted me and one said he would give me \$500 and the other said \$1,000. And the industry, one of the largest in Lee County, came to us. That was unsolicited."

Weber said the second detective is necessary because they are not only doing work for the sheriff's department but also the county attorney and the state's attorney offices.

"Things aren't the same as they used to be. And in most cases we're working with less people in those departments and when the FBI's involved you're at their mercy."

"I want a second detective on my department...let me rephrase that...I need a second detective on my department."

Weber said he would back fill the department with two more deputies and promote a current deputy into the second detective position.

The board also heard from the Veteran's Assistance and IT departments, the Board of Health, the Treasurer's Department and Secondary Roads Department. The workshop continues tomorrow at 10 a.m. with a 10:30 board meeting to follow and then more workshops at 12:30.



The Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com website are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. The Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

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For the Record/Local News

SCC would likely administer regional facility

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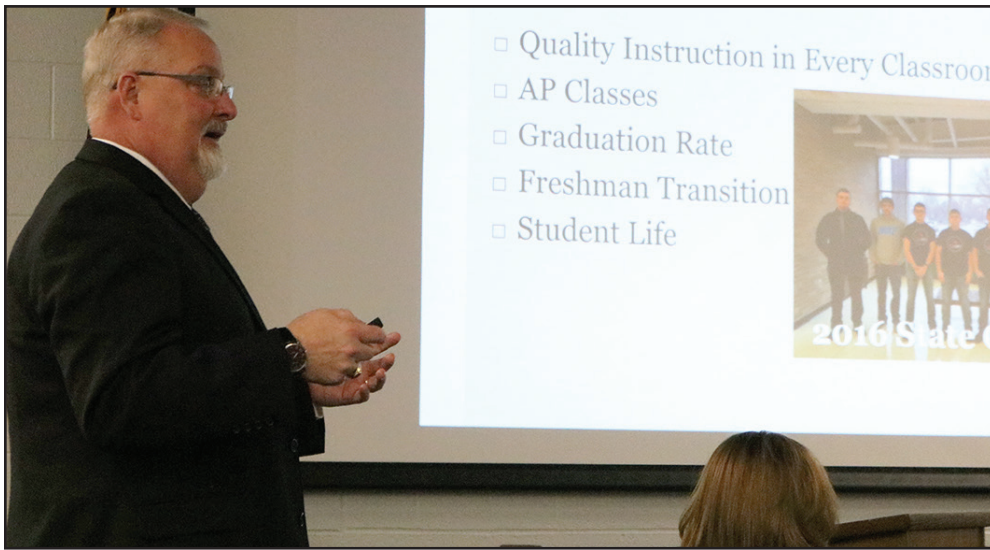


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

New plans

FMHS principal Greg Smith gives a report on the progress of Fort Madison Community High School at a meeting Monday where district principals all gave reports.

similar facilities in Iowa City and in Jones County in northern Iowa.

Smith said the LCEDG helped him put together a 12 Plus class at the high school to give students a look at entering the workplace, and they put the idea in his head.

“Lee County Economic Development helped me create that 12 Plus class and we wanted to build on those partnerships and get students involved in stuff after high school other than traditional college. Sixty percent of my kids fall into that boat so I was obviously interested. Then they asked if we had considered a regional education facility but we’re talking millions of dollars there.”

“So we went to our industry partners and said if we did some real research and homework and got what we thought we wanted, and we asked if they would help fund it. And they said no problem. They were all very

supportive of putting money in and would probably provide some of the instruction I would guess. “The land needed would be approximately 7 to 8 acres and Smith said it would probably need to be located somewhere in central Lee County so all the area districts could take advantage of the facility.” Hopefully we can find someplace out by Central Lee, but we need to find someone that will donate seven to eight acres of land, and the industries have said they have no problem putting up money for the facility,” he said.

If constructed the facility would provide both vocational and academic classes for students that either weren’t really ready for college, but wanted to study a vocation such as traditional welding or health care programs like a CNA. But the facility could also provide for academic classes that area high schools could

utilize for dual credit. Smith said he spoke to students at some of the facilities they toured and found that some students were spending half their day there.” You would be amazed how many kids, if you make it a non-college atmosphere will come,” Smith said. “We had heard that and we saw so many kids because it wasn’t a college campus and they liked that.” Because the credit would be issued out of SCC, Smith said the college would likely oversee the facility, but high school credit could obviously be given as well if the local districts agree to do that.

The committee consists of Smith, Jenny Steffensmeier of Steffensmeier Welding & Manufacturing, Jason Huffman of Huffman Welding & Machine, Don Weiss, Executive Director of SCC’s CBIZ program, Dr. Michael Ash, President of SCC and LCEDG representatives.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/06/17 - 8:39 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a property damage accident in the 700 block of Avenue E.
 01/06/17 - 9:44 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of burglary in the 1400 block of Avenue E.
 01/06/17 - 9:57 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue H.
 01/06/17 - 12:12 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3400 block of Avenue D.
 01/06/17 - 12:15 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 800 block of Avenue G.
 01/06/17 - 4:10 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a property damage accident in the 1100 block of 24th Street.
 01/06/17 - 9:45 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 800 block of Avenue G.
 01/06/17 - 9:45 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3400 block of Avenue N.
 01/07/17 - 3:12 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of robbery in the 2200 block of

Avenue L.
 01/07/17 - 2:58 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1900 block of Avenue I.
 01/07/17 - 4:38 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 800 block of Avenue E.
 01/07/17 - 8:49 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1000 block of Old Denmark Hill.
 01/08/17 - 7:46 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a property damage accident in the 100 block of 2nd Street.
 01/08/17 - 12:29 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a personal injury accident in the 3100 block of Bluff Road.
 01/08/17 - 1:30 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Amber Marie Sawyer, 27, of Fort Madison in the 800 block of Avenue E on charges of failure to maintain control, no valid insurance/accident related, and OWI first offense. She was released on a promise to appear.
 01/08/17 - 2:25 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue H.
 01/08/17 - 3:36 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1100 block of 23rd Street.

01/08/17 - 8:43 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Dominique Jordan Houten, 22, of Fort Madison, in the 5800 block of Avenue O on a warrant service - possession of burglar tools and two counts of 3rd degree burglary, and on a separate warrant service for 2nd and 3rd degree theft. He was taken to Lee County Correction Center and held.
 01/08/17 - 10:30 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a property damage accident in the 2500 block of 280th Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

01/06/17 - 8:11 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Alex Joseph Derr, 29, of Keokuk at the sheriff's office on a charge of 5th degree criminal mischief. He was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed. He was later released for time served.
 01/08/17 - 11:05 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested LeeAnn Marie Polk, 28, of Dallas City at Hall's Ice Cream on charges of OWI first offense, no insurance, and leaving the scene of an accident. She was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed.

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Public Notices/Classifieds

PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL January 3, 2017

The Fort Madison City Council met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Randolph presided. Council Members Greenwald, Wright, Rink, Andrews, Lair, Seidel and Cangas were present.

Agenda Item No. 10 was removed from the agenda. On motion, Council approved the agenda. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 12/20/2016, as written; Resolution No. 2017-01, URTED for Janice Feany, 2307 Avenue B; Resolution No. 2017-02, URTED for Kenneth G/Judy L Beebe, 2619 Avenue H; Resolution No. 2017-03, URTED for Neil A LeMaster/Stephanie A Kempker, 2608 Avenue I; Resolution No. 2017-04, URTED Dorothy M/Joe L Reuther, 4207 Avenue L; Payment of Claims and Liquor License Renewals for La Casa Salsa, effective 1/1/2017 - Class C Liquor

with Sunday Sales and Casey's #2319 (West), effective 3/1/2017 - Class B Native Wine, Class C Beer and Sunday Sales.

On motion, Council approved the second reading of an ordinance amending Title 10, Zoning, Chapters 2, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 31 concerning review of Special Uses by the Planning and Zoning Commission and Meeting Requirements.

Concerning \$19,927,000 Sewer Revenue Capital Loan Notes, on motion, Council placed on file and approved the form of Tax Exemption Certificate and Loan and Disbursement Agreement. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2017-05, approving and authorizing a form of Loan and Disbursement Agreement by and between the City of Fort Madison, Iowa, and the Iowa Finance Authority, and authorizing and providing for the issuance and securing the payment of \$19,927,000 Sewer Revenue Capital Loan Notes, Series 2017, of the City of Fort Madison, Iowa, under the provisions of the City Code

of Iowa, and providing for a method of payment of said Notes. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2017-06, accepting PIP 2016-02, Silgan Sewer Expansion.

On motion, Council approved instituting further proceedings to change the meeting time of the City Council from 7:00 P.M. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month to 5:30 P.M. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. On motion, Council approved the 2017 meeting dates of the City Council. On motion, Council approved hiring a Firefighter to fill a vacancy that will be created following a retirement.

At 7:17 P.M., on motion, Council adjourned until Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

/s/ Bradley A. Randolph,
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Melinda L. Blind, City
Clerk

LEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING
TUESDAY
DATE: **January 10, 2017**
CONVENING TIME: **9:00 A.M.**
Correctional Center
LOCATION: **2530 255th St
Montrose IA**

- AGENDA-----
- 1 Pledge of Allegiance
 - 2 Approve Agenda
 - 3 Approve Tuesday, January 3, 2016 Board Minutes
 - 4 Consider Approval of Claims
 - 5 Public Input
 - 6 Receive Compensation Board Recommendation
 - 7 Consider Appointment to Conservation Board
 - 8 Consider Approval of Second Reading of Amended General Assistance Ordinance and Consider Waiving Third Reading
 - 9 Consider Approval of Imaging System from Solutions
 - 10 Consider Approval of Resolution Removing Buildings on Leased Land from County Tax System
 - 11 Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolutions (5)
 - 12 Consider Approval of Personnel Actions
A. Step Increase-Auditor's Office
B. Step Increase-Health Department
C. Position Change-Board of Supervisors
 - 13 Reports:
A. Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected
B. Treasurer's Semi Annual Report
 - 14 Commission or Committee Reports
 - 15 Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING - CITIZENS WELCOME
Workshop to follow
Vision and hearing assistance available upon request
Contact Title VI Administrator 319-372-3705
County Website: www.leecounty.org

EXPENDITURES

General	\$ 20,397.63
Sp. Rev. Funds	179,748.44
Road Use	22,406.03
Capital	25,497.12
Water	37,747.18
Sewer	141,483.59
Solid Waste	6,620.49
SW Utility	124.50
	\$434,024.98

REVENUES

12/15-12/31/2016

General	\$ 27,505.03
Special Rev.	301,177.89
Road Use	102,859.93
Debt	454.12
Capital	14,981.40
Water	271,952.26
Sewer	259,701.56
Solid Waste & IW	62,022.64
SW Utility	17,269.69
	\$1,057,924.52

PAYROLL

12/23/2016

General	176,569.33
Special Revenues	9,318.57
Road Use	24,744.16
Water	26,778.76
Sewer	36,066.58
Solid Waste	14,120.08
Storm Water	2,692.47
	290,289.95

CLAIMS - 1/3/2017

ALLIANT ENERGY	27.94
ALTORFER MACHINERY CO.	1,905.44
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOC	224.00
ANSWER PLUS	172.40
ANTHONY FRANKLIN	500.00
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES	1,229.86
BBB PROPANE	394.71
BARCO MUNICIPAL PROD INC.	1,631.54
BROWN SUPPLY CO. INC.	150.60
BURLINGTON MUNI WATER	170.00
CALHOUN-BURNS AND ASSOC	681.40
CENTURY LINK	57.40
CINTAS CORP	77.27
CONNECTION INSURANCE	3,000.00
DARRYL KANE	130.20
DIGITAL ALLY	3,525.00
DIVERSIFIED DRILLING & CONCRETE	2,707.25
DOOD PRINTING & STATIONERY	5,025.03
DOUGS STONE, LLC	581.69
EBERT SUPPLY	44.95
ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS	10.00
FASTERAL COMPANY	773.22
FORT MADISON CITY TREAS.	1,535.21
FORT MADISON ROTARY CLUB	176.00
FRANK MILLARD & CO. INC.	495.21
GALLS, AN ARAMARK COMPANY	196.08
GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM	101.40
HEATHER HOREY	984.15
HENDERSON COUNTY, ILL GENE	461.13
HENDERSON PRODUCTS, INC	27.00
HOLT SUPPLY COMPANY	89,088.03
HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY	1,596.21
HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE	516.70
HUMBURD'S AUTO SERVICE	877.50
IDEAL READY MIX	65.00
IOWA DEPT OF NATURAL RES.	5,719.09
IOWA MUNICIPAL WORKERS	1,070.93
J&S ELECTRONIC BUSINESS	62.02
JACK GRAY	75,430.00
LANSHING BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION	235.75
LEAF	17.00
LEE COUNTY RECORDER	1,006.83
LIBERTY UTILITIES	28.82
LUNA, JOHN	82.50
LYNCH DALLAS P.C.	10,139.39
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT, INC	64.34
MC FARLAND	32.74
MCI COMMERCIAL SERVICE	71.78
MCMASTER CARR SUPPLY CO	206.60
MENKE PROFESSIONAL AUTO PARTS	825.72
MES MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERV	700.00
METTLER TOLEDO INC	258.00
MICHAEL TODD & COMPANY	498.17
MID AMERICAN ENERGY CO.	1,478.58
MIRACLE RECREATION EQUIPMENT	3,247.70
MPH INDUSTRIES INC	159.61
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY COMPANY	7,090.00
MYERS LOCK & KEY	39.00
PHIL HOESING	700.00
PHONE BOOTH	65.00
QUILL CORPORATION	64.90
RAINBO OIL COMPANY	731.29
ROBERT N. JOHNSON III	2,797.19
SHOTTENKIRK SUPERSTORE	1,665.41
SOUTHEAST IOWA GARAGE DR	137.00
STANLEY CONSULTANTS INC	46,792.50
STAPLES	832.55
TESTAMERICA INC.	648.90
TMS REPAIR SHOP	59.95
TOMAS HARVEY	448.00
TRAVIS SCHROEDER	415.03
TRUCK REPAIR INC.	384.77
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	252.50
U.S. CELLULAR	1,138.07
UPS	54.18
UTILITY EQUIPMENT COMPANY	137.93
VESSCO INC.	649.43
VRAEDENBURG CARPENTRY	50.00
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED	4,795.70
YOUR HEAT AND AIR GUY LLC	286.50
	286,131.19

MANUALS - 12/2016

ALLIANT ENERGY	46,910.12
AMAZON.COM	269.11
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES	83.54
HACH CHEMICAL CO.	667.95
HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE	231.46
HY-VEE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	69.41
IOWA DEPT OF NATURAL RES.	100.00
IOWA STATE PENITENTIARY	792.00
KELTEK INCORP	1,399.90
MASTERCARD	691.96
MEDIACOM	265.20
MID AMERICAN ENERGY CO.	233.74
PETTY CASH - MELINDA BLIND	139.63
SECRETARY OF STATE	30.00
WELLMARK BCBS	96,009.77
	147,893.79

ELECTRIC	46,910.12
LIBRARY MATERIALS	269.11
SHOP TOWELS	83.54
CHLORINE	667.95
SUPPLIES	231.46
JANITORIAL ITEMS; COFFEE & MIS	69.41
PERMIT - SEWER LINE	100.00
INMATE LABOR	792.00
CAGES NEW VEHICLE	1,399.90
TRAINING/TRAVEL & ONLINE SERVI	691.96
PHONE SERVICE	265.20
HEATING	233.74
REPLENISH FLUID	139.63
NOTARY FEE	30.00
HEALTH INS PREMIUMS	96,009.77
	147,893.79

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