

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, March 26, 2012

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. with Furlong, Howard, Kelly and Sorensen present. Watkins was absent. Chairperson Kelly presiding.

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

Discussion was held regarding the possible development of passenger rail service from Chicago to Omaha. Furlong stated that the County would be supporting a route through the Quad Cities. Kelly stated that the County is not committing to any funding. On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, the Chair was authorized to sign a letter of support for the Chicago-Omaha Passenger Rail Planning Study. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, the Chair was authorized to execute the Iowa/Byrne – Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program/RSAT Continuation Application in the amount of \$140,302.00. Ayes: All. Howard noted the program has been utilized very well over the years and has been a benefit to Muscatine County.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Furlong, the Chair was authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding for the 2012 HIDTA Award in the amount of \$73,204.00. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, minutes of the Monday, March 19, 2012 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Kelly reported an email regarding the Passenger Rail Planning Study.

Howard reported two contacts regarding how the Board would feel about a shooting range in the County.

Furlong reported a phone call on a road maintenance issue which he referred to the County Engineer.

Committee Reports:

Furlong attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting March 22nd.

Howard attended a Muscatine County Conservation meeting March 19th.

Kelly received a request from Maggie Curry, MCSA Executive Director, for the Board to approve an Emergency Shelter Grant for Housing and Urban Development monies awarded through the Iowa Finance Authority in the amount of \$17,650. Kelly stated that Board approval is necessary in order for MCSA to access the funds and there is no County match required. Kelly stated that because of the timing there is no time to include

approval on the next agenda as the grant award has to be signed by Friday. Board consensus was to allow the Chair to sign the grant award.

Furlong stated he feels the City and County should hold a joint meeting within the next several weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 P.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Kas Kelly, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, April 2, 2012

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Furlong, Howard, Kelly, Watkins and Sorensen present. Chairperson Kelly presiding.

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

On a motion by Watkins, second by Sorensen, claims dated April 2, 2012 were approved in the amount of \$240,579.43. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Sheriff Dave White regarding the possibility of increasing the diversion program to seven days per week. White stated he had been contacted by the County Engineer asking if the crew would take over mowing all of the Secondary Road properties. White stated the Jail is consistently bumping up against its maximum daily population, so this would help keep Jail population down. White stated he has more work than what the crew has time to do in four days each week. White stated he does not want to run the crew more than four days over winter months. White estimated it will cost approximately \$11,000-\$12,000 to run the program until November. White stated that the maintenance of County properties will always be the top priority. Kelly stated that this program has been a fantastic success. Kelly asked about staffing for a seven-day program. White stated he would need a temporary part-time person for 24 hours from now until November. Howard commended White on the success of the program, but stated he has concerns about the level of staffing at the Jail and would like to know when they might be able to cut back on staffing as they become more efficient. White stated he does not see that happening as they are currently only meeting the minimum staffing requirements. White stated he does not foresee coming back and asking for any more help other than considering adding summer interns next year to cover vacations and overtime. Howard requested a cost analysis of the diversion program. On a motion by Watkins, second by Furlong, the Board approved increasing the diversion program to seven days per week at the County Jail. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Zoning Administrator Jodee Stepleton regarding a proposed amendment to a Contract with Steve Kundel for Closing Services for the Property Acquisition Program. On a motion by Furlong, second by Howard, the Chair was authorized to execute a Contract Amendment with Steven Kundel for Closing Services for the Property Acquisition Program. Ayes: All.

Discussion regarding waiving passport fees for any honorably discharged member of the United States Armed Forces has been tabled at the request of the County Recorder.

Discussion was held regarding tuckpointing and maintenance of masonry contracts for the Muscatine County Historical Jail. Sorensen stated he thought bricks were supposed to be removed by hand rather than with grinders for historic preservation purposes. Maintenance Supervisor Troy Sievert stated that the Iowa and National Historic Societies

are agreeable to removing bricks with grinders as long as personnel have had the appropriate training. Sievert stated that Kenny Tharp provided him with documentation that all of his employees have had the appropriate training. On a motion by Furlong, second by Howard, the Chair was authorized to execute a contract with Kenny Tharp Masonry Restoration LLC for tuckpointing and maintenance of masonry at the Muscatine County Historic Jail in the amount of \$56,016.00 plus \$14 per brick in excess of 500 bricks and \$500 per sill in excess of 8 sills. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Watkins, second by Sorensen, the Chair was authorized to execute a contract with Kenny Tharp Masonry Restoration LLC for tuckpointing and maintenance of masonry at the Muscatine County Optima Building in the amount of \$68,205.00. Ayes: All.

Sievert updated the Board on replacement of the floor at the Muscatine County Optima Building.

Sievert reminded the Board that he is still waiting on guidance on whether he is able to add part-time maintenance staff. Watkins stated he would like to see some cost figures on what maintenance contracts will be eliminated and what the person will actually be doing. Sorensen stated he would like to know who would handle repairs in the future if the County no longer has a contract with Northwest Mechanical. Sievert stated there are multiple firms that can be hired to handle the repairs.

Sievert stated that Vic Amoroso, A&J Associates, is not planning on drilling test wells at the DHS building this year. The Board would like a timeline on the status of this project.

Sievert stated he received the Report on the Administration Building which will be put on next week's agenda. Sievert stated that the Board may want to consider whether staying with Shive-Hattery through the rest of the process is in the best interests of the County.

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met as a Board of Canvassers for the West Liberty Special Election held on Tuesday, March 27, 2012. The Board certified the following results to be a true and correct abstract of the votes cast in the election:

FOR COUNCILMEMBER UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013 (vote for no more than one) – 35 votes were cast: Melody Russell received 35 votes and there were no scattered. Melody Russell was elected.

On a motion by Howard, second by Furlong, minutes of the Monday, March 26, 2012 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Kelly received a notice from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 regarding violations at GPC.

Howard met with a salesperson regarding a new product to minimize odor and bacteria from hog confinements.

Howard received calls regarding property assessments.
Howard received a call regarding the status of staff reductions.
Howard received a call regarding a property north of Bayfield Road going before
Planning and Zoning.
Furlong and Howard received calls regarding road maintenance complaints.

Committee Reports:

Sorensen and Kelly attended a Bi-State Regional meeting March 28th.
Sorensen attended a Regional Workforce Development Investment Board meeting
March 27th.

Furlong attended a Zoning Workshop in Burlington March 28th.

County Attorney Alan Ostergren discussed an issue regarding the zoning of the Steve's
Meat Shop property.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Kas Kelly, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors