

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, September 30, 2024

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

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Kirchner, to approve claims dated September 30, 2024 in the amount of \$996,252.54. Ayes: All.

Conservation Director Katie Hammond reviewed an application to the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust to completely redo the entire life support system for all of the aquariums at the Environmental Learning Center and to update the live animal enclosures.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board approved an application to the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust in the amount of \$100,505.00 to update the life support system for the aquariums at the Environmental Learning Center. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sauer, the Board approved a renewal application and ownership change for a Class C Native Wine, Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Permit for Ardon Creek Vineyard & Winery, LLC, dba Ardon Creek Vineyard & Winery, 2391 Independence Ave., Letts, Iowa. Ayes: All.

Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture presented bids for the Muscatine County Deputy's Quarters Pavement Replacement Project as follows: All American Concrete - \$13,789.00 with and Alternate bid (remove antenna base)- \$400.00; Cromer Concrete- no bid; Heuer Construction- no bid. Nolan recommended to award the bid and alternate bid to All American Concrete in the amount of \$13,789.00 and include the alternate bid (remove antenna base)- \$400.00, as the bid is lower than the estimate for this project.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board approved to award a bid for the Muscatine County Deputy's Quarters Pavement Replacement Project to All American Concrete in the amount of \$13,789.00 and include the alternate bid (remove antenna base) in the amount of \$400.00. Ayes: All.

Nolan presented bids for the Muscatine County Jail Door and Access Panel Replacement Project as follows: Spectra Build - \$53,870.00; Wolfe Contracting - \$73,000.00; Merit Construction- no bid. Nolan recommended to award the bid to Spectra Build in the amount of \$53,870.00.

On a motion by Chick, second by Mather, the Board approved to award a bid for the Muscatine County Jail Door and Access Panel Replacement to Spectra Build in the amount of \$53,870.00. Ayes: All.

Nolan updated the Board on the Muscatine County Jail Insulated Panel Project stating the project

is on hold as the panels have not arrived. The preliminary work of modifying the gas line has been done. Nolan stated the proposed County Jail Split Conditioning System Project for the south lobby and the transition at the sallyport was discussed with General Services Supervisor Oscar Alvarez and it was determined to place it on hold at this time. Nolan stated the Administration Building maintenance project and the Community Service Building exterior and concrete project will be going out for bids. Nolan reviewed the Courthouse Roof Project stating that Teracon has conducted the pull-out tests on the fasteners and we are waiting for the construction engineers report.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Chick, the Board approved the minutes of the September 23, 2024 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen received a call from Allen Voss with concerns about recent vehicle accidents with fatalities. Sorensen invited Voss to the Traffic Safety Planning Session on October 22, 2024.

Sorensen received an email from Josh Rogers, Great Plains Institute, stating he will be in and about Muscatine County from October 1-28, 2024, researching the MISO long-range transmission plans. Sorensen and will meet with Rogers on October 9, 2024. Sorensen stated Ryan Streck of Muscatine Power and Water has been invited to the meeting.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sorensen attended an event held with a federal candidate to discuss affordable housing on September 24, 2024.

Sorensen and Sauer attended a Region 9 Transportation Policy Board meeting on September 25, 2024.

Sorensen attended a Bi-State Regional Planning Commission meeting on September 25, 2024.

Sorensen attended a Mental Health Retreat held with the Central Iowa Region on September 26, 2024. The Region decided to submit for the ASO, (administrative service organization) with four people indicating an interest to submit an RFP.

Kirchner attended a WELEAD Board meeting on September 26, 2024.

Chick attended a Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Finance Committee meeting on September 25, 2024.

Chick attended a Bi-State Trails Committee meeting on September 26, 2024.

Mather attended a Muscatine County Veterans Affairs Commission meeting on September 18, 2024.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber reviewed a draft 2025 Muscatine County Holiday Schedule. Schreiber stated Christmas Day 2025 falls on a Thursday, so the Board may want to consider changing the schedule to include December 23, 2025 and/or December 26, 2025 as part of the schedule.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board approved a 2025 Muscatine County Holiday Schedule with 10 Holidays (to include December 24, 2025 and December 26, 2025) and one personal day. Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber reviewed Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Corrections Officers Unit Contract between Muscatine County and Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers, Local Unit #238, explaining the agreement is the outcome of arbitration to award 2.8% wage increase to the base rate only.

On a motion by Mather, 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.

Schreiber reviewed Resolution #09-30-24-01 Supplemental Pay for Corrections Bargaining Unit by Muscatine County, stating this document authorizes supplemental pay equivalent to the original offer made by the County in negotiations with the Corrections Unit (3.25 % scale adjustment, continue step progression, 1% 1x pay to employees at top of the scale as of 07/01/24, for a total package cost of 4.68%). Schreiber stated the arbitrator awarded a 2.8% wage increase to the step 1 rate only, which is the maximum allowed per the Code of Iowa. There are currently no employees in step 1 but new hires with no relevant experience would be hired in at step 1. Mather confirmed with County Attorney Jim Barry and Schreiber that the Board offered the unit a higher wage increase than they could receive in arbitration. Mather stated the supplemental pay is not part of the base contract and would not be the baseline for future negotiations.

On a motion by Chick, second by Mather, the Board approved Resolution # 09-30-24-01 Supplemental Pay for Corrections Bargaining Unit by Muscatine County. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION # 09-30-24-01
SUPPLEMENTAL PAY FOR CORRECTIONS BARGAINING UNIT BY MUSCATINE
COUNTY

WHEREAS, Muscatine County is a party to a collective bargaining agreement with the Sheriff's Office Correctional Unit represented by Chauffeurs, Teamsters & Helpers Local Union No. 238 with a duration of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, an arbitration award was issued on September 11, 2024 giving a 2.8% increase to base wages (Step 1) and maintaining all other current contract language; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors wishes to implement supplemental pay for employees in the bargaining unit as a retention stipend; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, has authority to unilaterally implement supplemental pay as it is a prohibited topic of bargaining pursuant to Iowa Code section 20.9(3).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors:

1. That employees at step 1 shall receive a retention stipend, implemented retroactive to July 1, 2024 and issued on each paycheck equaling an additional .45% of the base wage.
2. That employees at steps 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 shall receive a retention stipend, implemented retroactive to July 1, 2024 and issued on each paycheck equaling a 3.25% increase to the employee's current "step pay" only.
3. That employees who were on step 7 as of June 30, 2024, shall also receive a 1% lump sum payment in the first payroll in December 2024.
4. That the Muscatine County Director of Administrative Services is directed to implement this resolution.

Passed and approved this 30th day of September, 2024.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

On a motion by Mather, second by Kirchner, the Board authorized the renewal of the Muscatine County Flexible Benefits Plan for 2025 and setting the open enrollment period for October 7, 2024 to November 1, 2024. Ayes: All.

Schreiber reminded the Board the arbitration with the Deputies Unit is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in the Board room. The arbitration is open to the public.

County Attorney Jim Barry updated the Board regarding 245th Street and Edgewater Road, Conesville, Iowa. Barry and County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky met with the Nature Conservancy and the homeowner's association. Barry stated a broad discussion was held to address the possible bridge and road vacation, with the general concept not being rejected.

Horesowsky reviewed with the Board his concerns on Solomon Avenue regarding the approved Data Centers (behind Menards) and the entrance that is proposed on Solomon. Horesowsky presented a map of the area prepared by City of Muscatine to the Board. Horesowsky stated it is proposed that the Data Center may be moved east of Menards on a parcel that is within the

city limits. The proposed entrance would be off Solomon Avenue and the parcel, which was annexed into the city, was not annexed to the center of Solomon Avenue (annexed at the right-of-way line). Horesowsky recommended the access be off Highway 61 or the frontage road that lies along Highway 61. Horesowsky stated his concerns with the Solomon Avenue access would be to monitor the traffic and the potential damage to the road. Sorensen recommended to move forward with a request the annexation to the center of the road and to review other options for the entrance as Solomon is a gravel road. Horesowsky stated the City of Muscatine has applied for an entrance permit. Horesowsky will convey the concerns to the City of Muscatine as the review is this week.

Horesowsky updated the Board on secondary roads projects.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas updated the Board on the Courthouse Roof Project. Furnas stated Kelly Plumbing and Heating is working on the project today with the internal gutter system, to replace sections of the gutters, at a cost of approximately \$1,900.00.

Furnas stated he anticipates to ask Bi-State for an extension with an amended contract agreement with the Comprehensive Plan. There will be no additional charge from Bi-State for an extension.

Sorensen asked Furnas if there is an update on the moratorium on wind development. Furnas stated he anticipates moving the moratorium out a couple months due to the proposed Comprehensive Plan extension.

Sheriff Quinn Riess stated the county has experienced nine vehicle fatalities this year. Riess urged motorists to slow down, pay attention and put cell phones down while driving. Riess stated there are countless injuries due to vehicle accidents with distracted driving.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 A.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors