

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with all members present. Also, present were Amanda Baer, Laura Huisman, Jessa Ketelsen, Ryan Stephen, Tom Rolfes, Jerry Reshetar, Jenny Backer, Mike Miner, Rich Brumm, and Tom Herres. The meeting was made available by video via "Go to Meeting". Motion by Wherry, second by Mayer to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

Motion by Frein, second by Hartogh to approve the minutes of the August 13th meeting. Roll call vote: All voted aye.

County Attorney Murphy was not available.

County Sheriff Beaver was not available.

Mike Miner gave a Conservation update after last week's Conservation Board meeting. Miner put in an order for two new trucks and will be getting rid of two trucks, the roof project at the Nature Center is done and the interior will be completed this winter. With the Iowa DNR habitat grant, Conservation can purchase ground outside of town. The dam draw down is beginning on September 11th. There was an update on the Wapsi Trail. Supervisor Wherry was contacted by ISG for a lateral on the pipeline project.

County Engineer Rich Brumm said the walls for the salt shed are currently being delivered, with plans to construct next week. Brumm is working on closing out some projects. Supervisor Hendrickson asked about the hydraulics for the two bridges on Indigo Avenue. Supervisor Mayer questioned the safety concern while exiting Riverside Park.

Jenny Backer gave an Osage Elevator rebate agreement update with a not to exceed amount of \$216,000. Motion by Frein, second by Wherry to approve the not to exceed amount for Osage Elevator rebate agreement to be \$216,000. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Tom Rolfes discussed the possible rate change for the City of Carpenter that will allow the city to purchase three new pumps a year. Rolfes would prefer using the savings for the pumps rather than getting a loan from the County to pay for pumps.

Amanda Baer gave an Environmental Health and Planning & Zoning update. Baer stated the budget is looking good and provided a well update. Baer will be gone for maternity leave at the end of the calendar year. The Public Health board is going to vote next month on hiring someone while Baer is on leave or not. Supervisor Wherry would like someone to be able to answer questions while Baer is out on maternity leave. The Tahoe is going in for an oil change and getting detailed tomorrow. Baer said the draft of the wind ordinance is done but would like the Council of Governments to be hired to look over and address procedural difficulties. Baer has put together a sub committee to investigate having a bit coin mining in the County. There have been two private solar

farms approved with condition use. Baer explained the twenty-four building permits, no longer having access to the zoning map, and the want to digitize all files and meeting minutes.

Laura Huisman said their budget is sitting good. Last fiscal year Home Health/Public Health only used \$126k of taxpayer money. Huisman has hired a nurse for one day a week and rotating holidays and weekends, and there is currently one nurse on medical leave. Huisman is working on writing a Shop on State grant for nursing equipment. Jessa Ketelsen went over immunization services. Ketelsen is working on vaccination for adults without health insurance. Public Health is gearing up for flu and COVID season. Ketelsen discussed the reportable case numbers and stated the mental health prescriber starts in nine days. The Public Health alignment is on hold until fiscal year 2026.

Motion by Frein, second by Mayer to approve a fireworks permit for Russ Nelson to be displayed on August 31, 2024. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Wherry, second by Hartogh to approve Resolution # 1240-24 contributing \$1,500 to St. Ansgar Senior Saints. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Frein, second by Wherry to approve Resolution # 1241-24 contributing \$4,000 to St. Ansgar Heritage Museum. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Wherry, second by Hartogh to approve Tax Abatements # 345 and 346. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Hartogh, second by Mayer to approve the Recorder's Monthly Report for July in the amount of \$7,453.26. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Wherry reported on North Iowa Juvenile Detention, Mayer reported on Conservation and Public Health, and Frein reported on FMC Early Childhood. Hartogh and Hendrickson had nothing to report. Received the Clerk of Court report for July in the amount of \$2,183.30.

There were no public comments

Hendrickson adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Rachel Foster – Mitchell County Auditor

Mark Hendrickson – Chair Board of Supervisors