

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, July 15, 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 John Robbins, Greg Beaver, Aaron Murphy, Rich Brumm, Luke Porisch, Ryan Stephen, Deb Freeman, Joe Smith, Brooke Watson, Barb Schwamman, Keith Horgen, Jenny Backer, Amanda Baer, and Tom Treharne. Motion by Marzen, second by Wherry to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

Motion by Hendrickson, second by Frein to approve the minutes of the July 8th meeting. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

County Attorney Murphy clarified his suggestion to the ordinance.

County Sheriff Beaver presented his fees collected in June in the amount of \$2,814. Motion by Marzen, second by Wherry to approve the Sheriff’s Report for June. Roll call vote: all voted aye. Sheriff Beaver provided an estimate on new jail cameras.

Supervisor Wherry stated he misspoke last week, and there is more than one non-profit nursing home in the County. Ryan Stephen provided an IT update. Stephen met with Public Health and will be installing the new phone system in their building this month, with training beginning in a couple of weeks. Stephen stated the copier previously with County Social Services is available if a county department is looking for one, for the remainder of the lease. Stephen has not signed a contract with Solutions, as he is waiting for the updates and discount to be added. Supervisor Hendrickson asked Jenny Backer if she heard any more on Fox River Mills closing. Backer will provide an update once she hears from Fox River Mills.

County Engineer Rich Brumm provided an update on the bridge south of McIntire. Brumm received a call yesterday and the DOT plans to begin work on the truck route next week.

There was discussion on items possibly needing updated in Ordinance 62. After discussion, it was suggested to approve the Ordinance as is and go back and amend the Ordinance with corrections later. Motion by Wherry, second by Frein to approve the Second Consideration of Ordinance 62 entitled “An Ordinance amending the Mitchell County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance 17) regarding provisions regulating Commercial Wind Energy Conversion Systems (C-WECS) and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)” with non-substantial spelling errors to be corrected. Roll call vote: Hartogh, Frein, Wherry ayes, Marzen, Hendrickson nays.

The Iowa Workforce Development is looking at possibly combining areas to have just three areas. Motion by Hendrickson, second by Marzen to go along with the merger for Iowa Workforce Development. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Supervisor Marzen suggests using LOSST money for Stacyville Kids Care project. Motion by Hendrickson, second by Marzen to approve Resolution #1299-25 Contract for Services to Stacyville Kids Care for \$300,000 from LOSST. Roll call vote: Hendrickson, Marzen ayes, Frein, Hartogh, Wherry nays.

Barb Schwamman and Brooke Watson explained the Riceville Little Cats Daycare project and provided numbers for both Howard County and Mitchell County. Motion by Marzen, second by Hendrickson to approve Resolution #1299-25 Contract for Services for Riceville Little Cats Daycare in the amount of \$150,000 out of LOSST. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Motion by Marzen, second by Wherry to approve Resolution #1300-25 Contract for Services to Carpenter Community Club in the amount of \$500. Roll call vote: all voted aye.

Hartogh reported NIACOG, Marzen reported on meeting with Conservation on park projects, and Hendrickson reported on Heartland Insurance. Wherry, and Frein had nothing to report. Received manure management plan updates from Larry Bissen Farm, Blong South Finisher Farm, and Emory Unruh. Supervisor Marzen would like the board to look over the proposed St. Ansgar sewer project as it is a good use of TIF funds. Deb Freeman asked what the next steps of bringing the ROW Ordinance back for discussion.

Hartogh adjourned the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

Rachel Foster – Mitchell County Auditor

Sydney Hartogh – Chair Board of Supervisors