

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, December 1, 2025

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

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

County Attorney Jim Barry stated he has presented a letter of resignation to County Auditor, Tibe Vander Linden and Board Chairman, Nathan Mather, Board of Supervisors Chairman. Barry stated his retirement date from the County Attorney position will be effective January 4, 2026. Barry stated the resignation is an effort to provide a uniform and experienced transition in the County Attorney's office. Barry expressed his thanks to the Board and County Officials and stated his appreciation to serve Muscatine County. Vander Linden held discussion with the Board to review Iowa Code 69.14A for the procedures to fill the vacancy by appointment or special election.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board accepted the letter of resignation from County Attorney Jim Barry. Ayes: All. Mather thanked Barry for his years of service.

Sorensen directed the Administration Department to prepare and publish a "Notice of Intent to Appoint a County Attorney" to interview applicants and bring forward a recommendation to the Board for action. The Board consensus was to publish the Notice of Intent by December 4, 2025, with a letter of interest and resume to be received by the Administration Office by December 12, 2025, and the proposed Board appointment action item to be placed on the agenda for December 22, 2025 meeting. Mather recommended the Board form a search committee with an attorney, law enforcement representative and a member of the community. The Board consensus was to finalize a search committee with an action item on next week's agenda.

Mike Nolan of Horizon Architecture held discussion with the Board regarding the eight bids for the Muscatine County Engineer/Zoning Office Building Project. The bids received were as follows: Bruce Builders-\$3,680,000; Bush Construction-\$4,140,000; Daxon Construction-\$3,477,000; Merit Construction-\$3,537,300; Myers Construction-\$3,861,829; Peak Construction-\$3,636,000; Swanson Construction-\$4,100,000 and Wolfe Contracting-\$3,844,000. Nolan recommended awarding the bid to Daxon Construction. Nolan stated the predicted start date for the project is April 2026.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board accepted a bid for the Muscatine County Engineer/Zoning Office Building Project with Daxon Construction in the amount of \$3,477,000. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the minutes of November 24, 2025 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

No correspondence was reported.

Committee and Meetings Reports:

No committee or meetings were reported.

Information Services Director Bill Riley stated the password policy implementation changes will not occur today as planned. Riley stated the compromised password list is under review and may need to be a paid service instead of a bundle within the software. Riley will review the options and update the Board at a later time.

Conservation Director Katie Hammond updated the Board on the Deep Lakes Campground Project. Hammond stated a gate may be added to keep the public out of the area for the winter months. Hammond stated the project is under budget by \$100,000 to \$150,000.

The Board recessed at 9:22 A.M. and reconvened at 9:30 A.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors