

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, July 8, 2024

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 Sorensen presiding.

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Chick, the Board approved claims dated July 8, 2024 in the amount of \$2,886,590.85. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board approved Resolution #07-08-24-01 Establishing Compensation for Precinct Election Officials. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #07-08-24-01
ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS**

WHEREAS, according to Iowa Code Section 49.20, the Board of Supervisors establishes the compensation rate and mileage reimbursement rate of precinct election officials; and

WHEREAS, according to Iowa Code Section 49.125, the Board of Supervisors establishes the mileage reimbursement rate for precinct election officials attending training; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors, that effective July 8, 2024, Precinct Election Chairpersons shall receive \$200.00. Precinct Election Day Officials shall receive \$160.00 for full day duties or \$80.00 for half day duties. All other Precinct Election workers, such as Absentee and Special Voter Precinct Board (ASVP), Health Care Facility (HCF) team and Post-Election Audit Workers will receive \$10.00 per hour. All Precinct Election Officials (PEO) will receive \$25.00 for election school of instruction if the PEO works on election day or for the ASVP Board, HCF team or Post-Election Audit team.

All Precinct Election workers will receive mileage reimbursement to and from the school of instruction and to and from the polling place, if over five miles, at a rate of \$0.60 per mile.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 8th day of July, 2024.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

On a motion by Sauer, second by Kirchner, the Board accepted the Muscatine County Recorder's Report of Fees collected for the quarter ending June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$60,991.74. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Chick, the Board accepted the Muscatine County Auditor's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$5,816.84. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kirchner, second by Sauer, the Board accepted the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office – Civil Department's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$26,009.46. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board accepted the Muscatine County Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$824,848.24. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kirchner, second by Chick, the Board approved the minutes of the July 1, 2024 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen received a call from Charles Lorentzen regarding a question on lost and found items.

Sorensen received an email regarding a port initiative and forwarded the email to the Board members.

Committee Reports:

Chick attended a Housing Council meeting on July 3, 2024.

Sorensen attended a Bi-State Regional Planning Commission meeting on June 26, 2024.

Kirchner stated the Muscatine County Fair will be held July 17-21, 2024. The fair parade will be held on Sunday, July 14, 2024 at West Liberty, Iowa at 2:00 P.M.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sorensen, to approve the second half of the FY23/24 allocation of \$5,000.00 to GMCCI (request received on June 22, 2024) and to decline the second half of the FY23/24 of \$8,250.00 to West Liberty Library (request received on July 1, 2024). Ayes: Chick, Sorensen; Nays: Kirchner, Sauer. Motion failed. Sauer questioned how prior year allocations that were denied, due to late submissions, would be handled if the agencies request funds. Budget Administrator Kala Naber stated a budget amendment publication and staff time would create approximately \$1,000 in cost. Chick questioned if the LATCF funds could be reallocated. Sorensen stated a budget amendment would be required for reallocating LACF funds that would create the same costs.

On a motion by Kirchner, second by Chick, the Board appointed Keith Ornsby to the Muscatine County Veterans Affairs Commission to fill a vacancy for a term ending June 30, 2025 and appointed Richard Lindle to a full three-year term ending June 30, 2027. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sauer, the Board re-appointed Tony Brus to the Benefited Fire

District #6 for a three-year term ending June 30, 2027 (subject to approval by Scott County Board of Supervisors). Ayes: All.

County Attorney Jim Barry stated the County Engineer's Office Secondary Roads Unit, Sheriff's Office Corrections Officers Unit and the Jail Support Unit agreements to the Board today as the signed agreement documents are expected from each unit. The agenda item being presented to authorize the Chair to execute these agreements will allow immediate action for the benefit of payroll and insurance.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 agreement regarding the Muscatine County Engineer's Office Secondary Roads Unit between Muscatine County and Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers, Local Union #238. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sauer, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 agreement regarding the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Corrections Officers Unit between Muscatine County and Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers, Local Unit #238. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Kirchner, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 agreement regarding the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Jail Support Unit between Muscatine County and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Iowa Council. Ayes: All.

Budget Administrator Kala Naber reviewed FY 23/24 year-end fund balances. Naber proposed to the Board to transfer \$1,850,000.00 from the General Basic Fund to Capital Projects Fund. Naber stated the transfer maintains 35% in the General Fund balance. On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board approved to transfer \$1,850,000.00 from the General Basic Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. Ayes: All.

Naber reviewed the unused LATCF Fund of \$16,500.00 as Muscatine Legal Services raised \$3,500 of the \$20,000 proposed LATCF matching fund allocation, leaving a balance of \$16,500.00. Naber recommended to the Board to reallocate the balance to the Capital Projects Fund for the Courthouse Roofing Project. On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board approved to transfer \$16,500.00 from the LATCF Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. Ayes: All.

Barry held discussion with the Board regarding the proposed Port of Eastern Iowa stating the resolution that was received is an acceptable/standard resolution. Barry stated the Port of Eastern Iowa as a port authority has been presented as no cost to the county however the county will be required to assign a director to a board and there are potential costs or hurdles that may be associated with a port. Sorensen stated Kent Corporation and Muscatine Power and Water have been involved with discussions and are interested in the port authority. Chick stated the Community Foundation Grant Writer could possibly assist with the possible grants for the project. Sorensen stated Iowa Code 28J governs port authorities and Colonel Sinkler has stated the required

Iowa Finance Annual Report would be completed by Port of Eastern Iowa. Sorensen recommended to place an action item on a future board meeting to discuss the proposed port authority. Sorensen stated Clinton County has indicated (per their county attorney) that they are willing to prepare the required by-laws. Barry stated Louisa County is not interested. Scott County has indicated interest in a presentation from the port authority. Discussion was held with the Board stating the port can be a virtual port or a physical port.

Barry stated a road and right-of-way use agreement with Legacy Corporation for the Muscatine Island Levee Improvement project has been signed for the portion of the construction route from Pettibone Avenue to 41st Street. County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky stated the traffic controls will be placed by the contractor by Department of Transportation specifications. Sorensen urged citizens to use caution when traveling in this area.

Barry stated a court hearing regarding the cease of 67 animals (which occurred in June 2024) was held on July 3, 2024. The lawsuit was settled with the owner signing to give up custody of the animals and for the county to recoup the costs (for maintenance of the animals, service fees, veterinarian fee and attorney's fees).

The Board recessed at 9:44 A.M. The Board reconvened at 9:50 A.M.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Chick, the Board went into a non-public session at 9:50 A.M. pursuant to Chapter 20.17(3), Code of Iowa, to discuss strategy in union negotiations. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. Mather joined the non-public session at 10:01 A.M. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board returned to open session at 10:39 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 A.M.

ATTEST:

Jane Claussen
1st Deputy Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors