

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with all members present. Also, present were Paul Boerjan, Jenny Backer, Mike Miner, Greg Beaver, Aaron Murphy, Randy Conrad, Keith Horgen, Lowell Tesch, Jessa Ketelsen and Laura Huisman. The meeting was made available by video via "Go to Meeting". Motion by Hendrickson, second by Mayer to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

Motion by Frein, second by Hartogh to approve the minutes of the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Roll call: all voted aye.

County Attorney Murphy received paperwork on a new opioid settlement. Next week the Board of Supervisors can discuss if they would like to participate or not. Murphy is working on an ordinance for Conservation.

County Sheriff Beaver reported his fees collected for January for a total of \$2,798.44. Motion by Mayer, second by Frein to approve the Sheriff's Report for January. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Jennifer Backer, MCEDC Director, discussed Ashley Hinson's visit last week and the issues on economic development in our area. Mike Miner, Conservation Director, gave an update on Conservation. Miner had bids for tractors and is looking into the five-year loan they had done in the past. Miner discussed the online reservations for camping have been increased. Director Miner is working with Attorney Murphy to bring an ordinance into effect to sell private credits for the Wetland Mitigation Bank. Laura Huisman, Public Health director, had received a call from a concerned citizen about who can see the security cameras at their building. Auditor Foster asked about the quotes for a new maintenance tractor, which is on hold until we hear more from the legislature. Auditor Foster will be working on re-doing the valuations for the County. Supervisor Wherry discussed the work Casper Plumbing & Heating will be completing on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

County Engineer Rich Brumm was not available.

There was discussion on adding health insurance for PRN's. Sheriff Beaver stated the longest serving PRN worked 886 hours in FY22. According to Assured Partners, an employee that receives a W2 can have health insurance through the County, but employees that receive a 1099, cannot. No action was taken.

Supervisor Wherry commented the county budgets approximately \$70,000 to reduce the PSF plan deductible from \$5,000 down to \$500. The HSA plan deductible is \$3,000. Wherry supports option 1 for the HSA policy holders. Wherry supports what's right for the county but also supports doing what's right for our

employees. Supervisor Mayer would like to use the HSA option 2 and explained that is fair for taxpayers. Supervisor Hendrickson said both plans are good and would like to lower the HSA. Per Assured Partners, the average HSA contribution for a single employee is \$1,000 - \$1,200. No action was taken.

Jessa Ketelsen discussed the COVID-19 emergency is ending in March. Ketelsen gave an update on immunizations, blood pressure clinics, CPR classes, and having funds to purchase vaccines and related items. Ketelsen has given presentations on what public health is. Ketelsen will be working on local coalition. Ketelsen has completed the health assessment data, which is required every five years. Laura Huisman went over expenses and revenues. Huisman went over safety issues with staff and is working on new policies. Huisman had a couple staff recognitions and will be attending a conference in Ames. Public Health is still hiring for an aide and nurse. Last week Huisman met with the new state medical director last week.

Supervisor Wherry read the final plat resolution for Stone Hill First Addition. Motion by Hendrickson, second by Mayer to approve Resolution #1154-23 the Final Plat Resolution for Stone Hill First Addition. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Items of Note: Wherry reported on NIACOG Executive Board, Hartogh reported on FMC Landfill, and Safety Committee, Mayer reported on Conservation, Hendrickson reported on Safety Committee, and Frein reported on FMC DECAT, and FMC Early Childhood. Supervisor Mayer received a few calls on an editorial in the paper and wanted citizens to know that TIF companies do pay property tax on the wind turbines.

Motion by Wherry, second by Hartogh to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

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Rachel Foster – Mitchell County Auditor

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James Wherry – Chair Board of Supervisors