

SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK 2018

January 22, 2018

The special meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chairman Thompson. Present were Rick Thompson, Gary VanAernam and Todd Nelsen. Others present were Lisa Frederiksen, Amy Elmquist, Becky Marten, Todd Johnson, Melissa Thygesen, Mitch Rydl, Chris Hemmingsen, Kent Grabill and Susanne Gerlach via telephone.

Motion-Nelsen Second-Thompson to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor.

Sheriff Johnson explained to the Board that a proposal is being suggested that a jailer's sole duty would be only correctional work and this would eliminate a dispatcher/jailer which Audubon County presently has. Todd has spoken at meetings trying to discourage this law from being passed and has requested that the continuation of a dispatcher/jailer be allowed.

Johnson and Melissa Thygesen presented the 2019 Sheriff's budget. Deputies' wages would follow the sheriff's increase pending Board decision on Compensation Board recommendations. Discussion was held on \$55,000 being budgeted in deputy "other asset" fund which would include purchase of a new tasers, replacement of car radios as allowed, and purchase of new handguns. Sheriff stated handguns and holsters need to be updated and also the tasers need updating. Sheriff also stated they would be needing one vehicle next year and 2 in FY20.


Sheriff Johnson presented data and discussed increase in the dispatcher's wages and also the hiring of a new person to replace Melissa. Johnson would like to open up existing union negotiated contract and offer all dispatchers inclusive of civil deputy \$3/hour. He also stated he will be cutting three 8-4 shifts per week which he previously increased to have 2 dispatcher/jailers working simultaneously 3 days during the work week. Sheriff will obtain more information to present to BOS on adjoining counties and counties of our size for comparison. Engineer Mitch Rydl and Roadside Kent Grabill joined the meeting and discussion was held on the new proposed building which will be constructed to house Sec Roads, Roadside and Sheriff equipment, supplies, seed, etc. The Sheriff will also have some outside storage. Grabill is hoping to obtain a state grant and the Sheriff will also be contributing money to this project.

The Board then discussed the Roadside budget with Grabill and Rydl. Roadside Department have presently been using a Secondary Road employee(s) for help during the past year. They would like to hire an additional fulltime employee for Roadside and the Sec Rd employees could return to their previous positions. They had an increase in their contract spraying as this is spraying that Roadside is unable to do. Main increases in the Roadside budget are due to the new building and hiring of a new employee.

At 12 noon a telephone call was received from Susanne Gerlach concerning the S&P Global Ratings Preliminary Report Review. Audubon County received an "AA-" rating and there are only two counties in the state with a higher rating than Audubon and six other counties who also are rated "AA-". After reading the report and discussion was held a return call was made to relay to Gerlach no changes were necessary. Gerlach will be at the January 30, 2018 meeting to accept bids and approve bond sale.

Chris Hemmingsen joined Engineer Rydl on discussing the Secondary Road budget. Roadway construction for FY2019 budget was discussed. Increase in the data processing line item is due to change in their system and they are now using Western Iowa Wireless. Union raises are 2% but Hemmingsen, Grabill and Jessen and Engineer Rydl are budgeted at higher 3% raise. They are also asking for another \$50,000 transfer increase to their local effort. They are not including any new equipment in their budget (\$225,000 annual lease purchase agreement payments still remain) and the roadway construction is the main reason for the increase in the budget. Some discussion was held on how the Board will proceed once the Secondary Roads union is dismantled.

Motion-Nelsen Second-VanAernam to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.



Chairman, Audubon Co Board of Supervisors

Attest: 

Audubon County Auditor Clerk