

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, August 17, 2010

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with Marreel and Voaklander present. Walk was attending another meeting. Also present were Chuck Pajer, John Ross, Betty McCarthy, Sandra Heckstein, L. Dean Pohren and Deb Nicklay (Media). Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

County Attorney Mark Walk recommended that the Board go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 1. (c) to discuss strategy with counsel regarding possible litigation against the Mitchell County Press News. Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to follow the recommendation of the County Attorney and go into closed session. Roll call vote: all ayes. The Board proceeded to go into closed session at 8:32 a.m. The Board came out of closed session at 8:35 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed. The Board directed the County Attorney to research the law regarding a possible libel lawsuit against the Press News and report back to the Board.

Sheriff Curt Younker presented the Sheriff's annual federal asset forfeiture report. Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to authorize the Vice Chair to sign the report. Roll call vote: all ayes.

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

After review, motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve suspension of taxes #274 and #275 in the amounts of \$1,104.00 and \$340.00. Roll call vote: all ayes. Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve abatement of taxes #276 in the amount of \$32.00. Roll call vote: all ayes.

County Engineer Rich Brumm reported that the Roads department is doing road maintenance work. The widening of 430th Street has been completed. Culvert work remains to be finished. Work on the Halvorson Bridge continues. Rich has ordered a new John Deere tractor from North Country Equipment. The old White tractor and loader will be traded in and a new loader will be included with the John Deere. Rich stated that he had received quotes from Dave Syverson of Rochester and Roy's Body Shop to repair the Sterling dump truck. Rich said that both quotes were competitive with each other. After discussion, motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander that based on the County Engineer's recommendation to send the truck to Dave Syverson's for repairs. Roll call vote: all ayes. Rich discussed looking at a used dump truck that was owned by Hennepin County in MN. The cost would be \$43,000.00. If purchased, the truck would replace an older truck from the County fleet. Rich will have the truck brought down to look over. Rich reported that Tom Thome intends to retire as of December 31, 2010. Paving work within Stacyville, New Haven and Little Cedar was discussed. The 35 mph speed limit on Lancer Avenue on the south side of Osage was discussed. Consensus to leave the speed limit as is.

Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve the County Care Facility Financial & Inventory Report for FY 2009-2010. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Marreel, second by Voaklander to approve placing \$1,285.00 in the Land Acquisition & Capitol Improvement Fund from crop damage reimbursed from ITC Midwest for land acquisition in the trust fund. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Items of note: Marreel reported on the FMC Empowerment meeting and Voaklander reported on an Economic Development meeting in St. Ansgar. Effective August 1, 2010, Linda Slindee's work status at the County Care Facility changed to FT-30.

Penney Morse gave a progress update on the Silos & Smokestacks Grant for the Mitchell County Historic Preservation Commission. A check for \$404.00 was received as the first installment towards the Community of David sign. The Preservation Grant proposal was reviewed. This will be placed on the August 24th agenda for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Lowell Tesch - Mitchell County Auditor

Joel Voaklander – Vice Chair Board of Supervisors