

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with all members present. Also present were Emily Kuntz, Sheriff Greg Beaver, Mary Jo Burkgren, Conservation Director Adam Shirley and Deb Nicklay (Press News). Motion by Paulus, second by Walk to postpone Weed Commissioner's report, add Riceville law enforcement, gas line to County Care Facility, Healthy Harvest budget request and approve the amended agenda. All voted aye.

Conservation Board President Emily Kuntz was asked to explain the justification for a 22.7% wage increase in the FY 14-15 budget line for the Director. Also a 9.6% increase for the full-time hourly employees. Emily stated that the Conservation Board felt that the raises are justified. It was stated that the BOS have recommended a 3% raise for the rest of the non-union county employees. County Attorney stated that the BOS can't cut a particular line item but could reduce the total budget asking for a department. The BOS will take this into consideration.

At 8:45 a.m. the Chair opened the public hearing for purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action on a proposal to enter into a loan agreement and borrow money in a principal amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the purpose of acquiring real estate. The Chair asked if there had been any oral or written comments received prior to the hearing. The Auditor and the BOS stated that none were received. The details of the loan for land acquisition were reviewed. \$70,000 is to be borrowed for the Muller property, \$15,000 for Wyatt Fen and \$15,000 for Pioneer Park expansion. The repayment of the loan is to be with land revenue. Being no further discussion the hearing was closed at 8:48 a.m.

Motion by Walk, second by Paulus to approve the loan agreement. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Paulus, second by Walk to authorize the Chair to sign the note and loan documents. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Tom Madden of Yaggy Colby & Associates gave an update on the VBC project. Concrete is being poured. Winter weather has slowed down some of the work.

At 9:00 a.m. the Chair opened the public hearing to amend the FY 13-14 County budget. The Chair asked if there had been any oral or written comments received prior to the hearing. The Auditor stated that none were received. Deputy Auditor Barb Baldwin reviewed the amounts that various department had requested for the amendment. The hearing was closed at 9:03 a.m.

Motion by Walk, second by Paulus to approve Appropriations Resolution #902-14. Roll call vote: all ayes.

County Attorney Mark Walk reviewed a proposal for a loan to purchase hydro-electric equipment in an amount not to exceed \$650,000 for the Mitchell Dam. Consensus for the County Attorney to post notice for a public hearing for February 18th. No time was set for the hearing. Discussed a pending law suit against the Conservation department. A motion has been filed to hold the hearing in another county. Directed the Auditor to post an agenda for a special BOS

meeting on January 29th at 12:30 p.m. to discuss the Evans versus Mitchell County law suit. County Attorney reported on a complaint he had received regarding the City of Osage hiring a person to work at the County's pre-treatment plan. The complaint was that the City had not followed procedures in posting the position. County Attorney will contact the City Attorney regarding the matter.

Supervisor Walk stated that he had been asked by Riceville City Council person Terry Byrnes to discuss law enforcement in the City of Riceville. The City has been contacted by Howard County to sign a contract with their Sheriff's department. Sheriff Greg Beaver stated that his department would respond to any calls on the Mitchell County side of Riceville.

County Engineer Rich Brumm reported that a motor grader is down for repairs. He is placing an ad in the newspapers for an administrative assistant in his office. He is receiving bids for the Walnut Avenue Paving Project. Also discussed the fuel tax, St. Ansgar shop drawings and a FEMA patching project.

Motion by Paulus, second by Walk to approve the minutes of the January 21st meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Walk, second by Voaklander to authorize the Chair to sign the AIA Agreement between the County and Dore & Associates Contracting, Inc. for demolition and deconstruction of the Courthouse. Walk and Voaklander voted aye and Paulus voted nay. Motion carried.

Items of note: Walk reported on an Economic Development meeting, Paulus reported on a NIVC meeting. Voaklander reported on the FMC Landfill and County Social Services meetings. The FMC Landfill annual audit report was received. Manure management plan update was received from Wright Way Inc. Talks are being held with the Osage Municipal Utilities for a possible gas line to the County Care Facility.

The Healthy Harvest of North Iowa FY 14-15 budget request of \$2,700 was discussed. The Board will check with other counties in the area to see what they may contribute before making a commitment.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Lowell Tesch - Mitchell County Auditor

Joel Voaklander – Chair Board of Supervisors