

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, June 9, 2025

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

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved claims dated June 9, 2025 in the amount of \$675,649.26. Ayes: All.

EMS Association President Tom Summitt presented an application for a 2025 Impact Grant for EMS First Responder equipment stating the proposed grant will allow funds to purchase life saving bags for first responders and to expand emergency services to the county to provide basic life support services, especially in the rural areas.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board affirmed an application for a 2025 Impact Grant for EMS First Responder equipment in the amount of \$10,000.00. Ayes: All. Sorensen thanks Summitt for his work with the EMS Association.

County Development Director Eric Furnas reviewed a contract with Iowa Department of Health and Human Services for a Private Well Grant. Furnas stated the grant amount is reduced by \$4,000-\$5,000 from prior years, however the full grant amount has not been fully expended in past years. Furnas stated citizens can contact his office if they are in need of well testing or to shock chlorinate wells that went under water during a flood.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board authorized the County Development Director to sign a contract with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services for the Private Well Grant in the amount of \$45,454.00. Ayes: All.

Furnas gave project updates on the Courthouse Roof Project, Jail Panel Project, Deep Lakes Campground Project and the Muscatine Triathlon (scheduled for August 2, 2025).

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved Resolution #06-09-25-01 Authorizing the County Engineer to Execute Closing Documents for Purchase of Ground for a Satellite Storage and Motor Grader Shed Facility. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #06-09-25-01
AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ENGINEER TO EXECUTE CLOSING DOCUMENTS
FOR PURCHASE OF GROUND FOR A SATELLITE STORAGE AND MOTOR
GRADER SHED FACILITY

Be it resolved by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that Bryan J. Horesowsky, the County Engineer of Muscatine County, Iowa, is hereby designated, authorized and empowered on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of said County to execute the closing documents for purchase of ground, located on Independence Ave, for satellite storage and motor grader shed facility.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9th day of June, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky stated he received an email from the service bureau regarding a new round of grants from Competitive Highway Bridge Program (CHBP). Horesowsky stated this grant opportunity is for approximately nine Muscatine County bridges that have no historical significance, no environmental challenges and easy right-of-ways. The bridges are selected based on submitted applications and if Muscatine County is awarded a grant, the five-year county bridge program and budget may need amended as a consultant may need to be hired, in order to meet deadlines. Horesowsky stated applying for the grant is worthwhile and recommended. Horesowsky stated he will update the Board as the grant progress steps occur.

Sorensen questioned Horesowsky about information he has received regarding the Go Rail Coalition 91,000-pound pilot program with concerns about over weight truck limits. Sorensen stated Go Rail is asking the Board to sign an opposition letter. Horesowsky stated the county roads are already held to the weight limit between the current Governor's proclamation and the All Systems permit. Horesowsky stated his understanding is that the weight limit concern is for the trucks on state highways, which have a different weight limit.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the minutes of the June 2, 2025, regular meeting. Ayes: All

Correspondence.

Sorensen received an email from Go Rail requesting the Board to sign a letter of opposition. Sorensen held communications about mental health advocates and the transition to the state-run mental health system in June. Sorensen stated at this time, the transition for advocates is very unclear regarding the ASO and state reimbursement figures. Mather received information that the current Community Foundation Grant Writer, Luan Nguyen, is resigning from the grant writer position. Kirchner received several phone calls regarding a biochar project in the Atalissa area. Kirchner referred the calls to County Development Director Eric Furnas.

Committee Reports and Meetings.

Sauer and Chick attended an Open House and tour at the new Kent Worldwide Center on June 3, 2025. The open house was attended by Governor Kim Reynolds and the Kent Worldwide Center is located in the former McKee Button Company building.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved Resolution #06-09-25-02 Designating Official Newspapers in and for Muscatine County for 2025. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #06-09-25-02
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS IN AND FOR MUSCATINE
COUNTY FOR 2025

WHEREAS, notice from North Scott Press has been received regarding the merger of the West Liberty Index and the Wilton-Durant Advocate News as of May 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, any resolution or part thereof in conflict or inconsistent with this resolution is repealed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa that in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 349 of the Code of Iowa, the following newspapers be designated official newspapers in and for Muscatine County for 2025:

Muscatine Journal
Wilton-Durant Advocate News

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9th day of June, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the FY25/26 Contract for Specialized Transportation services with River Bend Transit, in the amount of \$7,000.00. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board set the FY25/26 health and dental premiums. Ayes: All.

A Budget and Administrative Services Director Kala Naber reviewed the FY25/26 health and dental insurance options and premiums. Naber stated the premiums were approved during union negotiations and in order to help offset the premium increases the Board has increased the annuity monthly benefit amount from \$200 to \$250 for each employee.

On a motion by Chick, second by Kirchner, the Board set the health insurance annual enrollment and dental insurance open enrollment periods for FY25/26 for June 9 – 23, 2025. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sorensen, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the following: 1.) July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 agreement regarding the Muscatine County Engineer's Office Secondary Roads Unit between Muscatine County and Chauffeurs, Teamsters

and Helpers, Local Union #238; 2.) July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 agreement regarding the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Corrections Officers Unit between Muscatine County and Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers, Local Union #238; 3.) July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 agreement regarding the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriffs Unit between Muscatine County and Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers, Local Union #238; 4.) Memorandum of Understanding with Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers, Local Union #238 regarding vacation accrual rates and 5.) July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 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 61. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 A.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors