

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, February 18, 2019

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

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, the Board approved a Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) non-sTEP Highway Safety (402 Project) Grant application in the amount of \$40,515. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with County Engineer Keith White regarding his request to add an equipment maintenance worker position. White stated this is basically an entry level mechanic position. White stated this position would reduce the amount of work previously outsourced. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board authorized the County Engineer to add an equipment maintenance worker position. Ayes: All.

White updated the Board on secondary road projects stating he has a tentative meeting scheduled with Lutheran Living to discuss the upcoming G28 project. White also stated he has a phone call scheduled with the Corp of Engineers regarding a bridge replacement west of West Liberty which is on the historic registry. Lynn Pruitt, Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission, stated since the historic bridge is being demolished, there is mitigation involved, but that the funds received for mitigation would come back to the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission for its use locally. White stated due to the several record setting months this winter, the County's salt supply is exhausted. White stated the County has reduced its salt to sand ratio and even used some pure sand to stretch their supply. White stated he has been able to purchase a small amount of salt that should be delivered soon.

Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, presented the final Facility Master Plan Study. Nolan presented recommendations for each facility based on the condition and function of those facilities. Nolan stated the main issue with the Attorney's Office is the lack of an accessible restroom. Nolan stated the Community Services building boiler system will need to be addressed soon as it is nearing the end of its expected life. Nolan stated although it is not required, he would recommend a central fire detection and alarm system be installed in the Courthouse. Nolan stated in the future the County may want to consider adding a security entrance vestibule. Nolan suggested the Historic Jail be mothballed in its entirety until funding is available to convert the building to a museum and General Services has been relocated to a new facility. Nolan recommended the construction of a new General Services/Search and Rescue Facility on the downtown campus and a garage/evidence storage addition to the Sheriff's Office. Nolan recommended the County divest the Washington Street Facility once current functions are relocated to new facilities. Nolan recommended remodeling of the vestibule, balancing of the HVAC system and the addition of a garage/evidence storage area at the Sheriff's Office. Nolan stated the Jail roof is nearing the end of its expected life. Nolan also recommended increasing the size of the intake area and parking. Nolan stated there are areas of the Jail that are not heating and cooling properly due to exterior walls not being insulated. Nolan suggested the exterior walls

be retrofitted with insulation to better balance the heating and cooling of the facility. Nolan recommended the addition of a new office building for the County Engineer and a new prototype satellite maintenance shed facility be constructed at the Funks Hill site. Nolan presented a detailed plan for completion of the projects over the next several years with a proposed budget as follows: 2019-2020 - \$1.75 million; 2020-2022 - \$1.25 million; 2022-2024 - \$1.22 million; and 2024 and beyond - \$1.1 million.

Nolan updated the Board on the Courthouse third floor courtroom project and the Administration Building elevator project.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, minutes of the February 11, 2019 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Holliday reported a complaint regarding a road conditions on Kinkaid Avenue.

Committee Reports:

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development Annual meeting February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mather attended a budget work session with the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region February 15<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, the Board approved Resolution #02-18-19-01 to Fix a Date for a Public Hearing on a General Obligation Loan Agreement. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. The Public Hearing was set for Monday, March 4, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.

**RESOLUTION #02-18-19-01**  
**RESOLUTION TO FIX A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON A**  
**GENERAL OBLIGATION LOAN AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors (the “Board”) of Muscatine County, Iowa (the “County”), proposes to enter into a loan agreement (the “Loan Agreement”) in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,850,000 pursuant to the provisions of Section 331.402 of the Code of Iowa for the purpose of financing improvements and repairs to County buildings, including the following:

- County Engineer’s building and parking lot - \$315,000
- New maintenance building for General Services Department - \$700,000
- Maintenance and storage building for search and rescue equipment - \$300,000
- Sheriff’s office garage and storage addition - \$300,000
- Repairs to other County buildings - \$235,000

WHEREAS, it is necessary to fix a date of meeting of the Board at which it is proposed to take action to enter into the Loan Agreement and to give notice thereof as required by such law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. The Board shall meet on the 4th day of March, 2019, at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9 o'clock a.m., at which time and place a hearing will be held and proceedings will be instituted and action taken to enter into the Loan Agreement.

Section 2. The County Auditor is hereby directed to give notice of the proposed action on the Loan Agreement setting forth the amount and purpose thereof, the time when and place where the hearing will be held, by publication at least once and not less than 4 nor more than 20 days before the date of the hearing, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the County. The notice shall be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION TO INSTITUTE  
PROCEEDINGS TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT  
IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,850,000**

The Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, will meet on the 4th day of March, 2019, at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9 o'clock a.m., for the purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action to enter into a loan agreement (the "Loan Agreement") in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,850,000 for the purpose of financing improvements and repairs to the County buildings, including the following:

- County Engineer's building and parking lot - \$315,000
- New maintenance building for General Services Department - \$700,000
- Maintenance and storage building for search and rescue equipment - \$300,000
- Sheriff's office garage and storage addition - \$300,000
- Repairs to other County buildings - \$235,000

The Loan Agreement is proposed to be entered into pursuant to authority contained in Section 331.402 of the Code of Iowa. The Loan Agreement will constitute a general obligation of the County.

At that time and place, oral or written objections may be filed or made to the proposal to enter into the Loan Agreement. After receiving objections, the Board of Supervisors may determine to enter into the Loan Agreement, in which case, the decision will be final unless appealed to the District Court within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa.

Leslie Soule  
County Auditor

Section 3. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PASSED and APPROVED this 18th day of February, 2019.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule  
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Nathan Mather, Chairperson  
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Discussion was held with Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber regarding a proposed revised Muscatine County Law Enforcement Certification Policy. Schreiber reviewed the revisions which clarified certification costs and how the County could be reimbursed should an employee leave employment within a certain time period. On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, the Board adopted a revised Muscatine County Law Enforcement Policy. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Schreiber regarding a proposal from Reliance Standard Life Insurance for life, accidental death and dismemberment and long-term disability for Muscatine County employees. Schreiber stated the County currently provides \$10,000 of coverage on life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment and long term disability equal to 60% of their pre-disability income after a 90-day waiting period. Schreiber stated she went out for bids and is recommending Reliance Standard Life Insurance who will provide \$20,000 per employee for life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment at a savings of approximately \$2,300 per year. Schreiber stated if the Board wants to stay with \$10,000 per employee, the savings would be \$6,000 per year. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board accepted a three year proposal from Reliance Standard Life Insurance for life (\$20,000/employee), accidental death and dismemberment (\$20,000/employee) and long-term disability coverage for Muscatine County employees. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding HSB165. Budget Coordinator Sherry Seright stated HSB165, which was introduced in the House last Wednesday, would cap the general and rural fund levies at the rate levied for FY19-20. Seright stated in order to balance the budget for general basic, the levy would need to be increased 27 cents, but due to inmate revenue which usually far exceeds budget, the County is probably in good shape. Seright recommended increasing the rural services levy 20 cents to balance the budget and maintain a 25% fund balance. Sauer stated the proposed budget currently has a 16 cent increase built in. Seright stated this would be in addition to that increase, but her concern is that they are spending more each year than they are bringing in and could spend the fund balance down to zero with no mechanism to increase the fund balance. Seright stated the HSB165 still allows the County to hold a public hearing to levy over the maximum allowable levy, but if the County wants to be safe, increase rural services another 20 cents to \$2.99 per thousand. The consensus of the Board was to publish a revised budget with a rural services levy of \$2.99 rather than \$2.79. Mather proposed writing a letter to Representative Hein and his committee and invited the Board to join him on signing the letter stating their displeasure with the timing of this legislation.

White stated the legislature passed a bill last year that allowed grain haulers and construction to haul 96,000 pounds year round rather than 80,000 pounds which caused the County to rerate 27 bridges of which 3 had to be posted because they would not handle the additional load. White stated SF184 has now been introduced which would allow a DOT permit to haul raw forestry products up to 130,000 pounds. White asked the Board to contact their State Senator to try to stop SF184.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

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Nathan Mather, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors