

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, December 15, 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.

Community Services Director Jessica Bopes recommended an increase for payee fees. Bopes stated the recent Social Security Administration notices states her department may collect up to a maximum amount of \$57.00 monthly for serving as a representative payee for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries. The county currently collects \$55.00 per month. The notice also states the maximum amount to collect from beneficiaries entitled to disability benefits for those who have a drug addiction and/or alcoholism condition is \$106.00. Bopes stated the fee is waived for clients who cannot afford the fee or residents in a nursing home or residential care. The Board consensus was to authorize the maximum amount for both types of beneficiaries.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board authorized an increase of payee fees for Community Services to the maximum allowed, as \$57.00 for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries and \$106.00 per month from beneficiaries entitled to disability benefits who have a drug addiction and/or alcoholism condition. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved Resolution #12-15-25-01 Suspending the Collection of Taxes. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #12-15-25- 01
RESOLUTION SUSPENDING THE COLLECTION OF TAXES

WHEREAS, notice from the Director of Human Services has been received regarding the eligibility of Judy Rivera, Muscatine, Iowa, (the 'recipient') for medical and facility care; and

WHEREAS, as such recipient of such assistance is deemed to be unable to contribute to the public revenue pursuant to Section 427.9, Code of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the recipient is the owner of property described as follows:

Address: 909 E 6th St, Muscatine, IA 52761
Parcel No: 0836155010
Legal Description: 36-77-2W Lot 2 Blk 113

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

1. That the County Treasurer is hereby ordered to suspend the collection of all taxes, including special assessments, rates or charges, interest, fees and costs for the current

year and those unpaid from prior years. As long as the petitioner is authorized by DHS no interest accrues during suspension, but payments can be made.

2. If the parcel is sold, passes by bequest or inheritance to any person other than the spouse or minor child of the petitioner, all taxes and special assessments become due and payable by the next semi-annual installment date. Interest at the rate of 1 ½% per month will start on the next delinquency date after the suspended taxes become due.

Passed and approved this 15th day of December 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 four utility permits with Interstate Power & Light (Alliant Energy), Cedar Rapids, Iowa – install new underground electric cable and removal of existing overhead wire along 200th Street east of Durant – Section 6, T78N-RIE; install new underground electric cable and removal of existing overhead wire along 200th Street and 20th Avenue, east of Durant – Section 4, T78N-RIE; convert existing 1PH overhead distribution line from 12.5v to 25Lv – Section 3, 9, 16, 21, 22, T78N-RIW; convert existing 3PH overhead distribution line from 12.5v to 25kv at 110th Street – Section 2 & 3, T78N-RIW. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky stated the snow removal on secondary roads went well over the past weekend. Sheriff Quinn Riess reminded the public to slow down during weather events.

County Development Director Eric Furnas reviewed a variance granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on December 5, 2025. Case #25-07-02, an application filed by Joseph and Angela Woodhouse, Record Owners, with a request to allow an accessory structure to be built approximately 28 feet from the front lot line. The affected property is in Bloomington Township, in parts of the SW ¼ of Section 23-T77N-R2W at 2639 Canterbury Road, containing approximately 1.03 acres, and is zoned R-2 Residential. The Board of Adjustment determined that the variance request meets the requirements for a practical difficulty due to the topography and shape of lot and the location of the septic system field in the rear yard space.

Furnas reviewed a variance granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on December 5, 2025. Case #25-07-03, an application filed by Troy Holliday, Record Owner, with a request to allow an accessory structure to be built approximately 25 feet from the rear lot line. The affected property is in Sweetland Township, in parts of the SE ¼ of Section 25-T77N-R1W, at 3386 Highway 22, containing approximately .44 acres, and is zoned R-2 Residential. The Board of Adjustment determined that the variance request meets the requirements for a practical difficulty due to the small parcel size.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board accepted a variance for Case #25-07-02 and

Case #25-07-03. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the Combined Preliminary and Final Plat of Ogren Acres Subdivision. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #12-15-25-02
APPROVAL OF THE COMBINED PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT OF
OGREN ACRES SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, there has been presented before the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, a dedication and plat of the proposed subdivision “Ogren Acres Subdivision”; and

WHEREAS, said plat has heretofore been approved by the Zoning Commission of Muscatine County, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, said dedication and plat fully conform with all laws of the State of Iowa and all ordinances of Muscatine County, Iowa, applicable thereto; and

WHEREAS, the platting of said subdivision is conducive to orderly development within Muscatine County, Iowa, is not in conflict with any extensions of the established road systems of Muscatine County, Iowa, and is in harmony with the comprehensive plan of zoning now in effect within Muscatine County, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the subdivision of said real estate and the plat thereof were accepted and approved by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors following a public meeting on December 15, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, as follows:

- Section 1. The said subdivision is hereby designated as “Ogren Acres”, a subdivision in Muscatine County, Iowa, and that the descriptions of lots and parcels of land located therein shall be according to the number and designation thereof as set forth on said plat.
- Section 2. The Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors and the Auditor of Muscatine County, Iowa, are hereby authorized and directed to certify this Resolution in order that the same and all other matters material to said subdivision may be recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Muscatine County, Iowa.

PASSED and APPROVED this 15th day of December 2025.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

Furnas reviewed the Combined Preliminary and Final Plat of Phillips Acres Subdivision stating the County Attorney strongly recommends the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment reconsider their decision to grant a Special Use Permit that they issued on January 3, 2025. After that decision was reached, it was discovered that the site that was approved was actually zoned C-1 Commercial District. The plat that is now being evaluated proposed moving the site farther to the south onto land that is zoned A-1 Agricultural, an adjacent property owner has raised concerns that question where the Board of Adjustment would have granted the Special Use Permit in the current proposed location. Jayme Hazen, proposed owner, requested the Board approve the subdivision as delaying the approval will delay the construction of a home intended for their special needs son and increase attorney costs with another meeting with the Board of Adjustment.

The Board consensus was to table the proposed subdivision and recommend the Board of Adjustment review and reconsider the Special Use Permit for the proposed plat on the land zoned A-1 Agricultural.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sorensen, the Board moved to table the Resolution #12-15-25-03 Approval of the Combined Preliminary and Final Plat of Phillips Acres Subdivision. Sauer abstained from the vote due to being an adjacent parcel owner. Ayes: Kirchner, Chick, Mather and Sorensen. Nays: 0.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the revised Ordinance #12-15-25-01 Repealing the Provisions of Title III, Chapter II, Article XIII, Section 4.3 of the Muscatine County Code of Ordinances, on the one and only reading subject to the County Attorney determining if additional readings are necessary. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board authorized the Chair to sign a contract with Daxon Construction in the amount of \$3,477,000.00 for the Muscatine County Engineer and Zoning Office Building Project. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the minutes of December 8, 2025, regular meeting. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick the Board authorized the Chair to sign an amended contract with the Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board to provide Employer of Record services. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sauer had conversations with citizens regarding the efforts of the Secondary Roads Department regarding their hard work to clear the roads during the recent snowfalls. Sauer thanked the department for their work.

Sorensen stated he was contacted by Muscatine Power and Water (MPW) regarding the ARPA fund allocation for the fiber project. MPW requested the Board reconsider the required payback of funds due to the “for profit” language in the

agreement. Sorensen stated this request could be discussed at a future meeting. Sorensen received a letter from the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region concerning the Disability Access Point (DAP) and a client placed in a care facility. ASO reached out to DAP to request funding and DAP declined, stating to contact the county to bridge the funding. Sorensen stated the county does not have authority to do so.

All Supervisors received an email from a county resident with questions about emergency management. The email was forwarded to the Sheriff and Emergency Management Director.

Committee and Meetings Reports:

Chick attended an Economic Development Board meeting on December 9, 2025

Chick attended a Community Summit at the Merrill Hotel on December 10, 2025.

County Conservation Director Katie Hammond stated the County Conservation Board member Sherry Seright is willing to continue her service if the Board will reappoint her to a full term (as she is currently serving a vacancy term). The Board consensus was to re-appoint Seright at a future meeting.

Mather stated the applications for the County Attorney position were closed as of December 12, 2025. Mather noted the committee meeting to appoint a County Attorney will be held on December 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

ATTEST:

Shannon Steele
Administrative/Elections Clerk

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors