

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, January 29, 2018

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

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

On a motion by Bonebrake, second by Sorensen, claims dated January 29, 2018 were approved as amended in the amount of \$421,343.44. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commissioner Mary Beveridge regarding historic preservation consultant services in the preparation of a National Register Nomination of the Muscatine County Farm Barn. Budget Administrator Sherry Seright stated the Community Foundation has approved a \$1,000 grant, Muscatine County Historic Preservation is donating \$1,000 and Friends of the Old Barn are contributing \$725 to cover the cost of the services. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Chairperson was authorized to execute a Letter of Agreement with Price Preservation Research at a cost of \$2,725 for historic preservation consultant services in the preparation of a National Register Nomination of the Muscatine County Farm Barn. Ayes: All.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #1 Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 5 votes were cast. Mike Meyers received 5 votes. Mike Meyers was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #2 Election held on January 22, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 2 votes were cast. Mark Elder received 2 votes. Mark Elder was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #4 Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 4 votes were cast. Mitch Templeman received 4 votes. Mitch Templeman was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #5 Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 3 votes were cast. David Johnson received 3 votes. David Johnson was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #9 Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 3 votes were cast. George Meyers received 3 votes. George Meyers was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #10 Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 3 votes were cast. Don Feldman received 3 votes. Don Feldman was elected.

The Board canvassed the Levee District #17 Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 3 votes were cast. Jesse Shield received 3 votes. Jesse Shield was elected.

The Board canvassed the Muscatine-Louisa Island Levee Third District Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 9 votes were cast. Tom Langan received 9 votes. Tom Langan was elected.

The Board canvassed the Muscatine-Louisa Drainage District #13 Third District Election held on January 20, 2018. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 27, 2018 – 1,557 votes were cast. Robert W. Cook received 1,557 votes. Robert W. Cook was elected.

On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, minutes of the January 22, 2018 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received a letter from Robert McCleary regarding a need for affordable single floor housing for the elderly.

Committee Reports:

Sorensen attended an Emergency Food and Shelter Board meeting January 23rd.

Sorensen, Sauer and Howard attended a Conference Board meeting January 23rd.

Sorensen attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development meeting January 25th.

Sorensen attended a Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority presentation to the Farm Bureau January 23rd.

Sauer and Mather attended a Bi-State Regional meeting January 24th.

Howard attended a Milestones Area Agency on Aging Executive Board meeting January 23rd.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Bonebrake, the Board approved the hiring of Gavin Whittaker as Corrections Sergeant at \$44,518.00 (Grade 10, Step 14), Claude Daum as Corrections Sergeant at \$43,790.00 (Grade 10, Step 13) and Nicholas Doy as Corrections Sergeant at \$45,247.00 (Grade 10, Step 15) for the Jail. Ayes: All.

Mather asked the Board to clarify for the audience the Board's decision to lower the MH/DD levy to zero to recoup funds contributed to the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region. Sorensen stated Muscatine County paid approximately \$3,500,000 to the Region that resulted in a large fund balance. Scott County contributed no taxpayer dollars to the Region, but withdrew funds to supplement mental health services for their residents. Sorensen stated the State has decided that the Region must lower its fund balance to 20% in three years, so the Board decided the way to do that was by lowering the MH/DD levy to zero which will require the Region to pay for Muscatine County mental health services out of the Region's fund balance. Mather stated this is fairer for Muscatine County taxpayers. Mather stated funds contributed by Clinton and Muscatine Counties account for most of the Region's excess fund balance.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board went into closed session at 9:36 A.M. pursuant to Chapter 21.5(c), Code of Iowa, to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Howard, the Board returned to open session at 10:14 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

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

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Scott Sauer, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors