

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, July 28, 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.

County Attorney Jim Barry held discussion with the Board regarding possible direction for Muscatine County to contract with Scott County for juvenile detention services. Barry stated the county currently has no formal contract in place for actual guaranteed placement of juveniles that meet the criteria for detention services. Barry stated the proposed Scott County contract provides one guaranteed bed space (one unit) for one year at \$285.00 per day/\$104,025.00 annually. Barry stated federal legislation effective in December 2021, changed the law that juveniles could no longer be held site and sound separate, which prior to that time, we could detain them in the county jail. Barry referenced a report showing the past six years of juvenile detention costs. The report showed the county spent \$148,557 in FY24/25 and \$106,133 in FY23/24. Barry stated the future costs are unknown depending on the number of juveniles ordered for detention by the courts.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board moved to award a contract with Scott County for juvenile detention services for a guaranteed unit of service per day for one year at a cost of \$285.00 per day. Ayes: All.

Mather thanked the county employees who have worked in less-than-ideal temperature conditions in various buildings due to the extreme heat. Mather stated the air conditioning is working this morning and is appreciated.

Medical Examiner Rich Hines presented to re-instate Darren Brooke EMTP, to the Muscatine County Medical Examiner's office. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board moved to re-instate Darren Brooke EMTP, to the Muscatine County Medical Examiner's office.

County Development Director Eric Furnas recommended authorizing the Chair to sign an agreement with Wolfe Contracting, Inc., in the amount of \$315,960.00, for the Muscatine County Community Services Building Repairs Project. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board authorized the Chair to sign an agreement with Wolfe Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$315,960.00 for the Muscatine County Community Services Building Repairs Project. Ayes: All.

Furnas updated the Board on the recent geothermal issues in the Courthouse, Administration Building and County Jail, due to extreme outdoor heat and five different water leaks in Administration Building and Community Services Building on July 25, 2025, due to torrential rainstorm that will be repaired. Furnas stated the Deep Lakes Park new shower house is expected to be delivered tomorrow and sewer line testing has been completed.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved a renewal application for a Class C Beer, Liquor, Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service Permit for Muscatine Municipal Golf Course,

1820 Iowa 38, Muscatine, Iowa. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the minutes of July 21, 2025, regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received an invitation from Muscatine County Farm Bureau for an annual steak fry dinner to be held on August 5, 2025, at the Riverview Center.

Sauer held conversations with several rural residents with concerns about the roadway shoulders washing into their driveways.

Mather held a conversation with a rural resident who was very pleased with the response they received from the County Engineers Department.

Chick had a phone call from Mike Connor with a ditch and culvert issue.

Committee Reports:

Chick attended a Bi-State Regional Planning Commission meeting on July 23, 2025.

Mather attended a Muscatine County Veteran's Affairs Commission meeting on July 23, 2025.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting on July 21, 2025.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved Resolution #07-28-25-01 Designating Voting Representatives for the Iowa State Association of Counties. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #07-28-25-01
DESIGNATING VOTING REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE IOWA STATE
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, Muscatine County ("County") is a member of the Iowa State Association of Counties; and

WHEREAS, the ISAC Articles of Incorporation were updated in November 2024 to require the County to designate, through resolution by its Board of Supervisors, its County Voting Representatives; and

WHEREAS, only the designated County Voting Representatives have the power to vote on behalf of the County at ISAC; and

WHEREAS, the County Voting Representatives must be either elected county officials or the principal officer for each county department represented by an Affiliated Association of ISAC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors, effective immediately, hereby designates the following persons as County Voting Representatives for ISAC:

Iowa State Association of County Supervisors: **Danny Chick, Jeff Sorensen, Kurt Kirchner, Nathan Mather, Scott Sauer**

Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association: **Quinn Riess**

Iowa County Attorneys Association, Inc.: **Jim Barry**
Iowa State Association of County Auditors: **Tibe Vander Linden**
Iowa State County Treasurers Association: **Amy Zybarth**
Iowa County Recorders Association, Inc.: **Sarah Hearst**
Iowa County Engineers Association: **Bryan Horesowsky**
Iowa State Association of Assessors: **Nancy Long**
Iowa Community Services Association: **Jessica Bopes**
Iowa Emergency Management Association: **Christopher Jasper**
County Conservation Directors Association of Iowa: **Katie Hammond**
Iowa Environmental Health Association, Inc.: **Eric Furnas**
Iowa Counties Public Health Association: **Jennifer Craft**
County Zoning Officials of Iowa: **Eric Furnas**
Iowa Counties Information Technology Organization: **William Riley**
Iowa Association of County Commissioners and Veterans Service Officers, Inc.: **Eric Sanders**

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

Budget & Administrative Services Director Kala Naber reviewed FY24/25 year-end fund balances. Naber proposed to the Board to transfer \$1,000,000.00 from the General Basic Fund to Capital Projects Fund. Sorensen reviewed the history of the Debt Repayment fund and stated the intent of the fund has passed. Naber stated the benefit of the fund is that if there are projects and the county does not choose to levy debt, the projects can be paid down from the fund, which allows for less tax on the debt levy. Sorensen recommended considering moving the Debt Repayment fund to the Building Maintenance fund.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #07-28-25-02 Transferring Funds from the General Basic Fund to the Historic Preservation Commission Fund in the amount of \$10,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION # 07-28-25-02
TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL BASIC FUND TO THE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FUND

WHEREAS, it is desired by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors to support the efforts of the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with Section 331.429 and 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor is authorized to transfer \$10,000 from the General Basic Fund to the Historic Preservation Commission Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July, 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 approved Resolution #07-28-25-03 Transferring Funds from the General Basic Fund to the Conservation Equipment Reserve Fund in the amount of \$40,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION # 07-28-25-03
TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL BASIC FUND TO THE
CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND**

WHEREAS, it is desired to authorize the Auditor to transfer the FY25/26 budgeted amount from the General Basic Fund to the Conservation Equipment Reserve Fund; and

WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with Section 331.429 and 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor is authorized to transfer \$40,000 from the General Basic Fund to the Conservation Equipment Reserve Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved Resolution #07-28-25-04 Transferring Funds from the General Supplemental Fund to the General Basic Fund in the amount of \$170,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION # 07-28-25-04
TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL SUPPLEMENTAL FUND TO THE
GENERAL BASIC FUND**

WHEREAS, it is desired to authorize the Auditor to transfer the FY25/26 budgeted amount from the General Supplemental Fund to the General Basic Fund to cover the costs of court maintenance and operations; and

WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with Section 331.429 and 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor is authorized to transfer \$170,000 from the General Supplemental Fund to the General Basic Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July, 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 approved Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution #07-28-25-05 Transferring Funds from the ARPA Recovery Funds Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$600,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #07-28-25-05
TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE ARPA RECOVERY FUNDS FUND TO THE
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

WHEREAS, it is desired to authorize the Auditor to transfer a portion of the accrued interest and repayment amounts from the ARPA Recovery Funds Fund to the Capital Projects Fund; and

WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with Sections 331.429 and 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor is authorized to transfer \$600,000 from the ARPA Recovery Funds Fund to the Capital Projects Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

On a motion by Chick, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #07-28-25-06

Transferring Funds from the General Basic Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$1,000,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #07-28-25-06
TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL BASIC FUND TO THE
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

WHEREAS, it is desired by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors to set aside funds for future projects; and

WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with Sections 331.429 and 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor is authorized to transfer \$1,000,000 from the General Basic Fund to the Capital Projects Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July, 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky updated the Board on secondary road and design projects. Horesowsky thanked his department for working additional hours on July 25 to July 26, 2025, dealing with road issues from rainstorms that occurred. Sorensen stated a question arose from a citizen regarding travel on North Mulberry Road being nosier than usual. Horesowsky stated the micro seal on the road does create the noise as the process seals everything up and increases the friction factor to keep the road safer.

Nora Dwyer of Muscatine County Extension and Outreach, stating a walk audit in West Liberty, Iowa, is scheduled for August 5, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. starting at the WELEAD office, 119 East Third Street, West Liberty. The walk audit is to explore streets and intersections to see how safe and accessible they are for everyone. To register: <https://go.iastate.edu/ZOMT6U>

The Board recessed at 9:38 A.M. and reconvened at 9:43 A.M.

County Attorney Jim Barry updated the Board regarding a staffing change in his office. Barry stated one of the Assistant County Attorneys will be leaving on August 11, 2025, and Mica Johnson, currently of the Scott County Attorney's office, will start employment on August 18, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 AM.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors