

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, April 5, 2021

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the agenda was approved as written. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, claims dated April 05, 2021 were approved in the amount of \$275,822.37. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sorensen at 9:02 A.M. to take comments on a confinement feeding operation construction permit application from Wapsi Prairie LLC in Section 9 of Wapsinonoc Township. Mike Deahr, 1148 Davis Avenue, West Liberty, Iowa stated the proposed facility will be constructed on his ground. Deahr stated his family has a history of owning multiple sites with no major issues and the confinement operations are run as a true family business with no outside investors. Deahr stated the manure with his current operations are applied with injection methods and the injection supplies 90% of the fertilizer needs of his 1600 acres. Deahr stated the pigs are owned by the family business and the sow unit is located north of Muscatine on Tipton Road. Janice Noll, 2566 Burlington Road, Letts, Iowa, spoke in opposition of the confinement operation questioning the Master Matrix scoring system and several of the points on the report. Mike Deahr stated he has an annual payroll of \$650k with Emergency Actions Plans in place and is enrolled in a long term plan on carbon foot printing. Deahr stated he has nutrient records over 20 years and tile field records that show evidence of no leaching. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated under the Master Matrix scoring, producers do not claim points that are not needed as this is a common practice in the industry and that critical water sources are always referred to by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the closest water source is the Cedar River. Freedom Malik-Roberts, 1836 Hershey Avenue, Muscatine, Iowa, stated her opposition with the standard table in the Master Matrix scoring regarding actual capacity of the existing barn and the proposed barn. Malik-Roberts stated the proposal shows a driveway with a turn-around will be built but the applicant did not indicate how the truck turn-around specifications will be handled and the points on the Master Matrix scoring should be rejected. Malik-Roberts also stated her concern with inspections of the manure pit and lack of information on how inspections will be performed. Board member, Nathan Mather, questioned Roberts on her objections to indicate if her concern is with the IDNR Master Matrix being scored appropriately or that the IDNR scoring is insufficient to provide adequate protection. Malik-Roberts stated both are issues and she objects that the names of the owners are not listed on the report. Furnas stated the truck turn-around area will be constructed after the building is erected and the turn-around driveway will be inspected by the IDNR. Furnas stated that the IDNR website shows the names of the owners of hog confinements and regulates the manure management plan. Samantha Dewitt, P. O. Box 262, Gladbrook, Iowa stated she is with IDNR and she submitted the Master Matrix for this confinement. Dewitt stated she has been with the IDNR for 15 years and confirmed the IDNR performs site inspections to ensure the points on the Master Matrix are actually implemented. Dewitt stated new confinement sites are a priority for IDNR inspections. Dewitt stated if plans and Master Matrix points are not followed, the IDNR will request a written plan on how the issue will be resolved and if the issue is not resolved, a fine will occur. Dewitt

stated the depth of the manure pits are checked by producers daily with a visual check through the slats and an actual weekly measuring of the pit is recommended with a pipe or measuring stick and a flashlight inspection is also recommended to confirm the integrity of the pit for cracks. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the public hearing was closed at 9:44 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Holliday, the Board approved the letter to the IDNR regarding the Wapsi Prairie LLC Construction Permit Application. Mather noted that he will be casting a vote as his law firm does not represent Wapsi Prairie LLC. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sorensen at 9:47 A.M. on the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and cost estimate for Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project. Discussion was held with Mike Nolan, Horizon Architecture regarding the Bidding Opinion of Probable Cost report. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the public hearing was closed at 9:50 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved Resolution #04-05-21-01 authorizing plans, specifications, form of contract and cost estimate for the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project with Horizon Architecture in the proposed bid amount of \$1,369,593.34. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #04-05-21-01
APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND COST
ESTIMATE FOR THE MUSCATINE COUNTY JAIL BOOKING EXPANSION
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors has retained Horizon Architecture to provide consulting architectural/engineering services for the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project; and

WHEREAS, Horizon Architecture has prepared plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost for the project, which documents have been on file and available for public inspection in the Muscatine County Administration Office since Thursday, March 25, 2021; and

WHEREAS, following notice of public hearing published in accordance with the law, a public hearing was held on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Muscatine County Administration Building and via GoToMeeting at which members of the public were allowed to be heard on the issue of the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project, and on the documents prepared in connection therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors:

1. That the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated cost of the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project are hereby approved.
2. That the Muscatine County Administration Office shall advertise for sealed bids for the proposed improvement by publishing notice in accordance with the law.

3. That bids must be received as described in the Notice to Bidders on or before 10:00 a.m. on the 22nd day of April, 2021.
4. That bids shall be publically announced at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 26, 2021 at the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors meeting.
5. That the sealed bids must be accompanied by a bid security equal to ten (10) percent of the bid.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 5th day of April, 2021.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Santos Saucedo, Chairperson
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the following utility permit: Central Iowa Power Co-operative – rebuild existing overhead utility line and adding a circuit to it. Poles 92-95 and 113 to be placed in county right of way, all other poles and facilities shown to be placed on private easement. Ayes: All

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office - Civil Department Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$17,587.50. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the Muscatine County Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$143,774.68. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the Muscatine County Auditor's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$3,457.60. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the minutes as written for the March 29, 2021 regular meeting and the March 30, 2021 Joint Meeting – Muscatine City Council, Muscatine School Board & Muscatine County Board of Supervisors. Ayes: All.

In discussion, Sorensen stated that the Board should consider scheduling joint meetings with the smaller cities to assist them with information on programs and to offer support.

Correspondence:

- All Supervisors received an update from Christy Roby-Williams regarding COVID-19.
- All Supervisors received an update from Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas on statistics with Mississippi Valley Workforce Development housing study.
- Saucedo received a call from a resident on Master Matrix for hog confinement

Saucedo received an email from Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber on a possible County employee vaccine clinic that may be scheduled soon.
Saucedo received a call from resident with questions about the County CARES Act funding in the amount of \$8.3 million.
Mather was contacted by Representative Mark Cisneros about general legislation.
Mather was contacted by resident regarding the application and interest for the nomination for Muscatine County Judicial Magistrate Appointing Commission.

Committee Reports:

All Board members attended the Joint Meeting – Muscatine City Council, Muscatine School Board & Muscatine County Board of Supervisors on March 30, 2021.
Saucedo attended a meeting with Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency on March 30, 2021.
Saucedo attended a meeting with West Liberty Economic Area Development (WELEAD) on March 31, 2021.
Sorensen attended a meeting with Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region Special Session on March 29, 2021.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the appointment of Angela Lewis to Muscatine County Judicial Magistrate Appointing Commission to fill a term ending December 31, 2026. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board approved to continue paid leave provisions under Families First Coronavirus Response Act through September 30, 2021. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on continuing to tally the cost of cleaning secondary roads ditches littered with large items such as tires, couches, washing machines and electronics. White stated he plans to work with the County Attorney's office to look into holding residents accountable for waste by possibly tracking serial numbers on tires.

In discussion, Sorensen stated the Board should re-evaluate the County mask mandate policy for county employee meetings and staff. Saucedo stated the mask mandate be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 A.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Santos Saucedo, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors