

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with all members present. Also present were Charlie Pajer, Betty McCarthy and Warren Haacke (Media). Motion by Marreel, second by Walk to include discussion on abstract for property at 816 Pleasant Street in Osage, Sheriff request, Osage TIF, Center for Rural Affairs, census letter and to approve the amended agenda. All voted aye.

Gwen Moser of Eide Bailly reviewed the Mitchell County Hospital audit report for the year ending June 30, 2008. Also present were Hospital Administrator Sandy Leggett, Hospital officials Alan Streeter, Michelle Huntley-Larsen and Hospital Trustee Don Hendrickson. Prior year's expenses and revenues were reviewed and also discussed the annual tax asking. Supervisor Walk requested that a copy of the contract between Mercy and the hospital be sent to the BOS.

County Engineer Jim Hyde reported on widening the Halvorson Park Bridge. Construction could begin in 2009 or 2010. This will be discussed further at the November 25th meeting. It was reported that the Secondary Roads Union contract has been accepted.

Elderbridge Agency on Aging Executive Director Lahoma Counts gave an update for the agency and made a FY 2010 match fund request of \$6,890.40 from Mitchell County. This represents a 4.35% increase from FY 2009. Also present were Shirley Moore, James Olenburger and John and Vera Kasel. No action was taken at this time. This will be reviewed during budget meetings in January.

The Board met with Mitchell County department heads to discuss County finances. Treasurer Carol Zerck reported that the General Fund balance is down to \$800,000. Deputy Auditor Barb Baldwin stated that if grants come in as expected the ending fund balance should be at \$1 million dollars. The County can also make a transfer from the Local Option fund. Jim Hyde reported that the Secondary Roads department should be receiving \$600,000 to \$700,000 from FEMA funds. Budget sheets will be handed out in December after the November month end is completed.

County Attorney Mark Walk gave an update on plumbing issues at the County Services building. Motion by Walk, second by Marreel to allow the County Attorney to pursue this suit through small claims court. Roll call vote: all ayes. Discussed a request from the property owner to assist with costs to update the abstract on the property recently sold at 816 Pleasant Street in Osage. County Attorney advised that Mitchell County is under no legal obligation to assist with the costs. Consensus of the Board to leave as is. Supervisor Walk reported that Rosetta Waychus is no longer interested in assisting with Veteran Affairs in Mitchell County.

Regular meeting recessed at 10:55 a.m. The joint 28E Chickasaw/Mitchell County Case Management Board met via conference call. Present was Case Management Director Sheila Kobliska. Present at Chickasaw County were Supervisors Arnie Boge, Sherry Mattke, John Huegel, Virgil Pickar, Jim Schueth, Auditor Judy Babcock and Rick Holtaus. Sheila reported that the audit report for the year ended June 30, 2008 for the Case Management department was completed and that there were "zero" findings. Motion by Walk, second by Huegel to acknowledge acceptance of the audit and to place it on file. Roll call vote: all ayes. Sheila also gave a department update. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Regular meeting reconvened. Conservation Director Milt Owen reviewed the annual report for the Mitchell County Conservation department. Milt reported that revenues for Resource Enhancement (REAP) is up, but camping fees are down due to the flood in June. Also reviewed land acquisitions and grants. Motion by Marreel, second by Walk to approve the Conservation annual report. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Marreel, second by Walk to approve placing \$10,000.00 in the Land Acquisition and Capitol Improvement Fund from easement fees for County property. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Walk, second by Marreel to approve the minutes of the November 10th meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Reviewed bids for local financing for the Carpenter wastewater project. After discussion, motion by Marreel, second by Walk to go with the proposal from the C US Bank. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Items of note: Voaklander reported on a landfill meeting, Marreel reported on the FMC Empowerment and Board of Health meetings and Walk reported on the NIACOG, Conservation, Mental Health, Veteran Affairs meetings and a meeting with Mark Kuhn for the Vera Sun Ethanol grain indemnity fund. Effective November 14, 2008, Laura Huisman, office staff, is to receive a salary step increase to \$13.21 per hour. Effective November 29, 2008, Susan Miller, HCA III, is changing employment status to PT-25. Effective December 1, 2008, Leanna Troge, Home Care Aide III, is changing employment status to PRN.

Discussed a request from Sheriff Younker to participate in a step program with the Iowa State Safety Bureau. Initial cost of the program is \$4,000 which will be used to purchase a new radar protector and six new breath testers. Motion by Walk, second by Marreel to participate in the program with full reimbursement to be coming later from the State. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Discussed a letter from the City of Osage regarding a tax increment financing (TIF) request for Adams Plumbing and Heating. Consensus to submit a letter to the city with no negative comments concerning the proposed TIF.

Discussed a financial request from the Center of Rural Affairs. Motion by Marreel, second by Walk to approve sending \$50.00 to the Center of Rural Affairs. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Discussed a letter from the Census Bureau requesting information. The Auditor stated that he had also received

the same letter and had responded to it.
Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Lowell Tesch - Mitchell County Auditor

Joel Voaklander – Chair Board of Supervisors