

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, October 4, 2021

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

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, claims dated October 4, 2021 were approved in the amount of \$304,302.84. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas regarding a change order with Horizon Architecture for the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project. Furnas stated two recessed security lights were not included in the approved design. Furnas stated two lights are part of on hand inventory for another phase in the project so they will not have to be ordered. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board approved Change Order #13, for the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project in the amount of \$1,637.49. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, the Board approved the following utility permit: Bret Whitlow, 2001 Sweetland Road – bore 1 ¼” water line beneath Sweetland Road to the house: place a minimum 5’ below gutter, with a locate wire. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with County Engineer Keith White regarding a request for guidance on repair/closure options on a portion of Keokuk Avenue from Saulsbury Road south approximately ¾ of a mile which is currently gated and closed due to washout and drainage issues. White stated there are two options: leave the road closed with no cost to the taxpayers or reinforce with 12’ x 6’ concrete blocks with a 10 year event at a cost of approximately \$250,000.00. White stated the cost for the road repair is not on the five year plan. Several residents expressed concerns with the road closure regarding delivery service issues, property access, cattle access, increased traffic on adjacent roads and area roads are not feasible to haul cattle and equipment.

White presented a report for the cost of labor and equipment of \$9,653.21 for collecting trash and items such as furniture, tires, appliances and electronics dumped on the shoulder and ditches of secondary roads from August 10, 2020 to October 1, 2021. Sheriff Quinn Riess and Budget Administrator Sherry Seright stated that the diversion and county employees have been turned away at the transfer station for dumping items or charged \$30 for grass clippings because they are not city residents. Saucedo stated he will address this problem with the Muscatine Mayor and Muscatine City Council and how it relates to the transfer station policy for non-city residents being denied the option to dispose of items and possibility of developing a fee. White questioned what does the county pay \$38,000 to the Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency for and what services we receive. Saucedo stated he will contact the Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency for definition of services.

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

Sheriff Quinn Riess reviewed the reduction of fees collected in the quarter ending September 30, 2021 due to the lower amount of court papers served. Riess stated due to a change in the laws, other counties are allowed to cross over into Muscatine County to serve garnishment papers. Riess stated he has addressed the issue with legislators and the Iowa State Sheriff and Deputy Association. Sorensen stated his concern is those type of activities can be a flag for law enforcement to be aware of issues that might be going on in families. Riess stated his department has received calls from business owners and garnishees inquiring what the next steps were for garnishments but they were unable to assist them because the papers were not served by Muscatine County. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Civil Department's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending September 30, 2021 in the amount of \$18,215.66. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, minutes of the September 27, 2021 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

- All Supervisors received COVID updates from Public Health Director Christy Roby-Williams.
- All Supervisors received U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) email updates regarding the Muscatine Island Levee grant.
- Sauer received an email from a resident regarding Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) and the permitting allowed.
- Saucedo received an email from the State of Iowa regarding the redistricting process.
- Saucedo received a call regarding West Liberty Emergency Management Services.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

- Sauer attending the Muscatine County Board of Health meeting on September 29, 2021.
- Saucedo attended a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Carquest Auto Parts at 4200 Highway 61, Muscatine, Iowa on October 1, 2021.
- Saucedo attended the Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting on September 28, 2021.
- Saucedo attended the West Liberty Economic Area Development (WELEAD) meeting on September 30, 2021.
- Saucedo, Sorensen and Mather attended the Joint virtual meeting with City of Muscatine, Muscatine Community School Board and Muscatine County Board of Supervisors on September 29, 2021.

Sorensen thanked the staff and Board members for their work since 2013 on the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Muscatine Island Levee grant process.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, a public hearing to rezone approximately 3.13 acres in Wapsie Township from A-1 Agriculture District to I-2 Heavy Industrial District was set for Monday, October 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board consensus was to reschedule a public hearing previously set for October 4, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. on a proposed agreement for a collaborative partnership to establish a Community Grant Writer

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board accepted the September 2021 payroll claims.
Ayes: All.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas updated the Board regarding the Lower Cedar Watershed Management Authority meeting and workshop that was held on September 29, 2021. Furnas stated Interim Director Emergency Manager Bret Becker attended the workshop.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 A.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Santos Saucedo, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors