

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, November 4, 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.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, claims dated November 4, 2019 were approved in the amount of \$488,964.79. Ayes: All.

City of Muscatine Solid Waste/Collection and Drainage Manager David Popp gave a presentation regarding recycling options in Muscatine County. Popp reviewed a handout from Republic Services regarding a City of Muscatine Recycling Center Drop Off Proposal. Popp stated the proposal is from April and the numbers may have changed since that time. Popp stated the City of Muscatine uses Scott County's waste facility and most of the recycled cardboard is sent by them to a mill in Cedar Rapids. Sorensen stated it would be an interesting topic for Muscatine County's Solid Waste Commission to discuss long term strategies for waste recycling and processing. Board consensus was for the Solid Waste Commission to obtain an updated proposal from Republic Services and to ask other cities to share their management and recycling processes. Popp stated he would schedule the discussion for the Commission's December meeting.

Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine Executive Director Charla Schafer introduced herself to the Board and stated 2019 is the Foundation's twentieth anniversary. Schafer reviewed a Community Foundation handout outlining their initiatives and programs. Schafer stated the Foundation supports the community in primarily two different ways, first by providing grants to support non-profits and charitable activities; and, second by working with individuals and business donors to assist in making contributions to the charities they care about most. Schafer stated they are one of the first one hundred community foundations across the nation accredited through the National Council of Foundations.

Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, updated the Board on the Muscatine County Maintenance Facility Project. Nolan stated the footings should be in the ground by the end of this month. Nolan stated the Board will be receiving the final schedule when it is available.

Discussion was held with Nolan regarding a recommended change order discretionary limit authorization for the Maintenance Facility Project. Nolan stated the discretionary limit for a change order is currently \$1,500 and he recommends raising the limit to \$10,000. Saucedo stated he would be more comfortable with a limit of \$5,000 to \$7,500. Board consensus was to raise the discretionary limit for the Maintenance Facility Project to \$7,500 with the stipulation that Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber only use the authorization when a delay would cost the County additional time or money.

Nolan presented a quote from Jim Giese Commercial Roofing Inc. for Muscatine County Jail – Carlisle roof damage repairs in the amount of \$8,943.00. Nolan stated the roof damage was

caused by an extreme weather event and not a failure of the Carlisle roof product. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board accepted a quote from Jim Giese Commercial Roofing Inc. for damage repairs to the Muscatine County Jail roof in the amount of \$8,943.00. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved a Task Authorization for Civil, Structural and MEPT Engineering, Bidding Assistance, Construction Administration, and Closeout and Record Documentation services for the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office Addition Project awarded to Axiom Consultants, LLC in the amount of \$26,350.00. Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed a variance granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on Friday, November 1, 2019. Case #19-11-01 is an application filed by Todd R. and Julie A. Schwarz, Record Owners. This property is located in Fulton Township in the SW¼ of Sec. 7-T78N-R1E, Parcel A, Plat of Survey, 1197 Vail Avenue, containing approximately 6.51 acres and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance in order to place an outbuilding in front of the existing dwelling and only 40 feet back from the front lot line instead of the required 50 feet. Furnas stated the property owner decided he did not need the 40 foot setback variance and only needed the variance to place the outbuilding in the front yard space. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board accepted the Variance. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board approved an ordinance rezoning approximately 20.53 acres in SE ¼ of Sec. 1-T78N-R4W, Wapsinonoc Township, from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District on the second of three readings. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas regarding local match dollars for eligible FEMA projects involving damaged private property. Furnas stated last spring the County received a disaster declaration based on flooding and heavy precipitation. Furnas stated Zoning has identified a total of six properties, five of which were affected by flooding and one affected by shifting and unstable soil on a hillside. Furnas stated he has submitted preliminary information to FEMA, however, there will be a local cost share and he is requesting Board direction before proceeding. Furnas stated in the past there was a CDBG grant that covered the local cost share, however that is not available this time. Furnas stated whatever FEMA money is received, the County will need to cover 15% of the total. Furnas stated there are three structures eligible for FEMA demolition dollars that are seasonal recreation cottages which are not located on privately owned property and not primary residences. Furnas stated the structures are heavily damaged and need to be demolished because they are dangerous buildings or nuisance properties. Furnas stated there are three properties on private property that are potentially eligible for the FEMA buyout program. Furnas stated all the properties except the Sweetland Road property are in the flood plain. Furnas stated heavy precipitation made the Sweetland Road property unsafe for human occupancy. Board consensus was to contribute the 15% local share for the Sweetland Road property. Board consensus was to authorize demolition and buyout on the other eligible 5 properties on the condition that the 15% local share contribution is reimbursed to the County by the property owner.

The Board recessed at 10:22 A.M. and reconvened at 10:28 A.M.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved withdrawing from the Eastern Iowa Mental Health and Disability Services Region and authorized the Chair to sign a letter notifying the region of the Board decision. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board authorized the Chair to sign a letter of application to join the Southeast Iowa Link (SEIL) Mental Health and Disability Services Region. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, minutes of the October 28, 2019 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Holliday and Sorensen attended a meeting for citizens affected by the Muscatine Power & Water proposed transmission line October 30th.

Holliday reported a contact from a resident living on 205th Street regarding work on Jasper Avenue.

Sauer reported a complaint that not enough rock was used on Echo Avenue this summer.

Committee Reports:

Saucedo attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting October 29th.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved Resolution #11-04-19-01 Supporting the Creation of the Statistical Boundaries of the Mississippi River Port of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #11-04-19-01
SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF THE STATISTICAL BOUNDARIES OF
THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER PORT OF EASTERN IOWA AND WESTERN
ILLINOIS**

WHEREAS, the collection of waterborne commerce statistics pertaining to rivers, harbors, and waterways and the compilation of such data by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are required by federal law; and

WHEREAS, creation of the statistical boundaries of the Mississippi River Port of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois would more accurately reflect the local waterborne commerce activity and increase tonnage recorded by the Waterborne Commerce Statistical Center of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Navigation and Civil Works Decision Support Center, ranking the Port among the inland ports in the United States further supporting local economic development; and

WHEREAS, the proposed creation of the statistical boundaries will provide the opportunity for marketing and investment opportunities which could lead to job creation and economic growth for Muscatine County, Iowa; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Muscatine County, Iowa supports the port boundary creation of the Mississippi River Port of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois between Mississippi River mile 461.5 and river mile 583.0 to include the entire riverfront of Muscatine County from river mile 448.8 to river mile 469.7 on the Mississippi River. Said support extends for statistical purposes only and not to any waterways organization or further control of the Mississippi River nor does the port designation impact any existing or future public port, terminal, or economic development authorities.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4th day of November, 2019.

ATTEST:

/s/Betty L. Wamback
Betty L. Wamback
First Deputy Auditor

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors