

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 12 No. 5

www.thepapernow.com

June 6, 2018

Local News

Big Splash Made in Pool Fundraiser!

Did you know there are tax advantages to donating your IRA distribution directly to your favorite charity? The Pool Project has recently been gifted \$15,000 in this manner by Keith Hoffman and Mary Lockhart in memory of their parents, George and Josephine Hoffman. The Bellinghausen Challenge will triple this donation to a total of \$45,000! The Pool Committee would like to send a big thanks to the Hoffmans and Bellinghausens for their generous donations!

Here's a little more information, in case you or someone you know might like to take advantage of this opportunity.

Retirees who have reached the age of 70½ must make a required minimum distribution from their IRA. An article by Kiplinger, publisher of business forecasts and personal finance advice recommends, "If you have to take large required minimum distribution from your retirement savings, you could be

pushed into a higher premium level for Medicare, but making a tax-free transfer to charity keeps that money out of the calculation for Medicare premiums."

Kiplinger goes on to say, "Keeping your adjusted gross income lower could also help you lower taxes on your Social Security benefits." Always consult your tax or investment professional for personalized advice. In conclusion, the article states, "If

you're over 70 ½, you can transfer up to \$100,000 tax-free from your IRA to a charity each year. The money must be transferred directly from your IRA to the charity to stay out of your adjusted gross income."

Please stop by City Hall or consult a member of the Pool's Capital Campaign Committee if you'd like to maximize your donation during the Bellinghausen 2 for 1 Challenge!



Pocahontas County to Undertake County-wide Housing Study

Pocahontas County Economic Development Commission welcomes all interested citizens to share their impressions and opinions about the county's housing supply and market. There are currently two opportunities for you to share your opinions:

1. Participate in an open discussion on county and city housing needs at Pocahontas County Conservation Nature Center, 702 NW 7th St, Pocahontas on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

2. Complete an online survey regarding your perceptions of the current housing market (both owner and renter occupied housing). The survey is available on the county website www.pocahontas-county.com or directly at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SQXL6N7>.

Paper copies will be made available at the PCEDC office, libraries, and city halls.

Want to know more about what a housing plan is? Here are a few tips to help you out.

What is a Housing Plan? A housing study or plan is a document focused on the county's existing housing stock and the demand for housing. It's intended to give policy makers and housing developers a guidebook and a toolkit to ensure a healthy and functioning housing market that offers safe, affordable housing to all

residents. It addresses historic trends, the current condition of housing, and changes in the real estate market; it indexes affordable housing in the city; and it analyzes the demand for future housing across a range of types and price points. After analyzing this data, the plan makes specific policy and program recommendations that the city can implement to address issues and challenges facing the housing market.

Why is a Plan Needed? Cities across Iowa are experiencing change. All communities are trying to find ways to attract talent and ensure stable economic growth. Housing has become an essential component to economic stability. Having a lack of available and quality units, in a range a price points, can result in stagnant or declining community growth, tax revenues and deteriorating or substandard housing. The housing plan is a way to make sure many, if not all, of the housing market challenges are addressed, and it provides recommendations to the policy holders and housing developers for solutions.

How is the Plan Implemented? Once completed, housing plans can be implemented through several interlocking means. Of course, the cities have a role in guiding land use and ensuring safe construction and habitable residential buildings. Frequently, a local housing authority or non-profit organization will contribute their knowledge and skills in developing housing for those of the most modest means. Finally, in almost all cases, the policies and recommendations in a housing study will be designed to create a private market response to housing need. By taking a holistic look at the region's housing market, the document invites a broad-based response to improving the overall housing quality and market health.

Laurens Cemetery Tour to be Held

The 11th Annual Laurens Cemetery Tour is just a few weeks away on Sunday afternoon, June 24. Everyone is to meet between 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Sportsmen's Park on the east side of Laurens to get a ride on a trolley to travel to the Laurens Cemetery. You will meet some very special people who are buried there.

Let's see if you can identify some of these people. The answers will be included in the next issue of The Paper.

1) This man was a mechanic who repaired cars and ran a gas station. He was given a nickname based on the color of his hair.

2) This man was born in Sweden in 1859; he came to the United States where he eventually settled on a farm northeast of the town of Laurens. Many of his descendants still live in the Laurens area.

The Laurens Cemetery Tour is sponsored by the City of Laurens and the Laurens Women's Club; tickets for \$5 each are available at the West Iowa Bank as well as from any Women's Club member. Tickets may also be purchased the day of the tour at Sportsmen's Park.

Submit . . .

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***At the Library
with Glenda Mulder
June 6, 2018***

Tomorrow afternoon we get to visit with local author Robin Mary Allen! Robin lives in Ayrshire and is hard at work on her second novel in this series. She will talk to us about her writing and publishing processes, as well as read a passage from her book, *The House on Godwit*. The description of the book is as follows: "In 1995, Diamond Andrews thought it wise to hold her concerned family at arm's length, at least until she understood what was happening to her. She was about to turn forty, her only child was graduating high school, excited to fly the nest, and her marriage was stale, at best. Was that enough stress to tip her into insanity, or were her nocturnal visits to 1915 merely extraordinary dreams?" One of our book club members has read it and informed us it is set right here in our area – and

Laurens is even featured in it! I can hardly wait to read it. Join us Thursday, June 7 at 1 o'clock to hear about this book, and get a copy if you'd like!

Summer Reading starts Wednesday, June 13th and we couldn't be more excited! The theme this year is "Libraries Rock!" and most of our programs will center around music, but there may be a literal "rock" thrown in there. Not that we will be throwing rocks – you know what I mean! Our Story Times will continue all summer at 1 o'clock on Wednesdays!

In fiction books we received *Us Against You* by Fredrick Backman, *High Season* by Judy Blundell, *The Patchwork Bride* by Sandra Dallas, *The Word is Murder* by Anthony Horowitz, *Night-Gaunts and Other Tales of Suspense* by Joyce Carol Oates, *Pharaoh Key* by Douglas Preston, *Dreams of Falling* (regular & LP) by Karen White and *Turbulence* by Stuart Wood.

We also received *Audubon North American Birdfeeder Guide* and *Basic Fishing: a beginner's guide* in memory of Gary

Finnestad by his classmates from Laurens Class of 1964.

A program for all ages that we are looking forward to will be a special day and time – Friday, June 15th at 10 am! Their website promises, "Fonziba's energetic African drumming and culture programs enable people of all ages to discover and enliven their innate personal creativity. Fonziba's unique experiential approach gives everyone a rich and authentic taste of life in West Africa that broadens their understanding of other cultures and ways of living." They will be bringing 30 drums and everyone will get to try their hand at drumming! This program is sponsored by a Pocahontas County Foundation grant to the Pocahontas County Libraries.

COMING EVENTS

- "The House on Godwit" Author Talk & Book Signing with Robin Allen on Thursday, June 7 at 1 pm
- Libraries Rock Wednesdays at 1 pm starting on June 13
- Fonziba Drums Friday June 15 at 10 am



FREE ESTIMATES



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Sculpture at School

The Laurens-Marathon art program includes sculpture. Shawn Oxenreider created this version of his name with cardboard letters arranged in a unique way. Shawn has just finished the eighth grade.

Students in Grade 6 studied the work of artist Wayne Thiebaud, then made sculptures in his style. Hailey Brazel used Sculpey--a type of polymer clay that can be molded and put into a conventional oven to harden--to form this breakfast of sausage and eggs.

These and other works of art were on exhibit at the school spring music concert. The art show was produced by teacher Katie Wenell.



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Laurens Country Club Hungry Man

FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, June 17

Serving: 9 am - 1 pm

**Bloody Mary's for Dad, Traditional
Breakfast and Pastry Buffet.**

Plus, a few surprises in store!

FISHER HYDRAULICS

OFFERING GREAT OPPORTUNITIES!

Looking for a new career? Please come and talk with us at Fisher Hydraulics!

We are currently accepting applications for the following position:

MACHINISTS FOR OUR 2nd SHIFT WITH \$1.00 SHIFT PREMIUM PAID DURING TRAINING!

We are seeking Dependable and Motivated applicants NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. We have great opportunities for a new career. We are willing to train the right applicants AND WE WANT TO TRAIN THE RIGHT APPLICANTS. Come work in a team-oriented and friendly atmosphere with state of the art equipment in our air conditioned facility. Shift premium is paid during training and overtime is available. We are accepting applications for 2nd shift but we do train on 1st shift. Employees have the opportunity to earn a \$125.00 bonus each month!!!

A Pre-employment Drug Screen is required.

Fisher Hydraulics is an Equal Opportunity Employer offering expanded benefits that include Competitive Wages, Medical, Dental, Flexible Spending Accounts, STD/LTD, Life Insurance Plans, 401K Plan, Paid Personal & Vacation days, & Paid Holidays.

To apply: Call 712-845-2634 ext. 113, during the hours of 7:00 am-4:30 pm, Mon.-Thur. and speak with Diane. You may also stop in to pick up an application.

FISHER HYDRAULICS
603 Hwy 10 West
LAURENS, IOWA

Johnson Graduates from Dental School!

Bryn Johnson graduated with her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics on May 25th.

Bryn is the daughter of Rod and Anita Johnson of Laurens, and granddaughter of Josephine Johnson of Pocahontas, IA.

A graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School and Simpson College, Bryn was joined in her class of approx. 80 classmates in completing her degree requirements.

Dr. Johnson plans on practicing dentistry in Iowa Falls.




Brick Engraving!

Memory Lane bricks will be engraved sometime before our town celebration, which will be held in July. If you have been meaning to purchase a brick(s), now is the time! Get your brick order form at Memory Lane, by clicking on the link, by emailing peggymilton1951@hotmail.com, or by calling Peg Milton (841-4645).

Brick Order Form

The Laurens Women's Club presents
11th Annual Cemetery Tour
"Voices From the Past"



Sunday, June 24, 2018

Start at the ball field east of Laurens at 2:00 p.m.
Last trolley leaves at 4:00 p.m.

*Tickets (\$5 each) available at West Iowa Bank **or** from any Women's Club member **or** any cast member **or** at the ball field on the day of the event.*

Golf carts available for persons not able to ride on the trolley.
Reservations required.

Proceeds will be donated to cemetery restoration projects.
Sponsored by the City of Laurens and the Laurens Women's Club.

Albert City Public Library Presents: Cherish House

On Tuesday, June 12, at the Albert City Public Library, representatives from the Cherish House, located in the Okoboji area, will be presenting a program at 7 p.m. to kick off their Baby Bottle Campaign in the area. The Cherish House serves young mothers from all over western Iowa and beyond. Cherish House is not an institution, it is a warm, compassionate place for the young lady who needs a home away from home during her pregnancy. With the help of trained house parents and licensed counselors, each young lady can deal with the past and prepare for her future and that of her baby. It is a safe place, a caring place. Cherish House motto is "Changing Lives....Strengthening Families". It is a non-profit Christian organization. They provide a maternity home for teens and young women, mentor moms, parenting skills and prenatal education.

Come, learn about Cherish House and its worthy endeavor. Get involved with the Baby Bottle Campaign to help cover expenses and needs for the House. Enjoy wonderful, musical entertainment by Joyful Praise. Refreshments will be served after the program by Library Friends.

Our Town Our Paper!

Bridal Shower

There will be a bridal shower for Kara Clausen, bride elect of Tanner Youngberg, on Saturday, June 9th at 2 PM.

Kara is the daughter of Kent and Deb Clausen of Albert City and Tanner is the son of Shel and Marianne Youngberg of Pocahontas.

The shower will be held at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Albert City, Iowa.

Kara is registered at The Straw Horse, Pocket of Posies, Target, and Bed, Bath, and Beyond.

Thank You!

A big thank you to all who sent cards and best wishes for my 90th birthday May 19th.

Gene Sernett

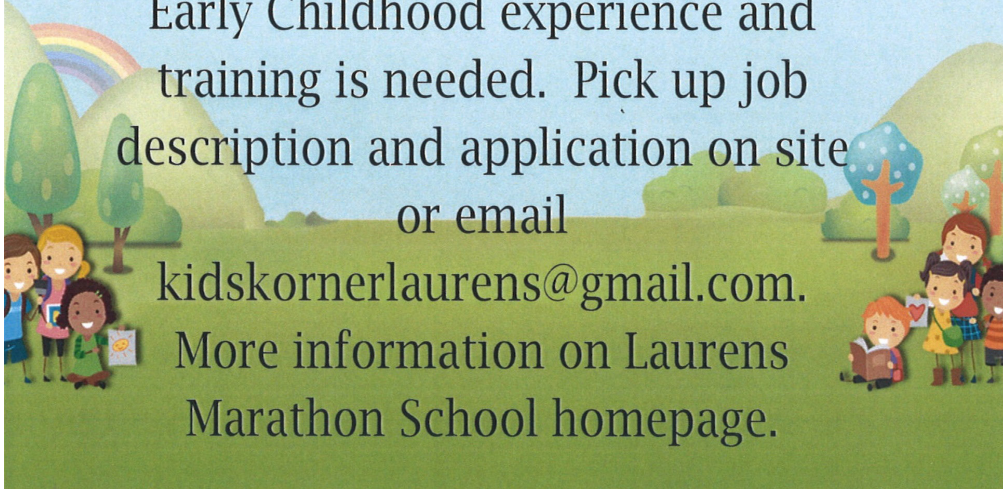
1983-2018...

Congratulations to Rick "Hot H20" Wittmaack and thank you for 35 great years at Laurens Plumbing! And still going!!

Wanted: Daycare Director for Kids Korner Daycare in Laurens, IA. Early Childhood experience and training is needed. Pick up job description and application on site or email

kidskornerlaurens@gmail.com.

More information on Laurens Marathon School homepage.



Summer Ball Help Needed

People needed to run the scoreboard for all home boys' and girls' peeewe games.

Thursday, June 7th
7:30 P.M. (Boys-Minors)
Tuesday, June 12th
7:30 P.M. (Girls)
Wednesday, June 13th
6:00 P.M. (Boys)
Thursday, June 14th
7:30 P.M. (Girls)

Please contact Allison Price at 314-413-6402 if you are able to help.



Laurens Sister City Student Ambassador Fundraiser

Wednesday,
June 6, 2018
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Laurens
Pizza Ranch



Proceeds will go toward travel expenses for Kennedy Tate & Chandler Todd's trip to Laurens, France this summer.

FOR SALE:

2009 John Deere Zero Turn Riding Mower,
Z445, 600 hours,
\$1,950

Call: (712) 830 0614.



Laurens Summer Ball Home Games

Thursday, June 7th 7:30PM Boys Minors (Little League)

Monday, June 11th 6PM Boys Coach Pitch

Tuesday, June 12th 6PM Girls Coach Pitch/7:30PM Girls Peewee

Wednesday, June 13th 6PM Boys Peewee

Thursday, June 14th 6PM Girls Coach Pitch/7:30PM Girls Peewee

This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Pastor Scott Baker

Tuesday-Friday: June 5-8, 2018

8:30-11:30 AM - VBS with opening/closing at UMC

Friday: June 8, 2018

11:30 AM - VBS Closing Program

Sunday: June 10, 2018

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

TIME CHANGE

9:00 AM - Worship

10:00 AM - Coffee Fellowship & Adult SS

Monday: June 11, 2018

7:00 PM - Hand Bell Rehearsal

*Worship, Love, Accept-
Together in Christ's Name*



Bethany
LUTHERAN CHURCH
North American Lutheran Church

This Week at First Christian

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Wednesday, June 6

7 p.m. - Mission Council Meeting

Friday, June 8

7 p.m. - AA

Sunday, June 10

9:30 a.m. - Worship followed by coffee fellowship



Biggest Little Paper In Town!

This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Pastor Ed Frank

Wed., June 6th:

Book Club @ 9:00 a.m.

Vacation Bible School 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Thurs., June 7th:

UMW Ex. Board meeting @ 8:30 a.m.

UMW General meeting @ 9:30 a.m.

Vacation Bible School 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Fri., June 8th:

Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.

Vacation Bible School 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Vacation Bible School closing program

@ 11:30 a.m.

Sun., June 10th:

Adult Sunday School @ 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship @ 10:30 a.m.

Hymn Sing

Youth Group Boundary Waters

fundraiser here 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

(beef burger meal)



The
United
Methodist
Church

Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church

Pocahontas, IA -- Pastor: Very Rev.
Craig Collison, VF

MASS TIMES:

Daily Mass as scheduled in the weekly bulletin

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday at 8:30 AM

Confessions: Saturday 4:15 pm at Resurrection

Office: 16 SW 2nd Street, Pocahontas

Office Phone: 712-335-3242

Residence Phone: 712-335-8065

E-mail: colly@ncn.net

Pastoral Care: Sister Renae Hohensee, 563-552-8666

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May 29, 2018

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in regular session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 11:30 a.m. on the above date. Present were Trustees Richard Main, Ben Storms and Jerry Runneberg. Also present were Aaron Olson of T.P. Anderson & Company and General Manager Chad Cleveland.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to amend and approve the agenda for the May 29, 2018 meeting by adding item 2.5 "Staff Recognition for Years of Service". Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Aaron Olson of T.P. Anderson & Company presented the Audit of calendar year 2017. Trustee Main had to leave the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

The Board reviewed the financial statements, budgetary comparisons, schedules of operating revenues and expenses and the schedule of findings. Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to accept the Audit of calendar year 2017. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to recognize Reid Prins for his 40 years of service to Laurens Municipal Power & Communications. The Trustees are proud to have Reid on our team and appreciate his hard work and efforts year after year. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to recognize Chad Cleveland and Tom Schmidt for their 20 years of service to Laurens Municipal Power & Communications. The Trustees are proud to have Chad and Tom on our team and appreciate their hard work and efforts year after year. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2018 meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the summary of receipts for April 2018 in the amount of \$401,352.73 and the list of expenses for April 2018 in the amount of \$319,802.06. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Summary of Receipts

A/R Electric	\$ 282,216.43		
A/R Communications	\$ 67,443.35		
Merchandise/Services – Electric	\$ 1,280.00		
Merchandise/Services – Communications	\$ 82.00		
Carrier Access Fees	\$ 7,092.51		
Write Off Recovery – Electric	\$ 1,933.43		
Write Off Recovery – Communications	\$ 857.66		
Deferred Patronage – Electric	\$ 8,719.01		
Investments – CD Interest Earned	\$ 3,447.12		
Deposits – Electric	\$ 1,730.19		
Deposits – Internet	\$ 177.00		
School Discount Refund – USAC	\$ 1,920.00		
E911 Circuits – Pocahontas County	\$ 643.26		
Tower Lease	\$ 1,800.00		
Attachment H Revenues	\$ 21,613.44		
Miscellaneous – Telephone	\$ 46.00		
Miscellaneous – Cable TV	\$ 321.33	Electric Receipts	\$ 320,969.62
Office Supplies – Electric	\$ 30.00	Communications Receipts	\$ 80,383.11
<u>Total Cash Receipts</u>	<u>\$ 401,352.73</u>	<u>Total Cash Receipts</u>	<u>\$ 401,352.73</u>

List of Expenses

A & M Laundry	Dust Mops & Mats	\$	85.28
Advanced Control Systems	SCADA System Support	\$	1,178.32
AFLAC	Employee Contributions	\$	210.60
Alliant Energy	Natural Gas	\$	297.55
Aureon	CALEA/SS7/Switching/Transport	\$	553.46
Avesis	Group Vision Insurance	\$	105.32
Beal's Service & Auto	Vehicle Supplies	\$	15.54
Big 10 Network	Programming Fees	\$	597.80
Border States Electric	150 KVA 3-Phase Transformer	\$	8,893.31
Buena Vista County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	189.00
Century Link Access	Transport Fees	\$	559.24
Century Link Lexcis	Directory Listings	\$	25.85
Clay County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	114.00
Cleveland, Chad	Meeting Expenses	\$	42.51
Confluent	HD/DVR Boxes	\$	777.13
Consortia Consulting	Consulting Contract	\$	900.00
Counsel	Lanier Copier Support	\$	49.71
Customers	Deposit Refunds	\$	246.58
Department of Energy	WAPA Power Bill	\$	31,306.25
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding - Claims	\$	2,728.10
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding - Administration	\$	120.00
Fox Sports Net North	Programming Fees	\$	1,616.50
Grainger	Supplies	\$	107.96
Hearst Television	Programming Fees	\$	1,188.29
Horsetech	Shipping Fees	\$	8.06
ICMA RC	Employee Contributions	\$	1,000.00
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	\$	7,994.29
Internal Revenue Service	Federal Excise Tax	\$	696.31
Interstate TRS Fund	TRS Fund Assessment	\$	124.56
Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales Tax	\$	7,753.00
Iowa Department of Revenue	State Withholding	\$	1,607.00
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Withholding	\$	4,712.93
KEYC-TV	Programming Fees	\$	1,323.50
KTIV-TV	Programming Fees	\$	822.50
Laurens, City of	Utility Billing	\$	86,718.00
Laurens Food Pride	Cleaning Supplies	\$	13.77
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Communications Bill	\$	154.74
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Utility Bill	\$	104.10
Laurens State Bank	CTS Improvement Fund	\$	20,000.00
Laurens State Bank	Service Charges	\$	44.80
Laurens Sun	Publications/Advertising	\$	305.46
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$	7,585.16
Merchant Bankcard	Credit Card Processing Fees	\$	535.61
MidAmerican Energy	Neal 4 Operations	\$	36,000.00
National Cable Television Cooperative	Programming Fees	\$	15,102.03
National Cable Television Cooperative	Cable Modems/EMTAs	\$	2,134.32
Nexstar Broadcasting	Programming Fees	\$	1,324.00
NIMECA	Power Bill	\$	21,038.53
Office Elements	Supplies	\$	174.79
Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$	23,381.28
PLIC-SBD Grand Island	Group Life/Disability Insurance	\$	638.62
Plymouth County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	82.00
Pocahontas County 911	E911 Quarterly Fees	\$	1,503.54
Pocahontas County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	5,855.00
Pop Media	Programming Fees	\$	687.61

Pro Cooperative	Fuel	\$	337.47
R & D Industries	Network Support	\$	681.25
RFD TV	Programming Fees	\$	7.13
Rovi Guides	Programming Fees	\$	645.50
Secure Shred Solutions	Paper Shredding	\$	24.00
Spencer Municipal Utilities	Programming/Transport Fees	\$	1,701.87
Tower Distribution Company	Programming Fees	\$	1,065.82
Unity Point Occupational Medicine	Employee Hearing Tests	\$	270.88
VECTOR	Insurance/CPR/First Aid	\$	433.08
Verizon Wireless	Wireless Service	\$	271.50
Webster County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	599.50
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Group Health Insurance Premiums	\$	9,173.10
Winkler Law Office	Legal Fees	\$	220.00
Woodbury County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	2,253.50
Zcorum	<u>Cable Modem Provisioning</u>	\$	<u>783.65</u>
	Total Expenses	\$	319,802.06
Electric Expenses	\$	261,125.02	
Communications Expenses	\$	<u>58,677.04</u>	
Total Expenses	\$	319,802.06	

The Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report, Income Statement, and Balance Sheet for April 2018. No specific action was taken.

The Trustees reviewed the Standards of Apprenticeship developed by Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities in partnership with Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and Northwest Iowa Community College. Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the Employer Acceptance Agreement regarding the provisions of the Apprenticeship Standards. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The apprenticeship standards and the Department of Labor require us to establish the hourly wage of an Electric Journey Worker. It was recommended to use the wage scale that is already in place for this position. Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to establish the Electric Journey Worker's hourly wage at Grade 6, Step 1 of the wage scale for this position. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the hiring of Caleb Roettger as an Apprentice Electric Line Repairer. Caleb started with us on May 18, 2018. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on purchasing a Ditch Witch R300 Zahn vibratory plow. Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the purchase of the Ditch Witch R300 Zahn vibratory plow as quoted for \$28,144.78. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on eliminating our Cable TV headend and getting Cable TV from Long Lines. Eliminating our Cable TV headend means that we would no longer use the satellite dishes or the racks of modulators and receivers in the headend. This would cut down our expenses in operating and maintaining the headend. If this is implemented, our channel lineup might change slightly, we would be receiving all our channels in a digital format – resulting in better picture quality and more HD channels. Our current set-top boxes would be replaced with new set-top boxes that are more robust and reliable. Although we would be decreasing our operating expenses in the headend, the cost of service will increase due to the investment required and due to the ever-increasing programming costs. No specific action was taken.

General Manager Update:

1. We are working with Ahlers Law Firm to amend our Power Supply Agreement with the City of Marathon. The amendment deals with the City of Marathon buying power from the solar farm that is being built near Marathon.
2. The proposed Tower Lease Agreement we have been working on is on hold right now.
3. Discussion was held on the usage of upstream and downstream bandwidth on our system.

There being no further business, on motion and vote, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Ben Storms

Chairman Pro Tem of the Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary of the Board of Trustees