

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, April 29, 2025

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with all members present. The meeting was made available by video via “Go to Meeting”. Also present were Keith Horgen, Rich Brumm, Tom Rolfes, Aaron Murphy, Amanda Baer, Ryan Stephen, Shannon Paulus, Jenny Backer, Deb Freeman, Ashley Rosendahl, and Megan Taets. Motion by Marzen, second by Frein to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

Motion by Hendrickson, second by Marzen to approve the minutes of the April 22nd meeting. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

County Attorney Murphy explained the public comment policy he put together. Murphy reminded the board they are the ones to make policy. Public comments can be at the beginning of a meeting, at the end, on each agenda topic, or not at all. Discussion between the board arose, but no one wants to not allow public comments. No action was taken on the public comment policy.

County Sheriff Beaver was not available.

Ryan Stephen will be at an ICIT assessment in Howard County later this week and helping with a fax machine issue in Stacyville. Stephen is working on finishing installing new computers. Shannon Paulus discussed what delinquent notices are and the legal process of why they need to be sent out. Amanda Baer is looking for a new member on the Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustment. Jenny Backer provided an MCEDC update after their meeting last night. Two construction loan program applications were approved and will come to the board. Mark Jensen has stepped down, but believes this position will be filled, along with the other open seat. Backer attended the North Iowa Housing Conference held last week. Auditor Foster asked about the ISAC email received last week, and Hartogh will complete the form for ISAC.

County Engineer Rich said the bridge on Echo Avenue is coming along. Brumm has no information on the start date for the bridge south of McIntire. Engineer Brumm stated the truck route around Osage may start earlier in the season rather than originally expected. Brumm has been going through rock maps. Three years have passed, and the Mitchell County Board of Supervisors needs to meet with Worth County Board of Supervisors to sign a contract for Engineer Brumm. Supervisor Wherry brought up the 10-hour days that the union voted on. The consensus on 10-hour days is the board would like to see coverage 5 days a week. Secondary roads tried having alternating schedules to allow for coverage five days a week, but it became a mess. Supervisor Wherry suggested having the roads department come up with a plan that would allow for coverage five days a week.

Shannon Paulus presented the updated Mitchell County Investment Policy. The previous policy was updated in 1993. Motion by Marzen, second by Wherry to approve Mitchell County Investment Policy. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Wherry, second by Frein to approve liquor license for Sunny Brae Golf & Country Club. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Hendrickson, second by Marzen to approve liquor license for Acorn Park Golf & Recreation Area. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Frein, second by Wherry to approve Clerk of Court Report for March in the amount of \$2,361.23. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

The Board of Supervisors reviewed Solutions FY26 Annual Support Agreement. There are two parts to the contract, where roughly \$60k is for the software being used throughout the County, and \$30k is for support from Solutions. IT is going to review the agreement to see if this is anything IT can help with versus having to pay Solutions for.

Megan Taets and Ashley Rosendahl presented updated job descriptions. Supervisor Marzen stated there were two positions open in District 3. Supervisor Hartogh stated she plans to meet with Megan and Ashley tomorrow and then follow up with department heads next week, to receive feedback from other departments on their need for HR.

Marzen reported on Central Iowa Juvenile Detention, and North Iowa Housing Conference, Hendrickson reported on County Social Services, and Frein reported on North Iowa Housing Conference, MCEDC, and Fair Board. Wherry and Hartogh had nothing to report. Received manure management plan updates from Jax Dairy Inc, Lipson Finisher Farm, Friesen 1 Site, Friesen 2 Site, Friesen 3 Site, and Friesen 4 Site. Deb Freeman said last week the surveyors were up near Echo Avenue and Dancer Avenue. Freeman requested documentation of the court order, and they acted as if they had no idea what she was talking about. Keith Horgen stated he makes it his duty to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting as they are a governing body above them and believes the public should be able to make public comments. Freeman asked if public comments are recorded, which they are. Liza Ritzert was available on “Go to Meeting” and she agrees with the mayor, how public comments allow people to participate in local government.

Hartogh adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Rachel Foster – Mitchell County Auditor

Sydney Hartogh – Chair Board of Supervisors