

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, August 23, 2021

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved claims dated August 23, 2021 in the amount of \$333,953.13. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Lynn Pruitt and Jane Daufeldt, Members, and William Koellner, Chair, Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission, regarding a request to authorize the chair to sign a contract with SPARK Consulting for the National Register nomination project for the Fairport Fish Hatchery Historic District. Pruitt stated the purpose of the sub-contract with SPARK Consulting is for completion of the nomination of the Fairport Fish Hatchery to the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic District. Pruitt stated the Board has already approved the contract and this would be a sub-contract to pay a consultant fee in the amount of \$18,930 to manage the nomination project. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather the Board authorized the chair to sign a contract with SPARK Consulting for the National Register nomination project for the Fairport Fish Hatchery Historic District in the amount of \$18,930. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Pruitt, Daufeldt and Koellner regarding a request to approve a CLG (Certified Local Government) grant application to hire a consultant to prepare a nomination of the Benjamin F. and Susan M. Nichols House in Nichols, Iowa to the National Register. Pruitt stated the Historic Preservation Commission had a consultant, Price Preservation Services, complete preliminary field work on the project and it was determined the Nichols House is eligible for nomination. Pruitt stated the preliminary work was paid for using a Field Services Grant from the State. Pruitt stated they are now applying for a grant to complete the nomination and, if successful, the current owners of the Nichols House have agreed to pay the cash match of \$500.00. Pruitt stated there are several volunteers in place for the project and there should be no cost to the County. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved a CLG grant application to hire a consultant to prepare a nomination of the Benjamin F. and Susan M. Nichols House in Nichols, Iowa to the National Register in the amount of \$3,700. Ayes: All.

Pruitt, Daufeldt and Koellner updated the Board on various projects in Nichols, Iowa. Koellner stated a consultant has reviewed Ijem Avenue and other structures in the City. Koellner stated in about six weeks there will be a ribbon cutting and plaque placement for historic Ijem Avenue. Koellner stated the Historic Preservation Commission has completed the County Schools and Churches project. Daufeldt stated the County should be receiving \$9,750 grant money from the State for this project. Daufeldt stated they also used \$30,000 in volunteer time to create documentation for the project. Daufeldt presented to the Board a Muscatine County Schools and Churches book and several CDs. Daufeldt stated they are in the process of bidding out costs for printing more books. Daufeldt thanked the Board for the opportunity and funding needed to complete the project for future generations. Koellner stated the commission is planning on

creating an addendum to the book as more photographs and information becomes available. Saucedo thanked the Commission, on behalf of the Board, for all of their hard work.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board approved Ordinance #08-23-21-01 rezoning approximately 9.94 acres in Wapsi Township from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District on the third and final reading. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, minutes of the August 16, 2021 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

#### Correspondence:

All Supervisors reported a COVID-19 email update from Public Health Director Christy Roby Williams.

All Supervisors reported an email update from the Housing Committee.

All Supervisors reported an email from Muscatine Power & Water regarding a video.

All Supervisors reported an email invitation to a Clean Air Muscatine event.

All Supervisors received an email invitation to the Stanley Center groundbreaking.

Sauer reported taking a tour of Mike Deahr's hog confinement on August 16, 2021.

Saucedo reported an email regarding drone shots of the Muscatine City landfill.

Saucedo reported a call from a resident asking where to dispose of used oil.

Sorensen reported meeting with the Levee Stakeholders, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission and the City of Muscatine on August 19, 2021.

#### Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sorensen attended an Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region meeting on August 16, 2021.

Sorensen attended an electronic State Mental Health & Disability Services Commission meeting on August 19, 2021.

Saucedo attended an Align Impact of Muscatine meeting August 17, 2021.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development (WELEAD) meeting August 19, 2021. Saucedo stated the WeLead Administrator has resigned and the position will be posted.

Sauer attended a River Bend Transit meeting August 18, 2021.

Holliday attended a Wilton Development Board meeting August 18, 2021. Holliday stated there is a Freedom Rock celebration in Wilton on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Holliday attended a Fair Board meeting August 19, 2021.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board approved a class specification and grade recommendation of Grade 11 for a Real Estate Administrator position in the Auditor's Office. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board tabled discussion regarding a request from County Auditor Tibe Vander Linden for authorization to immediately fill the Real Estate Administrator position until further information is received from the Auditor. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on various road projects. Saucedo directed White to add discussion regarding Keokuk Avenue to a mid-September Board of Supervisors meeting agenda.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas updated the Board on the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project.

Discussion was held regarding a Memorandum of Understanding between the Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium (MAGIC) Board and Muscatine Power & Water pertaining to the re-organization of MAGIC. Sorensen stated MAGIC has been working with County Attorney Jim Barry on the MOU. Barry stated he has reviewed the MOU and, other than some question on laptops and equipment that needs to be clarified, the agreement is ready for signature. Sorensen asked if authorization for himself and Mather to vote affirmatively on the MOU should be an agenda item for next week's Board of Supervisors meeting. MAGIC Manager Mark Yerington stated the deadline to accept the agreement is September 1, 2021. Board consensus was to not have accepting the agreement as an agenda item. Board consensus was for Sorensen and Mather to proceed with approving the agreement.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Tibe Vander Linden, Auditor

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Scott Sauer, Vice-Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors