

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, October 12, 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 Sheriff C. J. Ryan regarding his request to hire replacements for staff retiring at the end of the year. Sheriff Ryan stated he would like to hire two deputies knowing that the department will be losing both himself and his Chief Deputy at the end of the year. Sheriff Ryan stated they have two applicants who are already certified peace officers which means they can forego the time and expense of sending them to the academy. Sheriff Ryan stated he would like to get them hired immediately to allow for transition. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber confirmed the hiring will probably require a budget amendment. In response to a question from Sauer, one is from Cedar County and the other from Louisa County, so they will have to relocate. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board authorized Sheriff Ryan to proceed with the immediate hiring of two deputies to replace staff retiring at the end of the year. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, minutes of the October 5, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received emails from Terry Holliday regarding Keokuk Avenue.
Saucedo and Sauer reported calls regarding ATV/UTV use on County roads.

Committee Reports:

Holliday attended a Muscatine County Safety Committee meeting October 7th.
Holliday attended a Levee Stakeholders Update Webinar with Rich Dwyer October 7th.
Mather attended a Seventh Judicial District meeting October 9th.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board approved a request to promote Sherry Morgan from a Treasurer's Clerk II (Grade 8, Step 13) to a Treasurer's Clerk I (Grade 9, Step 10). Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the Board authorized renewal of the Muscatine County Flexible Benefits Plan for 2021 and set the open enrollment period for October 19, 2020 through November 6, 2020. Ayes: All.

County Auditor Leslie Soule announced Satellite Voting locations on October 13th at West Liberty Public Library and October 15th at MCC McAvoy Center. Soule stated both satellite locations will be open from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Soule also stated in-person voting continues in the Auditor's Office Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM through November 2nd and both Saturdays, October 24th and 31st from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

Emergency Manager Brian Wright updated the Board on COVID-19 in Muscatine County.

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

Discussion was held regarding emails received about Keokuk Avenue. White was directed to provide information regarding what the problems have been with the road, what would be required to fix the road and the impact on the five-year plan. Saucedo stated he would also like the residents on that road to have a chance to communicate with the Board. White stated Terry Holliday's illegal excavation of the ditch exasperated the problem. White stated he was informed by the previous County Attorney that Terry Holliday would have to pay for the damage he caused, but that never happened. White stated an option may be to install a box culvert to replace the bridge that used to be there. The Board will place this on the agenda again for discussion and possible action October 26th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors