

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, June 30, 2014

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

On a motion by Kelly, second by Furlong, the agenda was approved as written. Ayes: All.

Charles Lorensen, 1808 Briarwood Lane, expressed concern regarding detours west of West Liberty over the last two years. Lorensen stated he was not happy with the placement of detour signs, felt the detours took residents out of the way and more convenient detours could have been used. County Engineer Keith White stated the detour is determined by the Iowa DOT who assesses the road conditions to determine the detours. Howard suggested this might be a good thing for Lorensen to share with the State legislators at one of their forums. White stated that the Iowa DOT maintains a website www.511IA.org that any resident can check for construction, detours and delays when determining their travel plans. White stated residents can also call 511 for information or 800-288-1047.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sauer, claims dated June 30, 2014 were approved in the amount of \$348,827.92. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding unknown owner parcels adjacent to Dougherty Estates with Katherine Schreiber, Secretary for the Dougherty Estates Association. Dougherty Estates representatives Tim Long, Chairman, and Bob Schreiber, Board member, were also present. Schreiber stated when they went to get a building permit from Zoning, they were told they did not own the parcels. Schreiber stated they believed they owned this land and were unaware that they did not. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated that Zoning has issued two permits to Dougherty Estates for building on this land in the past. First Deputy Auditor Betty Wamback stated the acres have changed, but the county records have always only shown Dougherty Estates owned two parcels and the unknown owner parcels look like old riverbed. Second Deputy Assessor Randy Spies stated they have only been charged for the parcels that the County shows they own. Wamback stated she gave the representatives of Dougherty Estates the unknown owner policy, but the issue here is that they already have cabins on the land. Schreiber stated the Board could waive the requirements of the policy and move forward with quit claiming the parcels that have cabins to Dougherty Estates after a public hearing. Furlong stated he would not have a problem quit claiming the parcels, but they would have to decide whether to abate the taxes. Schreiber stated the back taxes on the two parcels are \$948. Board consensus was to proceed with setting a public hearing to quit claim the two parcels with cabins.

Discussion was held with Ann Bahn, Assessor's Office, regarding changes to the Disabled Veteran's Homestead Tax Credit. Bahn stated SF2532 will go into effect for 2014 taxable FY15-16 property taxes and it removes the \$35,000 household limit, but the

veteran must be 100% disabled. Bahn clarified that the credit is on up to 40 acres including the house. On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board approved four Disabled Veteran's Homestead Tax Credit applications as allowed by the County Assessor's Office for Steven A. Berger, Marion L. Hutton, Michael A. Young and Michael R. Simester. Ayes: All.

Kelly would like to see levee and drainage taxes paid available on the MAGIC website.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, minutes of the Monday, June 23, 2014 regular meeting and Monday, June 23, 2014 special meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Furlong received a call regarding the use of slag on county roads.

Howard received a call regarding a dust problem on Seven Springs Road as a result of over grading.

Howard also had a call regarding potential flooding of G28.

Committee Reports:

Kelly attended a Mental Health Regional meeting June 16th.

Kelly and Sauer attended a Muscatine Island Levee Improvement Project Stakeholders meeting June 25th.

Howard attended a Milestones Area Agency on Aging meeting June 24th.

Howard and Furlong attended a Bi-State Regional meeting June 25th.

Information Services Director Bill Riley provided the Board with an updated color pallet and design for the new county website. Riley stated that the transition of the information from the old website will begin next week. Riley also informed the Board the help desk has opened 88 new tickets and closed 97 tickets with an average response time of 2.97 minutes during the month of June

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

On a motion by Furlong, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #06-30-14-01 FY2014-15 Budget Appropriations. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, appointments to the Muscatine County Compensation Commission were approved for the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kelly, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the FY2014-15 Iowa/Byrne – Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Contract in the amount of \$51,913. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, the Board authorized the Chairperson to execute a Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Act Grant application for funding for medicolegal death investigation training for Kenny Hora. Ayes: All.

The Board recessed at 10:28 A.M. and reconvened at 10:36 A.M.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, the Board went into closed session at 10:36 A.M. pursuant to Chapter 21.5(i), Code of Iowa, for a performance evaluation. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board returned to open session at 12:41 P.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Supervisor Furlong stated that he and Supervisor Sauer met with County Engineer Keith White to discuss his salary. Furlong and Sauer stated they are proposing an increase of 3%. On a motion by Furlong, second by Sauer, the Board approved a 3% increase for the County Engineer for FY14/15. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 P.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Robert E. Howard, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors