

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, January 20, 2020

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Holliday, Mather, Sauer, Sorensen and Saucedo present. Chairperson Sorensen presiding.

On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Joni Axel regarding a request to approve Proclamation #01-20-20-01 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Commemoration. Axel introduced co-volunteers Chris Weis and Holly Opelt and presented a document proclaiming calendar year 2020 to be the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Commemoration. Axel requested Muscatine County's participation in the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of women's right to vote. On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo, the Board approved Proclamation #01-20-20-01 the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Commemoration for calendar year 2020. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Vision 20/20 Initiative Board of Directors member John Beckey and CEO Cheryl Plank. Beckey stated the purpose of Vision 20/20 is to establish a collaborative initiative between the Muscatine Welfare Association, Senior Resources, Crossroads and the Muscatine Center for Social Action to develop a more efficient and effective delivery system to leverage resources to better sustain the services provided through these longstanding Muscatine Human Service nonprofit entities. Beckey stated initiative organizers have been working since 2017 toward developing and establishing such a system and moved forward about two months ago by hiring Plank as the Vision 20/20 CEO. Beckey stated the project fund total is \$600,000 which will be distributed over three years at \$200,000 per year. Beckey stated once the three years conclude, the necessary collaborative structure and development of talent and resources should be ready for full implementation and sustainability. Beckey stated the first three years of Vision 20/20 funding is more about having someone put together the collaboration and for that talent to have support. Beckey stated the \$600,000 project cost is for salary, support and staffing. Beckey stated everyone who is asked for financial input is asked for an annual contribution for three years. In response to a question from Sorensen, Beckey stated the goal is for a County commitment of \$20,000 a year over three years for a total of \$60,000. Plank stated the goal is to implement the project fully in three years and achieve sustainability, so the Board would receive no further requests for funds beyond that period.

Discussion was held with Muscatine County Engineer Keith White regarding L-(CUL-20) –73-70 plans and specifications for culverts at six locations across the county including replacement or placement of heavy duty PVC liners. On a motion by Sauer, second by Saucedo the plans and specifications for L-(CUL-20) –73-70 were approved as presented. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, a bid letting on Project L-(CUL-20) –73-70 was set for Monday, February 10, 2020 at 9 A.M. Ayes: All.

White updated the Board on secondary roads projects.

On a motion by Mather, second by Saucedo, minutes of the January 13, 2020 regular meeting and January 14, 2020 special meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received an email requesting information on burial records at Oak Grove and Cranston cemeteries.

Sorensen and Mather reported a note from Eastern Iowa Mental Health/DS Region Board. Sorensen and Mather received notice from the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) the report on slag was now available. A link to the report will be posted on the Muscatine County website.

Saucedo received an email regarding the future of the drainage districts and levee districts.

Committee Reports:

Holliday attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer and Mather attended a MAGIC committee meeting January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a Riverbend Transit Authority meeting January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Holliday attended a Muscatine Power and Water meeting on the transmission line and a West Liberty Fair Board meeting January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Muscatine County Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas, in response to questions from the Board, stated he reviewed the report from IDPH on slag in the County. Furnas stated there were no direct recommendations to the County for remediation regarding slag on the roads, and that dust inhalation testing will be completed this spring.

Discussion was held on the mental health region Governing Board appointment. On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, the Board authorized Mather to relinquish the chair position on the Eastern Iowa Mental Health and Disabilities Region Board, agreed to withdraw the County's request for mediation with the Eastern Iowa MH/DS Board with the understanding the MH/DS Board no longer wishes to remove Muscatine County from the region prior to June 30, 2020, and appointed Sorensen to serve as the MH Region representative. Ayes: All. Sorensen stated past actions indicate the County intends to pay the \$311,000 transfer payment due to the MH Region.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, Terry Eagle was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission for a three-year term ending January 1, 2023. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board approved regrading of two positions and six step placement recommendations for the Sheriff/Jail employees. Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed health/dental fund balance as of December 31, 2019.

The Board recessed at 10 A.M. and reconvened at 10:11 A.M.

MUSCOM Manager Chris Jasper reviewed the FY20/21 budget request for MUSCOM. Jasper stated salaries are down due to staffing 12 dispatchers instead of 13, but stated more dollars were added to part-time and overtime-dispatch salaries. Jasper stated he and Emergency Manager Brian Wright have been working with Budget Administrator Sherry Seright to organize the three related budgets – Emergency Management, E911 and MUSCOM, so each included the appropriate expenditures for the departments.

Emergency Manager Brian Wright reviewed the FY20/21 budget request for Emergency Management and E911. Wright stated the Emergency Management budget shows a decrease in expenditures by cutting several line item expenses. Wright stated the Emergency Management Commission agreed to budget \$100,000 for the County-wide outdoor warning system to replace two West Liberty sirens, two in Muscatine and one siren for use as a spare.

The Board reviewed the FY20/21 budget requests for General Assistance, Mental Health and Veteran Affairs with Muscatine Community Services Director Felicia Toppert. Toppert stated she was able to consolidate account codes to solve a lot of problems and have a clearer picture of budget expenditures. Toppert stated the proposed General Assistance budget calls for about a \$12,000 decrease to MCSA Shelter Services, a \$10,000 decrease to the Special Olympics program, which is a non-profit organization, and no funding to the Y-Family Program. Toppert explained reduction in the Veterans Affairs budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Betty L. Wamback  
First Deputy Auditor

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Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors