

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Saturday, December 17, 2011

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in special session at 9:00 A.M. with Howard, Kelly, Watkins and Sorensen present. Furlong was absent. Chairperson Watkins presiding.

The Board of Supervisors met with State Senator James Hahn, State Representative Mark Lofgren, State Representative Jeff Kaufmann and State Representative Dave Heaton to discuss proposed legislation.

Discussion was held regarding road use taxes. County Engineer Keith White stated the County has had to deal for years with flat revenues and escalating construction costs by the usage of less rock on the roads, fewer employees and the inability to replace aging equipment. White stated the State summarily gave roads to the Counties ten years ago to save themselves money, but the County has already had to spend over \$1,000,000 on Hwy 6 for a badly needed bridge replacement. Watkins stated that the majority of the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors feels an increase to the gas tax is not out of line and the fairest tax because it taxes all users of the roads, not just residents of Iowa.

Community Services Director Mike Johannsen presented information on the Iowa Mental Health & Disability System Redesign. Johannsen stated that Muscatine County is already accomplishing what the State is proposing without regionalizing Mental Health Administration as he already works with other Counties to get mental health services to those that are in need of them. Johannsen stated that regionalizing will take away the local presence needed to make the system more easily accessible. Johannsen stated that the goal of the State is to provide services consistently across the State and he feels the State can accomplish that goal by requiring all CPC Systems to be accredited and follow the same standards rather than through regionalization. Johannsen expressed concern that beginning July 1, 2013 there will be no local property tax levy authorized by the legislature for mental health, but local funding will be needed and requested that the Legislature take action to allow for a local property tax levy so that the required funding will be in place. State Representative Dave Heaton stated that all the State is trying to do is get all of the Counties to work together to provide consistency in services offered, consistency in quality and eliminate legal residency issues. Heaton stated he favors allowing Counties to keep their Mental Health levy for Non-Medicaid Services. Watkins expressed concern that some Counties in a region might keep their levy down because they do not want to provide all of the services. Heaton stated that every County would have to provide core services. Howard stated that he fears losing autonomy with regionalization as the County already has a good system that could worsen with regionalization. Watkins stated that if regionalization becomes a reality, it will be necessary for Muscatine County to align with Counties that have the same thought process as Muscatine County. Johannsen finished with asking the legislatures to consider his option to regionalization.

Clerk of Court Jeff Tollenaer conducted a tour of his offices at the Courthouse to enable a discussion with the legislators about storage space issues being faced by current archival requirements for court records. Watkins stated that the Board would like to be able to utilize more of the Courthouse for lawyer/client meetings, but that is impossible because court records are being stored as far back as 1830. Sorensen stated it would also be helpful if once a record was digitally imaged, the original could be destroyed. Tollenaer said that it is extremely labor intensive and expensive to digitize records. State Representative Kaufmann stated he would like to know how many other Counties would advocate for shortening the limit of how long court records have to be held. County Auditor Leslie Soule will conduct a survey of the other Counties to see how many Counties are having similar space issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Kas Kelly, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, December 19, 2011

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Furlong, Howard, Watkins, Kelly and Sorensen present. Chairperson Watkins presiding.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Furlong, the agenda was approved as written. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Furlong, claims dated December 19, 2011 were approved in the amount of \$158,039.19. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Howard, the Board approved a proposal for Iowa Historic Tax Credit Application Assistance for the rehabilitation of the Muscatine County Courthouse from Doug Steinmetz in the amount of \$8,000. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, the Board approved a proposed Addendum to the Request for Proposals for the CDBG Acquisition Demolition Program. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Furlong, the Board set a public hearing for Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. on proposed amendments to the Muscatine County Construction Codes and Enforcement Ordinance. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, the Board approved a Contract, Bond and Certificate of Insurance for STP-S-C070(44)—5E-70; a paving project on Taylor Avenue with Streb Construction in the amount of \$4,208,189.37. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, the Board approved a proposed contract with Goodwill of the Heartland to provide a part-time custodial employee. Ayes: All.

Maintenance Supervisor Troy Sievert requested direction regarding the proposed roof for the outdoor area at the jail. Sheriff White stated that he had plan specifications that had been approved by an engineer.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, the Board approved proposed amendments to the Muscatine County Safety Manual, Hiring Practices section to require pre-employment physicals for some positions and continue to investigate pre-employment drug screening for all positions. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Furlong, minutes of the Monday, December 12, 2011 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Watkins received inquiries regarding the meeting held December 17th.

Kelly and Furlong received calls regarding the proposed Driver's License changes.

The Board received letters from Eastern Iowa Airport and Quad Cities Foreign Trade Zone Inc. regarding alternate site framework procedures.

Committee Reports:

Watkins attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting December 13th.

Furlong attended a Muscatine County Fair Board meeting December 13th.

Furlong attended a West Liberty Economic Development meeting December 13th.

Watkins requested information on County franchise fees for cable. County Attorney Alan Ostergren stated that he would look into it.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board amended the Fair Labor Standard Act status of the Jail Administrator class specification to designate the position as exempt effective July 1, 2012. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, the Board re-appointed Larry Wolf to the Muscatine County Conservation Board for a five-year term ending December 31, 2016. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kelly, the Board re-appointed Mike Stych to the Muscatine County Building Board of Appeals for a three-year term ending December 31, 2014. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board re-appointed Larry Fitchner to the Conesville Benefited Fire District for a three-year term ending December 31, 2014 (pending approval by the Louisa County Board of Supervisors). Ayes: All.

After discussion and review was held with Budget Coordinator Sherry Seright, a motion was made by Sorensen, seconded by Howard, to adopt proposed purchasing, lost and found, surplus equipment, petty cash, administration of the state ordered suspension of property taxes, contract change order and claim submittal policies. Ayes: All. A motion was made by Sorensen, second by Furlong, to amend the first motion to include recommended changes in the surplus equipment policy and exclude the purchasing policy. Ayes: All.

Kelly stated she would like to wish all citizens and County employees a Merry Christmas and a Great New Year.

The Board directed Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber to send a letter to Merit Construction.

Watkins stated he would like County Auditor Leslie Soule to send minutes of the Saturday, December 17th meeting to Senator Courtney and Representative Sands.

Howard reported concern regarding ramps at Hershey and the Bypass being icy.

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The meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Kas Kelly, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, January 3, 2012

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Furlong, Howard, Watkins, Kelly and Sorensen present.

County Auditor Leslie Soule conducted nominations for Chairperson. On a motion by Watkins, second by Furlong, Kas Kelly was elected Chairperson and presided over the remainder of the meeting. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Watkins, Jeff Sorensen was elected Vice-Chairperson. Ayes: All. A motion made by Sorensen to elect Robert Howard as Vice-Chairperson died for lack of a second.

On a motion by Watkins, second by Furlong, the agenda was approved as written. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order at 9:06 A.M. by Chairperson Kelly on a proposed amendment to the Muscatine County Construction Code and Enforcement Ordinance to Update Provisions Related to the Muscatine Residential and Electrical Codes. Zoning Administrator Jodee Stepleton reviewed changes to the Ordinance stating that they are adopting the 2011 National Electrical Code and incorporating the current floodplain maps. On a motion by Watkins, second by Howard, the public hearing was closed at 9:10 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Sorensen, an ordinance was approved Amending the Muscatine County Construction Codes and Enforcement Ordinance to Update Provisions Related to Muscatine County Residential and Electrical Codes on the first of three readings. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

Zoning Administrator Jodee Stepleton reviewed the following bids to demolish 1130 Hinkeyville Road, Atalissa: G & B Construction, Inc. - \$12,060.00; Barnharts Custom Services, LLC - \$18,735.00; and Triple B Construction - \$20,939.00. Stepleton recommended awarding the bid to Barnharts Custom Services, LLC as the G & B Construction bid was lacking the required Technical Proposal and Equipment List and should be disqualified. On a motion by Furlong, second by Howard, the Board accepted a proposal to demolish 1130 Hinkeyville Road, Atalissa from Barnharts Custom Services, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$18,735.00. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Watkins, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Proclamation #01-03-12-01 declaring January 2012 as Official Radon Action Month in Muscatine County. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #01-03-12-01 Authorizing the County Engineer to Sign For and Collect Disaster Relief Funds. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Watkins, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #01-03-12-02 Authorizing the County Engineer to Execute Certification of Completion and Final Acceptance on Farm-to-Market Construction Projects. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #01-03-12-03 Authorizing the County Engineer to Close Secondary Roads in Emergency Situations. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Watkins, the Board approved Resolution #01-03-12-04 Designating Official Newspapers In and For Muscatine County for 2012. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. They are as follows: Muscatine Journal, West Liberty Index and Wilton-Durant Advocate.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Watkins, the Board approved Resolution #01-03-12-05 Construction Evaluation Resolution. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Watkins, the Board re-appointed Bruce Bryant as the Muscatine County Weed Commissioner for a one-year term ending December 31, 2012. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Furlong, the Board re-appointed Heather Shoppa as the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association representative and Jane Daufeldt as the alternate for one-year terms ending December 31, 2012. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Watkins, second by Howard, minutes of the Saturday, December 17, 2011 special meeting and the Monday, December 19, 2011 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Howard received emails regarding the proposal for the Treasurer to assume issuance of Drivers Licenses.

Howard received emails regarding possible payroll changes.

Committee Reports:

Kelly attended a Bi-State Regional meeting December 21st.

Maintenance Supervisor Troy Sievert provided the Board with the DHS Building Energy Conservation Study prepared by A & J Associates.

Discussion was held regarding meeting dates and times for 2012. Kelly stated she would like the 5th Monday to also be a night meeting. Watkins stated that having the 5th Monday is more confusing because there are only a handful of 5th Mondays during the

year. Furlong stated the Board has always been willing to schedule an additional night meeting as needed. On a motion by Watkins, second by Furlong, the Board set meeting dates and times for 2012 as follows: the 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 P.M., all other Mondays at 9:00 A.M and other meetings to be scheduled at the discretion of the Board. Ayes: All.

The Board approved on motion by Howard, second by Furlong, 2012 appointments to the following boards and commissions: Ayes: All.

Bi-State Regional Planning Commission	Kelly & Sorensen
Bi-State Drug and Alcohol Consortium	Kelly
City of Muscatine Transportation Zone Commission	Sorensen
Community Volunteer Nominating Committee	Kelly
Decategorization Board	Kelly
Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Kelly
Regional Workforce Investment Board	Sorensen
Muscatine Community Health Association	Kelly
Muscatine County Board of Health	Watkins
Muscatine County Conservation Board	Howard
Muscatine County E911 Service Board	Howard
Muscatine County Enterprise Zone Commission	Furlong
Muscatine County Fair Board	Furlong
Muscatine County Flood Control Commission	Howard & Sorensen
Muscatine County Humane Society	Watkins
Muscatine County/Muscatine City Joint Administration Board (Emergency Management)	Howard
Muscatine County REAP Commission	Howard
Muscatine County Revolving Loan Fund Finance Committee	Watkins
Muscatine County Safety Committee	Sorensen
Muscatine County Solid Waste Mgmt. Agency	Furlong
Region 9 Transportation Policy Board	Watkins
Seventh Judicial District Dept. of Correctional Services Board	Kelly
WELEAD(West Liberty Economic Development Board)	Furlong
Wilton Development Corporation	Sorensen
Muscatine County Joint Communications Commission (standing appointment until Board resolution to change)	Furlong & Watkins
M.A.G.I.C. Committee (2 year terms)	Watkins – term ends 12/31/13 Howard – term ends 12/31/12
River Bend Transit Board of Directors	Watkins

Discussion was held regarding a vacancy on the Building Board of Appeals. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated that Greg Keller is requesting reappointment, but the County must first seek a female appointee in order to comply with Chapter 162 of the Code of Iowa regarding gender balance. Schreiber stated she will post the vacancy on the County website.

On a motion by Watkins, second by Sorensen, the Board accepted the 2011 Weed Commissioners Report. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Sorensen, the Board accepted the December 2011 payroll claims. Ayes: All.

Chairperson Kelly encouraged everyone to attend their caucuses tonight.

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

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Kas Kelly, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors