

SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK 2023

August 29, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Doug Sorensen. Present were Doug Sorensen, Rick Thompson, Heath Hansen, Todd Johnson, Chris Swensen, Chassity Musfeldt, Mitch Rydl, Deb Campbell, Michelle Kilmer, Kent Grabill, Bruce Haag, Ron Mullenger, Peggy Smalley, Cory Baier, Jami Schleimer, and Gary Olson.

Motion-Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the agenda with the addition of accepting Kyle Juelsgaard's resignation. Vote-all in favor.

Motion-Thompson Second- Hansen to go into Closed Session Pursuant to Iowa Code 20.17 and 21.5 (1)g to discuss law enforcement/ union matters with Sheriff at 9:13 am. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to go out of closed session at 9:23 am.

Veteran's Affairs Director Michelle Kilmer met with the Board to discuss a letter from the State regarding Allocation money that needs to be paid back. Since the requirements were not met, Audubon County had to pay back \$10,000. The Supervisors asked if we had any options at this point to not have to pay it back. It was suggested that in the future we need to make sure to have a list of all the approved items that this allocation can be used for. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to send the VA Reimbursement back to the State of Iowa. Vote-all in favor.

Motion- Hansen Second- Thompson to approve the MOU for Sheriff's Department. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second-Hansen to sign/accept the Certificate of Appointment of Sheriff's Deputy Jimmy James. Vote-all in favor. Sheriff Johnson presented paperwork on a new vehicle. One issue that was brought to the Board's attention was that General Motors has a deal with only one dealership in Iowa, Karl Chevrolet, making it impossible to support a local dealership to purchase a patrol equipped vehicle. The County is still waiting on the last Sheriff's vehicle that was ordered.

Motion- Hansen Second- Thompson to approve the minutes from August 22,2023. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the ballot completion for the vote on Iowa Municipalities Workers' Compensation Association. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to accept/file Annual MMP Update for Scott Opperman-Bluebird #69531. Vote-all in favor.

Engineer Mitch Rydl gave Secondary Roads update. The insurance check came for the truck that had been struck by lightning. Cory Baier and Jami Schleimer joined Rydl to present different options of trucks to replace the one that had been damaged. Pros and cons of each make/model were discussed. Motion-Hansen Second- Thompson to approve the purchase of the International semi-truck. Vote-all in favor. Kent Grabill with Roadside gave the Board the resignation letter from his employee Kyle Juelsgaard. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to accept the resignation letter. Vote-all in favor. As part of the CDL agreement that had been signed by Juelsgaard, he will have to pay part of that reimbursement back to the county. Grabill said he will be advertising the job soon. Rydl said he hired a new Secondary Roads worker and will have the hiring resolution on the next agenda. After last weeks meeting, Rydl had met with Utility companies to discuss the utility lines on the Falcon Ave/Sharon Twp project. Options are being discussed pertaining to the second bridge in this area. After Labor Day the Secondary Roads Dept will start back on the 8 hour, 5 days a week schedule.

Fixed Asset policy was discussed but no action taken. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting to start drafting an updated policy. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the claims for payment in the amount of \$17,099.41. Vote-all in favor.

Conservation Director Bruce Haag and board members including Peggy Smalley, Ron Mullenger, and Gary Olson met with the Supervisors to discuss the Ash Tree and Bike Trail issues. He had counted a total number of 2,343 trees along the trail that need removed. Several ideas were brought up on the best solution for the tree removal. Many questions were raised about how to start the process of hiring tree removal service. Each section has its own issues, but in the areas that have the largest amounts of dead trees, it is looking like excavation could be an option. The Board asked what needs to be done and stated that we need to come up with a plan for the trail. Haag suggested that it would take two full time employees to manage the trail. Haag stated that there are grants that he will be able to apply for. Currently there is a Federal Rec Trail grant in October, a Regional Enhancement Grant in January and a State grant in July. Haag said we usually don't get awarded these and just have to keep applying and hope we get them. The Board proceeded to ask what the plan would be if we did not get awarded any of these grants. Haag stated again, that with his limited staff it is going to be hard to get everything done and we might have to start looking at the budget to possibly hire someone for the trail. Several complaints were discussed. Supervisor Hansen stressed that it is important for the County to be able to provide the Community of Audubon with a plan of action on these issues. The Supervisors asked Haag what a reasonable amount of time would be needed to fix each section of the trail. Haag said two to three years would be a rough estimate per section. It was also discussed that the DOT should be contacted to discuss the trees that may cause an issue if they were to fall onto the highway. Further discussion with Haag and the DOT is scheduled for next week's meeting.

Attorney Chris Swensen discussed the status of the IPERS Audit regarding township officials pay. He said there is really no way around it and they will have to be ran through the county's payroll. We may be able to file an extension with IPERS on this.

Motion-Thompson Second- Hansen to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 pm. Vote-all in favor.

/s/Doug Sorensen
Audubon County Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt
Attest: Auditor Clerk