

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, February 17, 2020

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

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

Edward Askew, 2952 155th St, Muscatine, expressed concern about the rejection by the South East Iowa Link Region of accepting Muscatine County into their mental health region. Askew stated he believes Muscatine County cannot spend the money they have raised through taxation if they are not in a Region. Askew stated his contact at DHS has said counties need to learn to get along with each other and it is their problem to resolve the issue. Askew asked if Muscatine County has any plans of getting accepted into a Region before July 1st. Sorensen stated the Board is aware of its options and it is the Board's intent to be aligned with a Region by July 1st. Sorensen stated the Director of DHS has the right to put Muscatine County into a region as she sees fit.

On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, the Board approved a Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) non-sTEP Highway Safety (402 Project) Grant application in the amount of \$38,182.50. Ayes: All.

Bi-State Regional Senior Planner Bryan Schmid updated the Board on the Muscatine County Trails Plan. Schmid stated the Plan makes recommendations on possible placement of trails throughout Muscatine County. Mather asked about proposed legislation that would allow ATVs and four wheelers on trails. Schmid stated ATVs and four wheelers would destroy natural surface trails and increase maintenance costs. On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board adopted the 2019 Muscatine County Trails Plan. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, the Board approved the following utility permits: Windstream Iowa Communications – boring a new fiber cable beneath Moscow Road to service a residence at 1010 Moscow Road; Interstate Power & Light –relocating a gas main on G28 by boring a new line from Lutheran Living's driveway west to Custom Feeds Inc. Ayes: All.

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

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board approved Ordinance #02-17-20-01 rezoning approximately 1.98 acres in Fruitland Township in the SE ¼ of Section 26-T77N-R3W from C-1 Commercial District to R-1 Residential District on the third and final reading. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board approved the Muscatine County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 for publication. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, minutes of the February 10, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Mather reported a request from Farm Bureau to attend a meeting on February 25th.

Sorensen reported the Board received a letter from the CEO of the SEIL Region indicating

that their Finance Committee was going to recommend that Muscatine County not be accepted into their mental health region.

Sauer reported a call regarding lack of rock on a road.

Holliday and Sorensen reported contacts regarding concerns about the cuts in the funding of the Special Olympics.

Committee Reports:

Sorensen attended an Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region meeting February 10th.

Sorensen attended a Lower Cedar River Watershed Authority meeting February 11th.

Sorensen attended a Muscatine City Council meeting February 13th regarding a recommendation regarding a revised 28E for MCJCC.

County Engineer Keith White reported that the road mentioned by Sauer under correspondence received a lot of rock prior to Sauer receiving a call from the resident and was in excellent condition.

The Board reviewed applications received from Susan O'Donnell, Joni Axel, Brad Jipp, Julie Plummer and Karen Hartman for the current vacancy on the Muscatine County Conservation Board for a term ending December 31, 2020. Conservation Director Curt Weiss reported that for gender balance, the vacancy should be filled by a female.

Discussion was held regarding the possible creation of an ad hoc committee to develop a revised 28E agreement for joint communications in Muscatine County. Sorensen stated Muscatine City Council has appointed two council members and the Mayor. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board approved the creation of an ad hoc committee to develop a revised 28E agreement for joint communications in Muscatine County and the appointment of Chairperson Sorensen, Supervisor Holliday and Budget Administrator Sherry Seright to the committee. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors