

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, April 20, 2020

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. via a Go To Meeting with Holliday, Sauer, Sorensen, Mather and Saucedo present. Chairperson Sorensen presiding.

On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, the agenda was approved as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Mather, Holliday and Sorensen. Sauer and Saucedo votes could not be heard.

On a motion by Holliday, second by Mather, claims dated April 20, 2020 were approved in the amount of \$624,692.54. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Chief Deputy Ardyth Slight regarding a Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CVSF) Program grant application. Slight stated the grant will cover overtime in case of a coronavirus outbreak at the Jail that requires additional training or in the case that correctional officers and patrol deputies are needed to work overtime due to others out on leave for COVID-19. Slight stated the grant would cover cleaning of squad cars, transport vehicles and cells. Slight stated the grant would allow for the purchase of a decontamination system that can be used on the squads or cells and additional PPE for the Sheriff's Office. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved a Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CVSF) Program grant application in the amount of \$58,304.00. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board approved Resolution #04-20-20-01 Naming Depositories – Treasurer's Office. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #04-20-20-01
RESOLUTION NAMING DEPOSITORIES - TREASURER'S OFFICE

It is hereby resolved that the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors approves the following list of financial institutions to be depositories for Muscatine County funds held by the Muscatine County Treasurer, in conformance with applicable provisions of Chapter 12C, Code of Iowa. All previous actions by the Board of Supervisors naming depositories and setting maximum limits for the Treasurer's Office are hereby null and void.

DEPOSITORY	LOCATION	MAXIMUM FUND BALANCE
Bankers Trust	Des Moines, IA	\$ 7,000,000
CBI Bank	Muscatine, IA	\$ 40,000,000
Community Bank	Muscatine, IA	\$ 5,000,000
Farmers & Merchants Bank	Nichols, IA	\$ 2,000,000
First National Bank	Muscatine, IA	\$ 2,000,000
IPAIT	Des Moines IA	\$ 25,000,000
Midwest One Bank	West Liberty, IA	\$ 30,000,000
South Ottumwa Savings Bank	West Liberty, IA	\$ 5,000,000

Passed and approved this 20th day of April, 2020.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, the Board approved the following utility permits: Eastern Iowa Light and Power – bore a power line under Mulberry Avenue at 1648 Mulberry Avenue; Windstream Iowa Communications LLC - placement of copper cable from Hwy 6 North to 1185 Mohawk Avenue. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects.

Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, provided an overview of finalized plans for the Muscatine County Sheriff Deputy's Quarters Additions and Renovations Project. On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, a public hearing on proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost for the Muscatine County Sheriff Deputy's Quarters Additions and Renovations Project was set for Monday, April 27, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Nolan updated the Board on the progress of the construction of the new Maintenance Building.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, minutes of the April 13, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen and Mather reported a concern regarding COVID-19 and precautions taken by the State of Iowa.

Committee Reports:

Saucedo attended an online COVID-19 update with Iowa State Association of Counties April 17th.

Sauer attended a Riverbend Transit meeting electronically April 15th.

Sauer attended a Board of Health meeting electronically April 16th.

Sorensen participated in a Mississippi Valley Workforce Authority conference call April 13th.

Sorensen attended a virtual EOC Conference April 15th.

Discussion was held regarding selection procedures for filling the County Attorney vacancy. Sorensen stated County Attorney Alan Ostergren offered to work with two Supervisors to select and interview one or two applicants electronically. Sorensen stated the interview committee would then make a recommendation to the Board for one to be appointed until the General Election in November. Mather and Saucedo volunteered to work with the County Attorney. Administrative Services Director stated it is County Attorney Ostergren's intent to appoint a First Assistant County Attorney to act as an interim County Attorney between the date of his leaving and the appointment date. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board authorized the publication of a Notice of Intent to Appoint a County Attorney. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. Board consensus

was for Mather and Saucedo to work with the County Attorney to interview applicants and bring forward a recommendation to the Board for action.

The Board reviewed health/dental fund balance as of March 31, 2020.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber provided a COVID-19 update stating the Board needs to be aware that Unity Public Health is incurring additional expenditures due to COVID-19 and although they have received some additional grant funding, the Board will need to do a budget amendment before the end of June and may have to provide Unity Public Health with some additional funds. Sorensen stated the State of Iowa has a new website that is much more detailed on COVID-19. Sorensen stated Muscatine County is in Region 5 which is currently at a level 9 which could be on the cusp for further regulations or shut down. Emergency Manager Brian Wright updated the Board on COVID-19 stating Muscatine County has 207 confirmed cases, 4 deaths, 682 total tested and 57 confirmed cases recovered. Wright stated there have been outbreaks in two long term care facilities in Muscatine County.

County Auditor Leslie Soule reminded the Board that polling places were being temporarily combined for the Primary Election to be held June 2, 2020 due to COVID-19. Soule strongly encouraged voters to consider voting absentee by mail for this election. Soule stated the Secretary of State will be mailing absentee request forms to all voters later this month. Soule stated there will be six polling sites open on Election Day. Soule stated the sites and precinct assignments are posted on the Auditor's page on the County's website.

Emergency Manager Brian Wright updated the Board on flooding issues stating Muscatine County is currently incurring minor flooding and the water is going down.

Edward Askew, 2952 155th Street, stated he provided the Board and Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber with a copy of the Scott County personnel policy addressing what any county non-elected employee can or cannot post online. Askew suggested the Board review the policy and decide what they want to do. Askew asked who is responsible for the firing of nonelected or non-department head County staff. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated the department head makes the determination about firing any staff that reports to them. Askew expressed concern about economic consequences to Muscatine County of Johnson County, Scott County and the US Marshall Service in Washington DC being aware of the current situation with online posts by a jail employee.

Henry Marquard, 108 Eagle Watch Road, commended the Board on its handling of the vacancy of the County Attorney. In the matter of what an employee can say on social media, Marquard urged the Board to adopt a policy regarding employee's comments on social media.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors