

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, November 13, 2023

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

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved claims dated November 13, 2023 in the amount of \$770,230.81. Ayes: All.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas addressed the Board regarding a letter of support for the City of Durant's Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship grant application for the Feldhahn/Mud Creek Storm Water Quality Wetland Initiative project. Furnas recommended the Board support this initiative as the Lower Cedar River Watershed Management Area is affected by Mud Creek which the Board has identified as a priority area.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the request for a letter of support for the City of Durant's Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship grant application for the Feldhahn/Mud Creek Storm Water Quality Wetland Initiative project was approved. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved the following utility permits: Eastern Iowa Light and Power REC, Wilton, Iowa – bore 2” duct for a 7,200V cable, from a new grade level transformer that will be placed next to an existing pole on the west side of Vail Ave, to the east, into private property of Vail Holdings LLC, Sweetland Township Section 1, T77N-R1W; bore 2” duct across X61 to a railroad building. Intersection of Box Car Rd and X61, Section 32, T76N-02W; bore primary cable under Atwood Ave. for a new service. It will be in innerduct from the transformer to the cabinet on the west side of Atwood Ave. Sec 6, T77N-04W. Ayes: All.

Muscatine County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky updated the Board on the Region 9 RPA (Regional Planning Affiliation) Technical committee meeting held on October 30, 2023. The focus of the meeting was the new evaluation process for projects. The goal was to make the process more transparent, as well as, easier to explain which projects were awarded and why. Sauer thanked Horesowsky for the update and noted that he was very pleased with how the ditches looked on New Era Road. Horesowsky stated that many of the property owners do not have the heavy equipment to tackle this type of clearing and the brush clearing should make it easier for property owners to maintain upkeep going forward.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the minutes of the November 6, 2023 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Kirchner received communication from Loren Wear on Evans Avenue regarding some potholes in the road. He recommended Wear discuss this with Muscatine County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky.

Kirchner received communication from Ethan Anderson, Mayor of West Liberty.
Kirchner discussed the communication with Muscatine County Attorney Jim Barry.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

Kirchner attended a WELEAD (West Liberty Economic Area Development) meeting on November 10, 2023. After which, he attended a WELEAD quarterly business luncheon.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved a position change in General Services. Nathan Sneath was given the new job title of Maintenance Worker I. Sneath previously held a Maintenance Worker II position and according to Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber has completed all required training for the new position. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved a contract with MRA for Compensation Services for Muscatine County. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved health plan consulting services with Assured Partners in the amount of \$10,000. Schreiber stated there was one change to the contract, which added language stating if Muscatine was not satisfied with the service at the end of the project, Assured Partners will refund the money. Ayes: All.

Schreiber stated she has received a resignation letter from Chris Scholz from the Board of Health. Schreiber will post a notice of vacancy to find somebody to fill that position.

Muscatine County Attorney Jim Barry addressed the Board with an update regarding the 245th Street Bridge Project. Barry stated the committee recommend providing a formal report to the Board on November 20, 2023 to discuss the next steps and asked to be placed on the agenda. Barry noted the delay in getting on the agenda was to allow time for those who wish to attend and participate in the November 20, 2023 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 A.M.

ATTEST:

Cathy Ribbink
2nd Deputy Auditor

Scott Sauer, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors