

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, August 26, 2019

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

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

Cyle Geertz stated his brother Chuck Geertz, a 23-year Army veteran, was killed in a motorcycle accident last week. Geertz stated a motorcycle procession escorted his brother's body back from Kansas City, MO yesterday. Geertz stated they received support from emergency personnel throughout the entire route, but not a single Muscatine County deputy, City of Muscatine police officer or firefighter were present to support the procession through Muscatine County and the City of Muscatine. Geertz stated he was told the Sheriff issued a memo that none of his people were to support this event. Sauer stated he contacted MUSCOM because he was unable to reach Sheriff Ryan and was told there were no personnel available for the procession. Sauer stated Sheriff Ryan returned his call and told him there were only two deputies on patrol at the time who were unavailable and that he looked for volunteers to participate, but no one volunteered. Geertz expressed concern that there were only two deputies on duty for the entire county on a Sunday. Geertz stated he talked to one deputy who would have volunteered if allowed, but was told his job would be in jeopardy if he volunteered. Geertz requested the Board begin an investigation and suspend Sheriff Ryan. Geertz stated Sheriff Ryan, the County and the City of Muscatine disrespected his brother and all veterans. Mather explained that Sheriff Ryan is an elected official and the Board has no oversight of his office and no ability to suspend him. Mather stated the County Attorney is the only person who can take action against an elected official if the law has been broken. Mather stated he will talk to the County Attorney and suggested Geertz also talk to him. Geertz stated he will not talk to the County Attorney because of discrimination by the Sheriff and County Attorney against motorcyclists.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, claims dated August 26, 2019 were approved in the amount of \$1,309,690.82. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved 2019 homestead tax credit and military tax exemption applications as recommended by the Muscatine County Assessor's Office. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board approved a 2020 Certified Local Government Grant application for a Muscatine County Survey of County Schools and Churches Project in the amount of \$9,750.00 with a \$4,250 cash match received from mitigation on the 120th Street Bridge Project. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved an updated Letter of Agreement for Field Services Program projects for five historic properties in the town of Nichols with Price Preservation Research. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved an agreement with Iowa DOT, Agreement No. 5-19-HBP-SWAP-014, for utilization of SWAP funds on a bridge project on 120th Street over the West Branch of Wapsinonoc Creek. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board approved the purchase of a new CAT 950M Wheel Loader for a net purchase price of \$115,675.00 after trade of a 2005 CAT930G Wheel Loader. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board authorized Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas to submit a request to Homeland Security and Emergency Management for FEMA Public Assistance Funds for Demolition and Debris Removal of five properties in Muscatine County. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board authorized Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas to prepare and submit an application for State of Iowa Flood Recovery Funds on behalf of the owners of 1995 Sweetland Road and to designate Eric Furnas as the authorized County representative for this application. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, minutes of the August 19, 2019 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received an email from Michael Hoff regarding a disallowed disabled veteran homestead/military credit.

Sauer reported a call from Cyle Geertz regarding lack of support by the City and County for the procession escorting his brother's remains from Kansas City to Muscatine.

Committee Reports:

Holliday attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting August 21st.

Holliday attended a Muscatine County Fair Board meeting August 22nd.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting August 19th.

Saucedo attended West Liberty Economic Area Development - Housing Committee meeting August 20th.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development meeting August 22nd.

Saucedo attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Commission meeting August 20th.

Emergency Manager Brian Wright reported the kickoff meeting was held for the Bi-State Regional Commission to update the Muscatine County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 A.M.

ATTEST:

Betty L. Wamback
First Deputy Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors