

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:43 a.m. with all members present. Also present was Michelle Haacke (Media). Motion by Voaklander, second by Marreel to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

County Attorney Mark Walk reported that he has reviewed E911 Ordinance No. 12. Mark is waiting for direction from Mitchell County Naturalist Mary Jo Burkgren. Revisions have been made to the proposed Junk Vehicle Ordinance No. 42. A public hearing to consider the ordinance is scheduled for February 16, 2010 at 8:45 a.m. in the BOS room. Previously the BOS had discussed Littering Ordinance No. 29 and increasing the fine for littering from \$500 to \$1,000. Consensus to leave the fine where it is. This should be enough of a deterrent. Discussed a settlement for damage to the Otter Creek Bridge. County Attorney will obtain the releases in order to proceed with the settlement.

Members of the Mitchell County Substance Abuse Coalition (MC SAC), Osage High School Administration, teachers and students, concerned parents and citizens, City, State and County Law Enforcement officials were present to express their support for passage of the proposed Social Host and Minor Consumption Ordinances. It was the general consensus by those in attendance that these ordinances are necessary. Results of the Iowa Youth Survey, taken by students in the St. Ansgar and Osage High Schools, indicate that there is a problem with underage and binge drinking by some of the students. Osage Police Chief Russ Slight stated that the City of Osage had enacted a minor consumption ordinance two years ago. At present there is no social host ordinance in effect in Mitchell County. The Board stated that they would continue to discuss this further at the February 9th meeting.

Mitchell County Conservation Director Milt Owen reviewed a cost share agreement for the Wapsi Great Western Trail project. The agreement is with Mitchell and Howard County and the Wapsi Trail committee. Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Roll call vote: all ayes. Milt also gave an update on a block grant program for energy savings from the Office of Energy Independence of the DNR. After discussion, consensus to pursue having an energy audit conducted at the Courthouse.

County Engineer Jim Hyde and Assistant County Engineer Rich Brumm discussed the rock hauling program for 2010. Also present was Lindsey Falk. After discussion, consensus to contract the rock hauling. Bids will be sought out from local contractors. It was reported that the Wapsi River bridge on 465th Street west of McIntire, was recently closed by the bridge inspecting company (WHKS) due to deteriorating pilings. Discussed remedy's to repair the understructure of the bridge. Jim will check with WHKS & Co. to see if they will allow his recommendation on repairing the bridge.

Discussed a \$500.00 financial request from Calhoun County to assist in a drainage issue with a railroad line. No action was taken. The Board stated that it is aware of the issue. Jim stated that Worth County has a similar problem with a railroad line. Jim reported that the stimulus paving project on 420th Street west of St. Ansgar is a go. Bid letting will be held at a later date.

Regular meeting recessed at 10:00 a.m. and the BOS immediately took part in Assessor's Conference Board meeting.

The regular meeting reconvened at 11:00 a.m. The BOS, Auditor and the County Attorney toured the Mitchell County Jail and the Communications Center. Sheriff Younker reviewed procedures for the operation of the jail and the communications center. Also present was Deputy Greg Beaver, Jail Captain Rose Hinders and Dispatch Captain Jennifer Irvin.

Sanitarian Mark Ross discussed well testing for the unincorporated areas of Mitchell County. Mark will confer with Conservation Director Milt Owen to prepare an article for the county newspapers.

Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve the minutes of the January 25th, 26th and February 1st meetings. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve payment of Invoice #10 for \$603.53 to Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. for professional services associated with the Carpenter wastewater improvement project. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Discussed future maintenance costs for the sewer system. A separate fund will be set up for this purpose.

Items of note: Voaklander reported on the TCM 28E Board, Heartland Insurance and the FMC Landfill meetings and Walk reported on the Wapsi Trail and RC&D meetings. Effective February 1, 2010, Erin Niemeyer, HCA III, is changing employment status from PT-15 to PT-10. Effective January 17, 2010, Donna Anhorn has completed one year employment. She will receive a salary step increase to \$13.20 per hour.

Meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Lowell Tesch - Mitchell County Auditor

Stan Walk – Chair Board of Supervisors