

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, March 2, 2020

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session with Holliday, Sauer, Sorensen, Mather and Saucedo present. Chairperson Sorensen presiding.

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

Edward Askew, 2952 155th Street, Muscatine, stated he is providing clarification to statements made last Thursday at the local mental health forum. Askew said it was stated that Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region had to go through additional steps to finalize Muscatine County's withdrawal from the Region, so he contacted Jeff Beck, Chair of the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region, who told him that no it was currently a done deal as of July 1, 2020. Askew stated he was also told that DHS has informed the Region's management group that they shall develop a budget for five counties that would include Muscatine, but Beck told him he was not aware of that. Askew stated the Board can ask for readmittance to the Region and does not have to wait for DHS. Askew suggested the Board put an item on its agenda every week in order to provide citizens with updates of what is happening with DHS and the Mental Health Region.

Henry Marquard, 108 Eagle Watch Road, Muscatine, thanked Community Services Director Felicia Toppert and other County staff for the mental health presentation last Thursday and thanked the large number of caregivers and family members for their participation in the forum. Marquard stated he feels the crisis is of the Board's own making. Marquard stated they were told at that meeting that they should assume Muscatine will return to the Eastern Iowa Region, but he sees no reason to make that assumption. Marquard stated the SEIL Region has less clinical resources than the Eastern Iowa Region.

Lorraine Rogers, 120 Cedar Street, Fruitland, stated she has been a nurse for over 30 years and the quality of the mental health system has gone down dramatically over the last 30 years. Rogers stated we have allowed governments to take all of this stuff away from the people and we need to change that because mental health is very important.

David Hahn, 2178 231st Street, Muscatine, requested a timeline for upcoming construction on 231st Street as he wants to allow his home to be used for a wedding in August, but was concerned attendees might not be able to get to his home due to construction. Hahn was advised to get in touch with County Engineer Keith White regarding the timeline for the project. Hahn also stated that he has heard that the County maintenance shed on Funks Hill Road may be moved and he is interested in the property as it is adjacent to his property. Sorensen stated if the County vacates right of way, it goes back to the original landowner from whence it came.

Chairperson Sorensen reviewed the annual budget process for Muscatine County.

Discussion was held with Muscatine Community Y Director Bret Olson regarding Special Olympics funding. Special Olympics Director Jason Miller provided information regarding Special Olympics in Muscatine County. Adam Rininger spoke about his experiences participating in Special Olympics. Tracy Rininger spoke about her experiences with Special Olympics as a

parent. Olson stated Special Olympics is a program at the Community Y, so they are able to be efficient with funds and resources. Olson stated they have been in partnership with the County since 2003 when the County asked the Y to take over the program and promised funding which they rely on. Olson stated the County has funded about 30% of the program. Olson stated to have to fundraise \$30,000 one time could be done, but would be a challenge to do every year. Saucedo stated one of his concerns had been not knowing where the funds came from and how they are distributed and he appreciates Olson coming and talking to the Board about how the program is funded. In response to a question from Saucedo, Miller stated there are currently 173 participants in the Special Olympics program. Sauer asked about fundraising. Miller stated they fundraise through the Torch Run with the Sheriff's Office, through the Tootsie Roll Drive with the Knights of Columbus and the Over The Edge event. Miller stated Over The Edge raised the most money for the program at \$20,000. Sorensen asked if means testing is done on athletes. Miller stated that 23 out of the 173 people are on the reimbursement from the County assessment. Olson stated muscatiney.org will take donations for Special Olympics. Lorraine Rogers stated her husband was instrumental in starting Special Olympics and the Torch Run through the Sheriff's Office and he was good at fundraising. Rogers stated people should attend the summer games to see how they treat everyone the way we should all treat everyone. Betsy Evans, 13585 County Road, Columbus Junction, stated she is a volunteer in Louisa and Muscatine County and is astonished at the need for this program. Evans encouraged the Board to continue funding.

Discussion was held with Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, regarding change orders for the Muscatine Maintenance Facility Project. Nolan informed the Board that the contractor will no longer be including supervision charges on the change orders. Nolan presented the following change orders:

Nolan stated change order 7R is to add masonry rather than exposed concrete where the ramp is on the Walnut side of the building. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board affirmed change order 7R for the Muscatine Maintenance Facility Project from Swanson Construction Co. in the amount of \$853.45. Ayes: All.

Nolan stated change order 8R is for two 36" extension rods to lower the fans to clear the pitched roof. On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, the Board affirmed change order 8R for the Muscatine Maintenance Facility Project from Swanson Construction Co. in the amount of \$920.28. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Chairperson was authorized to execute a Grant-In-Aid Agreement between the State Historical Society of Iowa and Muscatine County in the amount of \$9,750.00 for reconnaissance/intensive survey work of country schools and country church properties and sites in Muscatine County. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, the Board approved the following utility permit: Interstate Power and Light – relocation of a 2" gas main along 231st Street (G28) from Burlington Road to Seven Springs Road. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects. In addressing Mr. Hahn's request from earlier in the meeting, White stated the intent is to begin work on the G28 project in early March with grading to begin April 6th. White stated Heuer Construction intends to

pave from West to East with a timeline from March through November. White stated he does not know at what point they will be paving near Mr. Hahn's property but stated Mr. Hahn could get updates from the Engineer's Office.

Discussion was held regarding Muscatine County's opposition to legislative bills relating to removal of the agricultural exemption from Zoning. Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated the proposed legislation would remove the ability of the County to require an application for exemption from zoning regulations so the County would have no knowledge that construction has started and may force the County into a position of issuing a stop work order after construction has begun. Furnas also stated that the bills require all members to reside in the unincorporated areas of the County which will make it more difficult by shrinking the talent pool for finding members of the Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Chairperson was authorized to sign letters to Representative Gary Carlson opposing HF2512 and HF244 and to Senator Mark Lofgren opposing SF2358 and SF2264. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Chairperson was authorized to execute a CenturyLink Total Advantage Express Agreement for the PRI circuit for Community Services. Ayes: All. Saucedo asked Information Services Director Bill Riley to follow up on the possibility of using VOIP at DHS/Community Services at some point in the future. Riley stated he will also look at VOIP for other departments when they purchase newer phone systems.

Information Services Director Bill Riley reported February 2nd power issues caused interruptions at the Jail for most of the night and he is looking at solutions to prevent this in the future. Riley stated he is considering moving servers over to the Jail to be able to connect them to the generators. Sorensen stated the County needs to look at long term strategy for hardening some of our communication systems and their shells. Saucedo stated it may be more valuable for the County to add a generator to the Administration Building rather than moving the servers to the Jail.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, minutes of the February 24, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors reported numerous contacts regarding the funding of Special Olympics. Saucedo had a discussion with a City Councilmember February 29th regarding Special Olympics.

Sorensen and Mather attended a Farm Bureau meeting February 25th.

Sorensen met with the Department of Human Services Director in Des Moines February 27th regarding the status of Muscatine County in the mental health process.

Sorensen attended a local Mental Health Forum February 27th.

Sorensen attended two separate Levee Stakeholder meetings February 28th.

Holliday reported a call from David Hahn regarding property containing a County maintenance shed on Funks Hill Road near his property.

Committee Reports:

Holliday attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting February 19th.

Holliday, Sauer, Mather and Sorensen attended the Assessor Conference Board Public Hearing February 25th.

Holliday, Sauer and Saucedo attended the Muscatine County Compensation Board meeting February 27th.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting February 24th.

Sorensen attended an Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region meeting February 24th.

Sorensen and Saucedo attended a Bi-State Regional meeting February 26th.

Sorensen met with a Scott County representative February 29th regarding the Regional Workforce Investment Board.

Saucedo attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting February 25th.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development (WeLead) meeting February 27th.

Public Health Director Christy Roby-Williams, Public Health Clinical Manager Holly Barrett and Emergency Manager Brian Wright presented information regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19). Roby-Williams stated individuals can get current updates from the Iowa Department of Public Health website at idph.iowa.gov. Roby-Williams stated it is important to fill minds with facts, not fear.

Discussion was held with Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber regarding the Muscatine County Compensation Board FY20/21 salary recommendations for elected officials. A letter from the Muscatine County Compensation Board recommended a 4% increase for the Board of Supervisors plus \$2,500 for Chair and \$1,500 for Vice-Chair; and a 4% increase for the Attorney, Auditor, Recorder, Sheriff and Treasurer effective July 1, 2020. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board accepted the salary increases as recommended by the Compensation Board. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved Resolution #03-02-20-01 Fixing a Date of March 16, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. for Public Hearings on General Obligation County Purpose Loan Agreements in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,000,000 to Finance Improvements to County Buildings. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #03-02-20-01

**RESOLUTION TO FIX A DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON
GENERAL OBLIGATION COUNTY PURPOSE LOAN AGREEMENTS
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000 TO FINANCE
IMPROVEMENTS TO COUNTY BUILDINGS**

WHEREAS, Sections 331.402, 331.441 and 331.443 of the Code of Iowa authorize counties to enter into loan agreements and borrow money for the purpose of making improvements to county buildings, provided the cost of each project does not exceed \$750,000; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa proposes to enter into loan agreements (the “Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement”, the “Jail Insulation Loan Agreement,” the “Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement,” and the “County Attorney and Administration

Buildings Loan Agreement," (together, the "Loan Agreements"), pursuant to the provisions of Sections 331.402, 331.441 and 331.443 of the Code of Iowa for the purpose of paying the costs, to that extent, of the following projects:

Booking Area Expansion County Jail	\$750,000
Insulate Exterior Walls County Jail	\$600,000
Update/Replace hot water system County Jail	\$200,000
Replace roof County Attorney Building and update façade	
Administration and County Attorney Buildings and	\$450,000;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to fix a date of meeting of the Board at which it is proposed to take action to enter into the Loan Agreements and to give notice thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. This Board shall meet on March 16, 2020, at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9:00 a.m., at which time and place hearings will be held and proceedings will be instituted and action taken to enter into the Loan Agreements.

Section 2. The County Auditor is hereby directed to give notice of the proposed action on the Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement, setting forth the amount and purpose thereof, the time when and place where the said meeting will be held, by publication at least once and not less than 4 nor more than 20 days before the meeting, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the County.

Section 3. The Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement notice shall be substantially as follows:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOAN AGREEMENT IN A
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$750,000**

(GENERAL OBLIGATION JAIL BOOKING AREA)

The Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, will meet on March 16, 2020, at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action to enter into a loan agreement (the "Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement") in a principal amount not to exceed \$750,000, for the purpose of paying costs, to that extent, of expanding the booking area in the County Jail.

The Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement is proposed to be entered into pursuant to authority contained in Sections 331.402, 331.441 and 331.443 of the Code of Iowa and will constitute a general obligation of the County.

At that time and place, oral or written objections may be filed or made to the proposal to enter into the Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement. After receiving objections, the Board of Supervisors may determine to enter into the Jail Booking Area Loan Agreement, in which case, the decision will be final unless appealed to the District Court within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa.

Leslie Soule
County Auditor

Section 4. The County Auditor is hereby directed to give notice of the proposed action on the Jail Insulation Loan Agreement, setting forth the amount and purpose thereof, the time when and place where the said meeting will be held, by publication at least once and not less than 4 nor more than 20 days before the meeting, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the County.

Section 5. The Jail Insulation Loan Agreement notice shall be substantially as follows:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOAN AGREEMENT IN A
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$600,000**

(GENERAL OBLIGATION JAIL INSULATION)

The Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, will meet on March 16, 2020, at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action to enter into a loan agreement (the "Jail Insulation Loan Agreement") in a principal amount not to exceed \$600,000, for the purpose of paying costs, to that extent, of insulating the exterior walls of the County Jail.

The Jail Insulation Loan Agreement is proposed to be entered into pursuant to authority contained in Sections 331.402, 331.441 and 331.443 of the Code of Iowa and will constitute a general obligation of the County.

At that time and place, oral or written objections may be filed or made to the proposal to enter into the Jail Insulation Loan Agreement. After receiving objections, the Board of Supervisors may determine to enter into the Jail Insulation Loan Agreement, in which case, the decision will be final unless appealed to the District Court within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa.

Leslie Soule
County Auditor

Section 6. The County Auditor is hereby directed to give notice of the proposed action on the Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement, setting forth the amount and purpose thereof, the time when and place where the said meeting will be held, by publication at least once and not less than 4 nor more than 20 days before the meeting, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the County.

Section 7. The Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement notice shall be substantially as follows:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOAN AGREEMENT IN A
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000**
(GENERAL OBLIGATION JAIL HOT WATER SYSTEM)

The Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, will meet on March 16, 2020 at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action to enter into a loan agreement (the "Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement") in a principal amount not to exceed \$200,000, for the purpose of paying costs, to that extent, of updating and replacing the hot water system in the County Jail.

The Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement is proposed to be entered into pursuant to authority contained in Sections 331.402, 331.441 and 331.443 of the Code of Iowa and will constitute a general obligation of the County.

At that time and place, oral or written objections may be filed or made to the proposal to enter into the Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement. After receiving objections, the Board of Supervisors may determine to enter into the Jail Hot Water System Loan Agreement, in which case, the decision will be final unless appealed to the District Court within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa.

Leslie Soule
County Auditor

Section 8. The County Auditor is hereby directed to give notice of the proposed action on the County Attorney and Administration Buildings Loan Agreement, setting forth the

amount and purpose thereof, the time when and place where the said meeting will be held, by publication at least once and not less than 4 nor more than 20 days before the meeting, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the County.

Section 9. The County Attorney and Administration Buildings Loan Agreement notice shall be substantially as follows:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOAN AGREEMENT IN A
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$450,000**

**(GENERAL OBLIGATION COUNTY ATTORNEY AND
ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS)**

The Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, will meet on March 16, 2020, at the Muscatine County Administration Building, Muscatine, Iowa, at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action to enter into a loan agreement (the "County Attorney and Administration Buildings Loan Agreement") in a principal amount not to exceed \$450,000, for the purpose of paying costs, to that extent, of replacing the roof on the County Attorney's building and updating the façade of the County Attorney and Administration Buildings.

The County Attorney and Administration Buildings Loan Agreement is proposed to be entered into pursuant to authority contained in Sections 331.402, 331.441 and 331.443 of the Code of Iowa and will constitute a general obligation of the County.

At that time and place, oral or written objections may be filed or made to the proposal to enter into the County Attorney and Administration Buildings Loan Agreement. After receiving objections, the Board of Supervisors may determine to enter into the County Attorney and Administration Buildings Loan Agreement, in which case, the decision will be final unless appealed to the District Court within fifteen (15) days thereafter.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa.

Leslie Soule
County Auditor

Section 10. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 2nd day of March, 2020.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Discussion was held regarding publication of the proposed FY20/21 Muscatine County Budget. Sorensen stated the Board can discuss whether or not they want to make any changes to the budget after the public hearing. Budget Administrator Sherry Seright stated the Board may make changes as long as overall, a service area is not increased above what was published. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved the proposed FY20/21 Muscatine County Budget for publication. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board accepted the February 2020 payroll claims. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors