

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, November 18, 2019

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

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, claims dated November 18, 2019 were approved in the revised amount of \$931,849.02. Ayes: All.

Lower Cedar River Watershed Management Authority Coordinator Holly Howard updated the Board on activities and funding of the Authority stating they received a \$100,000 grant from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to develop a comprehensive watershed plan over the next couple of years. Howard stated the match for this grant was \$5,000. Howard stated they are also working on the Mill Creek Watershed project through a grant from the Iowa Soybean Association. Howard stated in the future, they intend to conduct a hydrologic study of the whole Cedar River to understand how water moves and behaves within the watershed. Howard stated a grant for the hydrologic study will require a \$30,000 match. Howard stated, in the past, government entities within the watershed provided the match for the grants they receive. Sorensen stated the Authority needs to think of ongoing funding for the coordinator position that was funded with a three year grant through the Nature Conservancy that has about a year left. Sorensen stated the Authority needs approximately \$100,000 to continue the Coordinator position and provide a match for the hydrologic study. In response to a question from Saucedo, Howard stated the Technical Advisory committee will have a member from the Iowa Flood Center and the University of Iowa. Howard stated the Iowa State Water Center already serves as a partner to support the Watershed Management Authorities throughout the State of Iowa.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved 2019 Family Farm Credit Applications with one denial, as recommended by the County Assessor's Office. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the following utility permits: Eastern Iowa Light and Power – restring lines and add a pole near the bridge project on 155th Street west of Elder Avenue; and Unite Private Networks – bore fiber optic across Elder Avenue to connect to cell towers. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved Resolution #11-18-19-01 Designating a Portion of Tucker Avenue for a Reduced Level of Maintenance as an Area Service “C” Road. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #11-18-19-01
DESIGNATING A PORTION OF TUCKER AVENUE FOR A REDUCED LEVEL OF
MAINTENANCE AS AN AREA SERVICE “C” ROAD**

WHEREAS, Muscatine County desires to classify certain roads on the area service system in the County to provide for a minimal level of maintenance and access by means of a gate or barrier; and

WHEREAS, the County, after consultation with the County Engineer, has the authority to specify certain roads within the County as Area Service "C" roads pursuant to Iowa Code Section 309.57; and

WHEREAS, the County has received a request that the following road be classified as an Area Service "C" road; and

WHEREAS, the only persons who will have access rights to the roads shall be:

1. the owner, lessee, or person in lawful possession of any adjoining land,
2. the agent or employee of the owner, lessee or person in lawful possession of any adjoining land,
3. any peace officer,
4. any magistrate,
5. any public employee whose duty it is to supervise the use or perform maintenance of the road,
6. any agent or employee of any utility located upon the road.

WHEREAS, the minimal level of maintenance will be as follows:

1. Blading. Blading or dragging will not be performed on a regular basis. Adjacent landowners may request such blading or dragging on an infrequent basis (typically once in the spring and once in the fall).
2. Snow and Ice Removal. Snow and ice will not be removed, nor will the road surface be sanded or salted.
3. Signing. Except for load limit posting for bridges, signing shall not be continued or provided. ALL AREA SERVICE LEVEL C ROADS SHALL BE IDENTIFIED WITH A SIGN AT ALL POINTS OF ACCESS TO WARN THE PUBLIC OF THE LOWER LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE.
4. Weeds, Brush and Trees. Mowing or spraying weeds, cutting brush and tree removal will not be performed on a regular basis. Adequate sight distances will not be maintained.
5. Structures. Bridges and culverts may not be maintained to carry legal loads. Upon failure or loss, the replacement structure will be appropriate for the traffic thereon.
6. Road Surfacing. There will be no surfacing materials applied to Area Service System C Roads on a regular basis.
7. Shoulders. Shoulders will not be maintained on a regular basis.
8. Crown. A crown will not be maintained on a regular basis.
9. Repairs. There will be no road repair on a regular basis.
10. Uniform Width. Uniform width for the traveled portion of the road will not be maintained.
11. Inspections. Regular inspections will not be conducted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MUSCATINE COUNTY that the following described road is hereby established as an Area Service "C" road, with restricted access and a minimal level of maintenance.

A portion of Tucker Avenue, beginning at a point 700 feet north of the East Quarter Corner of Section 22, Township 77 North, Range 1 West of the 5th Principal Meridian; thence south along the centerline of Tucker Avenue and east line of said Section 22 a distance of 2,000 feet, more or less, all in Sweetland Township.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 18th day of November, 2019.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule
Muscatine County Auditor

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

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved Ordinance #11-18-19-01 Rezoning Certain Real Property in Wapsie Township from A-1 Agricultural District Zoning Classification to R-1 Residential District Zoning Classification on the third and final reading. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met as a Board of Canvassers in order to canvass multiple county races for the city and school elections held Tuesday, November 5, 2019 for which Muscatine is the control county. The Board of Canvassers certified the following results to be a true and correct abstract of the votes cast in the elections:

CITY OF WILTON

(Cedar County results have been included)

Mayor (two year term) – there were 485 votes cast: Robert Barrett received 274 votes and Corey Freeman received 211 votes. Robert Barrett was elected.

Councilmember At-Large (four year term-three positions) – there were 1,347 votes cast: Sheryl Lenker received 343 votes, Ted Marolf received 342 votes, Jim Driscoll received 153 votes, Wayne Budding received 404 votes, Michael Rohwer received 100 votes and there was a scattering of 5 votes. Wayne Budding, Sheryl Lenker and Ted Marolf were elected.

LOUISA-MUSCATINE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (Three positions - four year terms)

(Louisa County results have been included)

There were 915 votes cast: Barbara Thompson received 175 votes, Bryce Kendall Hoben received 252 votes, Stacie Ziegenhorn received 166 votes, Carol Ann Whittaker received 222 votes, Jonathan Morgan received 89 votes and there was a scattering of 11 votes. Bryce Kendall Hoben, Carol Ann Whittaker and Barbara Thompson were elected.

WEST LIBERTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (Three positions - four year terms)

(Cedar County and Johnson County results have been included)

There were 1,342 votes cast: Jacob Burroughs received 267 votes, Jeff Laughlin received 224 votes, Carla Shield received 298 votes, Christian Torres received 178 votes, David Millage received 160 votes, Kathleen Garrido received 213 votes and there was a scattering of 2 votes. Carla Shield, Jacob Burroughs and Jeff Laughlin were elected.

WILTON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (Three positions - four year terms)
(Cedar County results have been included)

There were 1,530 votes cast: Ginny Harris received 323 votes, Jeremy Lies received 356 votes, Timothy Barrett received 426 votes, Linda A. Duncan received 397 votes and there was a scattering of 28 votes. Timothy Barrett, Linda A. Duncan and Jeremy Lies were elected.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved the FY2019 Muscatine County Urban Renewal Annual Report for Muscatine County. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, minutes of the November 4, 2019 regular meeting and the November 13, 2019 special meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Saucedo reported a meeting November 14th with a group wanting to put a youth program for kids at risk in Muscatine.

Mather reported various mental health region issues.

Mather reported correspondence from a resident interested in the Trust program.

Holliday reported correspondence regarding a septic overflow in Kammerer Trailer Park.

Holliday attended a slag committee meeting November 14th.

Holliday attended a Muscatine County Fair Work Session November 16th.

Committee Reports:

Mather attended a Seventh Judicial Correctional District meeting November 15th.

Mather attended a Public Health Board LEAN Leadership meeting November 4th.

Mather attended the SEIL Governing Board meeting November 13th.

Mather attended the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region Management Team meeting November 7th.

Sorensen attended a Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority meeting November 12th.

Felicia Toppert reported that the South East Iowa Link (SEIL) Region did not accept Muscatine County at this time. Toppert stated if Muscatine County is not accepted in a new Region, they become an orphan county and the Department of Human Services (DHS) will assign Muscatine County to a Region. Toppert provided information from the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region acknowledging that Muscatine County has a fund balance of \$881,106 and that Scott County may be asked to contribute \$1,300,000 to the region due to their shortfall in services. Toppert stated Muscatine County needs to have a thorough discussion with DHS and ask for their assistance in providing the SEIL Region with the information they need to make a decision. Sorensen stated there is a management issue with Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region and DHS needs to get involved. Toppert stated DHS approves the budget so they should have been aware that the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region was budgeting expenditures in excess of their revenues. Mather stated

he wants to sit down with DHS and give them points to consider so that they do not try to force Muscatine County back into the Eastern Iowa Region. Toppert stated services will not be the same in the Eastern Iowa Region if Muscatine County is forced back into that Region. Saucedo asked if SEIL is still an option if we are able to provide them with the information they need to make an informed decision. Mather stated the County can resubmit their application. Toppert stated she has already provided them with a Transition Plan and has asked for the list of items they requested.

Budget Coordinator Sherry Seright distributed the proposed FY2021 Budget Calendar.

Discussion was held regarding a request to abate interest incurred on property taxes that were paid online using an incorrect bank account number causing the payment to be rejected. The amount of interest was \$56.00 and the individual requested the interest be waived. The Board was not interested in abating the interest as it was up to the individual to make sure their taxes were timely paid. The resolution died for lack of a motion.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved Proclamation #11-18-19-01 Diabetes Awareness Month – November 2019. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board reappointed Virginia Cooper to the Muscatine County Zoning Commission for a five-year term ending November 7, 2024. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber regarding possible submittal of a grant application to ICAP for safety related items. Schreiber stated the Muscatine County Safety Committee recommends that the Board authorize a grant for \$591.03 for the purchase of safety equipment for the Zoning Department. Schreiber stated the committee also recommended the remainder of the \$1,000 grant be used for safety mulch for the playground at Jack Shuger Memorial Park in Moscow which was remaining from last year's request from Conservation. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board authorized submittal of a grant application to ICAP for safety related items and material in the amount of \$1,000.00. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors