

## April 2018 - From the Chairman

The Supervisors meet with the County Engineer, Joel Fantz, weekly for an update concerning road projects, road maintenance, etc. During our last meeting the Engineer had a list of bullet points concerning the maintenance of the gravel/rock roads so I will share with you the work that goes into the maintenance of the rock/gravel roads this time of year.

A few of the bullet points were: In the spring the focus needs to be on cutting the shoulders and bringing the material into the center to build the proper crown. This is critical for shedding water and preventing pot holes and washboards. The wider the road, the more critical the crown. Cutting the road edge allows the water to shed off the road instead of running down the road. If the edge is not cut the water pools on the roads or ruts the road in a heavy rain. In the spring there are fewer roots/growth and we are able to reclaim rock pushed to the edge by snow removal operations. The best sequence is to cut the edge and build the crown followed by rock over the reclaimed material. Unfortunately, the weather caused the rock roads to fall apart this spring so a lot of rock was placed prior to the shoulder work. Since the beginning of March over 53,000 tons of rock (\$380,000) has been placed on the rock roads. To assist the maintainer operators, Fayette County has built an additional drag and rented an additional drag to shape the roads. As the road crew cuts the shoulders and works to make the better for the long term, they will seem to be worst in the short run. The Road Department is asking for understanding. As we work to make the roads better for the long term they can seem to be worse in the short run. Fayette County has skilled maintainer operators who care a lot about their (your) roads and they work hard to provide the best roads possible.

There have been questions concerning what the County is going to do about Prairie View Residential Care Facility. For all of those who may be wondering or asked a question, Prairie View is not managed by Fayette County. The County does own the building and leases the building to Prairie View Management, Inc. Around 1986 the facility known as Fayette County Care Facility became known as Prairie View Management, Inc., a private management care company, and was incorporated under Iowa Code 504A of the 1985 Code of Iowa. At that time a five-member board was established, to oversee the operations of the facility which was set up as a not for profit organization. \*Twenty-Two Counties, which are the County Social Services (CSS) area, use Prairie View as their Residential Care Facility (RCF) to provide services to individuals with mental health issues, not all residents at Prairie View are CSS clients. Prairie View employees around 140 individuals from the area that work at both the facility and homes in the surrounding communities that houses clients with intellectual disabilities. I wanted to share with you some information concerning Prairie View however not to sway anyone's opinion, one way or the other.

You may contact me at: [jtellin@co.fayette.ia.us](mailto:jtellin@co.fayette.ia.us) or at the Supervisor's Office 563-422-3538

\*The Counties that make up CSS are – Allamakee, Black Hawk, Butler, Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Clayton, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Grundy, Hancock, Howard, Humboldt, Kossuth, Mitchell, Pocahontas, Tama, Webster, Winnebago, Winneshiek, Worth and Wright.