

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, September 21, 2020

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

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, claims dated September 21, 2020 were approved in the amount of \$165,040.01. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board approved a GTSB State and Community Highway Safety Grant contract in the amount of \$44,450.00. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board approved the following utility permits: Windstream Iowa Communications – bore under Moscow road and 112th Street to replace a 50 pair copper telephone cable between two existing pedestals; and Eastern Iowa Light and Power – run a new overhead line across 215th Street ¼ mile west of Independence Avenue for a new residence not yet built. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, the Board approved plans and specifications for BROS-SWAP-C070(68)—SE-70, a bridge replacement project to construct a 110' X 24' Continuous Concrete Slab bridge on Douglas Avenue north of Nichols, IA. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation for County Bridge Federal-Aid Swap Funding, Agreement No. 5-19-HBP-SWAP-033 to construct a replacement bridge on Douglas Avenue over Big Slough. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation for County Bridge Federal-Aid Swap Funding, Agreement No. 5-20-HBP-SWAP-030 to construct a replacement bridge on York Avenue over Mudd Creek. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with County Engineer Keith White regarding the possible purchase of a dump/plow truck from Courtesy Ford. White stated they have two dump/plow trucks that need to be replaced, but it is very hard to find this type of equipment. White stated one dump/plow truck was found at Courtesy Ford and he will trade-in the dump/plow truck that is having issues with the turbo. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board approved the purchase of a 2020 F550 Monroe demonstrator dump/plow truck from Courtesy Ford in the amount of \$65,943.00. Ayes: All.

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

White reported a tree down on a property in Atalissa. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated the property was acquired through FEMA and maintenance is the County's

responsibility. Sorensen stated he would like Schreiber to determine where other FEMA properties are located and whether or not the County still has active lease agreements with individuals to provide for the maintenance on them. Conservation Director Curt Weiss stated his personnel can check out the property to see if they can remove the tree. Board consensus was for Conservation personnel to remove the fallen tree or work with Administration to hire the removal of the tree if it is too large of a job for Conservation personnel.

Sorensen stated a discussion needs to be scheduled regarding options with Keokuk Road which has been closed for over a year.

The Board reviewed a variance granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on Friday, September 11, 2020. Case #20-09-01 is an application filed by Michael C. and Debra K. McCallister, Record Owners. This property is located in Fruitland Township, in the NW¹/₄ of Sec. 5-T76N-R2W, Hickory Hills, Lot 6, 2227 Hickory Hills Road, containing approximately 1.16 acres and is zoned R-1 Residential District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance for the owners to build a detached garage in front of the existing dwelling and approximately 25 feet from the front lot line, instead of the required 50 foot setback. On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board accepted the Variance. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, the Board set a public hearing for Monday, October 19, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. on a request from Kirk and Kim K. Latta to rezone approximately 36.79 acres in Moscow Township from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board set a public hearing for Monday, October 19, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. on a request from Allen F. or Alberta M. McCleary and Mathew L. McCleary to rezone approximately 7.21 acres in Seventy-Six Township from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Ayes: All.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas updated the Board on activity of the Lower Cedar Water Management Authority.

Discussion was held regarding a proposed Stormwater Easement Agreement with NPSW Enterprises, LLC. Chairperson Sorensen recused himself due to his involvement with the property. Vice-Chairperson Mather conducted discussion of the matter. Conservation Director Curt Weiss stated the stormwater will flow into the County's wetlands which will help the wetland as it has never had enough water flowing into it. County Attorney Jim Barry questioned ownership and long term maintenance of the triangular parcel as it was not clear in the agreement. Sorensen stated the property will be owned by the County with the infrastructure to be maintained by the City. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Vice-Chairperson was authorized to execute a Stormwater Easement Agreement with NPSW Enterprises, LLC amended to include clarification on long term maintenance and signature page modifications. Ayes: Saucedo, Mather, Sauer and Holliday. Sorensen abstained from voting.

On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Saucedo reported a follow up call with Johnson Controls regarding inspections of the new Maintenance facility.

Saucedo reported a call from a resident regarding the scheduling and timing of the G28 project.

Saucedo reported a call regarding COVID-19.

Mather reported a contact with the technician from Johnson Controls that performed the inspection of the new Maintenance Facility.

Sauer and Sorensen reported contacts with questions regarding the UTV/ATV approval process.

Sorensen reported a contact from MPW regarding water service outside the city limits which he referred to County Engineer Keith White and Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas.

Holliday reported a contact from Terry Holliday regarding Keokuk Avenue.

Holliday reported an email with questions for the County Attorney which he forwarded to County Attorney Jim Barry.

Holliday reported a call from Jim Meredith thanking the Secondary Roads Department for their work on the ditches near his property.

Committee Reports:

Holliday attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting September 16th.

Holliday attended a Muscatine County Fair Board meeting September 17th.

Sauer attended a Muscatine Board of Health meeting September 16th.

Sauer attended a River Bend Transit meeting September 16th.

Mather attended a Muscatine County Veterans Affairs Commission meeting September 15th.

Saucedo attended an ISAC electronic meeting regarding legislative recommendations September 15th. Sorensen and Saucedo attended an affordable housing meeting at Community Foundation September 18th.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board appointed Jamie Bosten to the Muscatine County Civil Service Commission to fill a vacant term ending June 20, 2024. Ayes: Saucedo, Sorensen, Sauer and Holliday. Mather abstained from voting as the candidate works with him.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Chairperson was authorized to execute a FY20/21 CAMP Grant contract for the Muscatine County Drug Task Force in the amount of \$8,000. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board tabled a proposal from Control System Specialists pending further clarification. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board approved a proposal from the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission for additional research into National Register eligibility of the St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Nichols, Iowa in the amount of \$1,000. Ayes: All.

Emergency Manager Brian Wright updated the Board on COVID-19 Muscatine County statistics. Wright reported Governor Reynolds declared September 21st – 25th as Emergency Managers Appreciation Week.

County Attorney Jim Barry reported the second offsite jury selection was held last week and thanked the Muscatine School District for their cooperation and cleaning services. Barry stated microphones, headsets, speakers and a mixer will need to be purchased when they use the Armory which has only one microphone. Barry stated fine collection funds will be used to purchase the system. Barry stated he met with the Muscatine County Drug Task Force and they are working to modify the 28E Agreement. Barry stated he has transferred oversight of Drug Task Force funds to County Administration.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber informed the Board the Mobile Vet Center will be set up at the Muscatine Community College campus today from 10 A.M. - 1.00 P.M.

Saucedo requested a Joint Muscatine City-County meeting be scheduled sometime between December and January.

Don Briggs, Fruitland, stated as of last Friday night, no Muscatine County schools have cancelled games due to COVID-19 in Muscatine County. Briggs stated all cancelled games were because of COVID-19 cases on the opposing team in another County.

Sauer asked residents to be careful as there is increased farm equipment traffic on the roads.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors