

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, June 22, 2020

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

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

Discussion was held with Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture, regarding change orders for the Muscatine Maintenance Facility Project as follows:

Nolan stated COR#14 is needed for the additional ADA ramp railing and the painting of the railing. On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, the Board approved COR#14 Additional ADA Ramp Railing and Painting of Railing for the Muscatine Maintenance Facility Project in the amount of \$3,218.04. Ayes: All.

Nolan stated COR#16 is needed for the extra over-excavation and backfill. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board approved COR#16 Over-Excavation/Backfill Extras for the Muscatine County Maintenance Facility Project in the amount of \$33,517.01 subject to additional information being provided regarding amount of rock used for the project. Ayes: All.

Nolan stated COR#18 is for structural steel inspections by Terracon. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board approved COR#18 Structural Steel Inspections for the Muscatine County Maintenance Facility Project in the amount of \$1,191.38. Ayes: All.

Nolan stated COR#19 is for solid compaction testing which was specified to be the general contractor's responsibility in the contract documents. Nolan recommended the Board deny the change order. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board denied COR#19 Solid Compaction Testing for the Muscatine County Maintenance Facility Project in the amount of \$16,962.95. Ayes: All. COR#19 was denied.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, a public hearing on proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost for the Muscatine County Jail Partial Roof Replacement Project was set for Monday, June 29, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Nolan updated the Board on construction projects at County buildings.

Discussion was held with Muscatine County Public Health Director Christy Roby-Williams regarding her request for continued funding for COVID-19 mitigation activities in addition to the budgeted annual allocation for public services. Roby-Williams provided two budget requests as follows: the first request reflects operating incident command structure at reduced capacity in the amount of \$138,245; and the second request reflects operating incident command structure at full capacity in the amount of \$198,469. Mather asked for confirmation that they have been operating at full capacity for the last few months and whether any new employees were hired.

Roby-Williams responded they shifted employees away from their primary program into COVID-19 response, so they cannot access their normal grant funding. Roby-Williams stated she believes they will be in incident response mode until there is a pharmaceutical intervention. Sorensen confirmed the request is for a FY20/21 budget amendment. Sorensen asked how long do they continue to pull out of primary response and should they be putting temporary slots in, rather than redeploying assets. Roby-Williams stated bringing in new staff requires extensive training and it is better to work with teams that are already trained. Sorensen asked if they are not paying more people, then why is there a need for more money. Sauer asked are they dealing with more overtime. Mather stated it may be better to have a work session to discuss this in greater detail. Board consensus was to schedule a work session.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board approved the following utility permits: Night Owl Wireless – place a communications cabinet and fiber across the road to service a residence at 3820 165<sup>th</sup> Street; TelCom Construction – bury a new 3 pair phone line from an existing pedestal to service a residence at 1610 Underwood Avenue; TelCom Construction – bore under 181<sup>st</sup> Street to bury a new 3 pair phone line to service a residence at 3628 181<sup>st</sup> Street; and TelCom Construction – bore under North Isett Avenue and bury a new 3 pair phone line to service a residence at 1699 North Isett Avenue. Ayes: All.

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

Discussion was held regarding the possible reopening of County buildings to the public. County Attorney Jim Barry updated the Board on the status of the Courthouse stating non-jury matters can be addressed starting July 13<sup>th</sup> or sooner if the Courthouse is able to work through the requirements for safely opening. Barry stated jury matters have been pushed out until mid-September. Barry stated the County Attorney's office is still closed and using Go To Meetings to help facilitate the court system, but until the Courthouse reopens, everything is pretty much idled. Sorensen stated the Board will reopen the Courthouse when the State says they are ready. Budget Administrator Sherry Seright stated it is the State's responsibility to do the things that are required for the Courthouse to be reopened. Barry stated he feels the County needs to control opening the door to the Courthouse and how people are allowed inside. Seright stated the last conversation she had from Judge Greve was that they would let us know when they were ready. Seright stated County staff will continue to do the cleaning they have done before, but the State will have to provide extra cleaning like wiping down counters between customers. Barry stated he believes the County needs to initiate the conversation to see if the State is ready to open the Courthouse and he will reach out to the Court to have that conversation. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated he is ready to move forward with opening. County Engineer Keith White stated the counter is no issue, but employees are time shifted to keep them apart and he would want to continue to do that at least through the summer. Furnas stated he assumed the Administration Building would be open for his in-person Board of Adjustment meeting July 10<sup>th</sup> and he would have to change that to a Go to Meeting if this building is not reopened by then. County Treasurer Amy Zybarth stated Scott County is still only open by appointment. Zybarth stated they are still dealing with a lot of people through the mail or drop box. Zybarth stated their problem is when they go to the door, there are others out there that start asking questions. Zybarth stated she will continue to put out information on the website about how to conduct business without having to enter the building. Seright stated it is tough to social distance when

the employee has to meet the public at the door so there is some exposure there. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated she has obtained masks for all employees, but she has received strong feedback that the employees do not want to be required to wear masks. County Recorder Sarah Hearst stated only being open for appointments is working great for their office. County Assessor Randy Spies stated they have been able to conduct business as normal by handling the majority over the phone or by mail. Spies stated they started going out into the field two weeks ago and staff wear masks if there are a lot of people on site. County Auditor Leslie Soule stated they are ready to open and had no problem with social distancing when they were open for the Primary Election. Community Services Director Felicia Toppert stated mailing checks has worked out great and they had two emergency appointments last week that worked out just fine. Toppert stated she plans to remove all tables and chairs from the lobby and would like to continue with appointment only. Conservation Director Curt Weiss stated all his facilities are open except for the Environmental Learning Center. Weiss stated it is the responsibility of the park user to take precautions. Weiss stated there have been a lot of requests to have the Environmental Learning Center open, so they will probably open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday within a couple of weeks after they have removed things that are difficult to clean. Roby-Williams stated the Public Health Department recommends continuing by appointment only. Board consensus was to continue with opening by appointment only for now and revisit reopening to the Public on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, minutes of the June 15, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen and Saucedo attended a Levee Stakeholders electronic meeting June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sorensen reported a contact regarding cost effective trash collection and yard waste.

Sauer reported a contact regarding a driveway culvert.

Holliday reported a call regarding septic overflow at Kammerer Court.

Committee Reports:

Holliday attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Holliday attended a Muscatine County Fair Board meeting June 18<sup>th</sup> and horse races on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a River Bend Transit Board meeting June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sorensen attended an Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region electronic meeting June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Sorensen attended Mississippi Valley Workforce Authority Fiscal Agent Training and Board meeting electronically June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mather attended a Muscatine County Veterans Affairs Commission electronic meeting June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion was held regarding possible amendment of the 28E Agreement for the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region. Sorensen stated the child health advocates have been removed as Board members due to a conflict of interest and a new vetting process is in place. Sorensen stated the plan has been approved by the State. Sorensen stated the rest of the requested changes to the 28E will be considered in their annual review process. Mather stated he still has reservations

regarding the minor issues and would like to see those addressed in the future, but will support the 28E at this time. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board approved Resolution #06-22-20-01 Approving an Amended 28E Agreement for the Eastern Iowa Mental Health – Disability Services Region. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #06-22-20-01**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDED 28E AGREEMENT FOR THE EASTERN  
IOWA MENTAL HEALTH-DISABILITY SERVICES REGION**

WHEREAS, certain amendments to the 28E agreement for the Eastern Iowa Mental Health-Disability Service Region between Cedar County, Clinton County, Jackson County, Scott County and Muscatine County were deemed necessary; and

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

1. That the amended 28E agreement includes the Children's Behavioral Health Services language, adds voting members to the Governing Board and creates a Children's Advisory Committee; and
2. That the voting procedures are updated, "transfer" funds are addressed under Region Finances, and dispute resolution language is added; and
3. That an alternate Board member is appointed to fill in when the current Governing Board member is unable to attend meetings; and
4. That the changes in the amended 28E agreement are hereby approved and the Chairperson is authorized to execute the 28E agreement on behalf of Muscatine County.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2020.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule  
Muscatine County Auditor

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

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

Conservation Director Curt Weiss updated the Board on construction of cabins at Deep Lakes Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Betty L. Wamback  
First Deputy Auditor

Santos Saucedo, Vice-Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors