

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, January 24, 2011

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

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

On a motion by Kelly, second by Furlong, claims dated January 24, 2011 were approved in the amount of \$632,050.90. Ayes: All.

The Board held ongoing FY11/12 budget discussion. Information Services Director Bill Riley stated that he has no qualms about postponing the desktop virtualization project to the next year. Riley stated the expense for the hardware alone would be close to \$100,000. Sorensen asked if there is a cost to further investigation of desktop virtualization. Riley stated that while it might be a good idea, he does not feel this is the year because it would require some basic hardware that could cost around \$50,000. Riley stated he could possibly use some old servers to test the waters, but that technology will mature and change over the next couple of years. Kelly asked Riley to explain current practice for replacing desktop computers. Riley stated that the County is currently on a four year rotation and usually purchases 20-25 at a time. Watkins stated the County might be better off just replacing those that are failing rather than every four years. Riley stated that most counties are not going past a five year mark on rotation as they run into multiple failures, that if not budgeted accordingly, could cause Information Services to exceed its budget. Watkins stated he does not have a problem amending the budget if there are multiple failures as long as there are enough systems on the shelf to get the user back up and running within a day or two. Sorensen felt having some on the shelf is a decent practice as that will allow for a mass upgrade if they move to desktop virtualization in a year or two rather than having to replace fairly new computers for the upgrade. Riley stated his best practice is to purchase above minimum requirements for the most intense user and new computers should work with desktop virtualization. Riley stated he normally has 5 to 10 a year that have to be replaced, but they are usually under warranty. Riley stated that with a four year rotation, he would normally replace 34 desktops and 27 desktops with a five year rotation. Kelly stated it is more fiscally responsible if they do not have to do budget amendments. Kelly suggested budgeting to replace, but only actually replace the ones that fail. Watkins stated he does not have a problem with budget amendments. Watkins stated that they probably need to address the replacement policy at a future meeting. Riley relayed to the Board that County Recorder Cindy Gray is alright with postponing her software request for another year as she has discovered some additional costs associated with that project that she needs to further investigate.

The Board canvassed the Muscatine-Louisa Drainage District #13 Second District Election held on January 15, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for

a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 2,525 votes were cast. Terry Martin received 2,525 votes. Terry Martin was elected.

The Board canvassed the Muscatine-Louisa Island Levee Second District Election held on January 15, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 9 votes were cast. Keith Bartenhagen received 9 votes. Keith Bartenhagen was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #1 Election held on January 14, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 4 votes were cast. Travis Parry received 4 votes. Travis Parry was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #2 Election held on January 18, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 3 votes were cast. Chris Meacham received 3 votes. Chris Meacham was elected

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #4 Election held on January 14, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 3 votes were cast. Russ VanAcker received 3 votes. Russ Vanacker was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #5 Election held on January 14, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 3 votes were cast. Carl Geertz received 3 votes. Carl Geertz was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #10 Election held on January 14, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for an unexpired two year term – 9 votes were cast. Dave Schmidt received 4 votes, Dennis Hepker received 3 votes, Keith Barnhart received 1 vote and Kyle Barnhart received 1 vote. Dave Schmidt was elected. For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 9 votes were cast. Dennis Hepker received 7 votes, Mike Meyers received 1 vote and David Schmidt received 1 vote. Dennis Hepker was elected.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Sorensen, minutes of the Wednesday, January 12, 2011 special meeting and Monday, January 17, 2011 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Watkins and Kelly received an email regarding control of firearms in County buildings. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated the Safety Committee is discussing the issue at their next meeting and will be making a recommendation to the Board.

Committee Reports:

Sorensen attended a Wilton Development Board meeting January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sorensen and Furlong attended a Muscatine County Infrastructure meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Howard attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting January 17<sup>th</sup>.

Howard attended an RC&D meeting January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Furlong attended a Muscatine County Fair Board meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>.

County Auditor Leslie Soule was directed to get bids on shoring up the support wall in the basement of the Old Historic Jail.

Discussion was held regarding proposed staffing of the Jail expansion. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated that the Assistant Jail Administrator was revised due to the additional responsibilities with the jail expansion and the addition of supervision of the three shift supervisors. Watkins stated that there needs to be a line added stating this position will be conducting performance evaluations of the personnel supervised. On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board approved a revised class specification for the Assistant Jail Administrator position revising the position from a Grade 11 to a Grade 12 as amended. Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated that the Corrections Lieutenant position is the new position added as a layer between the current shift supervisors and the Administrator. On a motion by Furlong, second by Sorensen, the Board approved a new class specification and Grade 12 for a Corrections Lieutenant position as amended. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board approved a revised class specification for the Corrections Sergeant position, formerly known as Corrections Shift Supervisor, and classified it as a Grade 10. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Furlong, the Sheriff was authorized to fill three Corrections Lieutenant positions and eliminate three part-time Corrections Officer positions. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Furlong, the Board authorized a shift differential premium for second and third shift Corrections Sergeants and Lieutenants of 20 cents per hour. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board approved a one-time step adjustment up one step for Tim Powell in order to address a pay inequity issue. Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated that the maintenance agreement on the postage meter used by some County offices recently increased drastically and that the maintenance company has offered to perform a free audit. Sorensen stated that he believes the postal service will also do an audit for free and might be less biased.

The Board recessed at 7:51 P.M. and reconvened at 7:56 P.M with Furlong, Howard, Watkins, Kelly and Sorensen present.

Sheriff Dave White stated that there are currently 60 federal inmates housed at the Jail and he has reached an agreement with Johnson County to house 50 of their inmates.

On a motion by Kelly, second by Furlong, the Board went into a non-public session at 8:04 P.M. pursuant to Chapter 20.17(3), Code of Iowa, to discuss strategy in union negotiations. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. On a motion by Furlong, second by Kelly, the Board returned to open session at 9:10 P.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

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David H. Watkins, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, January 31, 2011

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

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

Charles Lorensen, 1808 Briarwood Ln, stated that he had complained two weeks ago about the temperature in the Administration Building and the thermostats have still not been turned down. Lorensen stated his thermostat is set at 64 during daytime hours and 55 at night and he would think a government entity would try to save energy and taxpayer dollars. Lorensen suggested the County form a committee to look into the energy consumption in County buildings. Watkins stated the County has worked with MP&W to perform energy audits, is currently installing geothermal in the Courthouse and will continue to look at efficiency. Furlong stated that sometimes the Administration Building is warmer in some areas and colder in others because of the 18 furnaces that try to heat and cool the building.

Diana Broderson, Y Family Program Services, stated that 20 years ago they were approached by Mike Johannsen asking them to start the Young Mom's program because it was cheaper to prevent a problem rather than pay for it later through Community Services. Broderson stated that funding started around \$20,000 and increased to \$25,000 before decreasing to \$12,000 last year. Broderson stated she cannot provide the services at \$12,000. Furlong stated that Muscatine County ranks in the top 10% of counties for teen births and there are other groups providing similar services. Broderson stated that the teen birth prevention is funded through Muscatine Empowerment, not Muscatine County and her group is the only group that helps the Hispanic community.

Discussion was held regarding health and safety consultant services with Matt McCulley of McCulley, Eastham & Associates, Inc. and Jeff Miller of Miller and Harrison Insurance (County Agent of Record). McCulley stated that he provides safety training at an \$85-\$95 per hour standard rate. McCulley stated that ongoing long term projects can be done for a lower negotiated rate and he can also be on site to look over a project to evaluate safety measures. McCulley explained that he tries to meet with a client to see what they need and then develop a program for them. Miller stated that the benefit to the County would be an added service to help make the County safer by making employees more aware of safety. Miller stated the long term effect should be the reduction of premiums due to lower claims. Watkins asked how they get the employees to buy in to their programs. McCulley stated that a lot of the program is getting the employees to understand the importance of following safety procedures. Howard asked if he had numbers showing his success rate. McCulley stated no, but he could get that and he has provided references as 90% of his projects are acquired through word of mouth. Furlong told McCulley that the workman's comp rate in Muscatine County is above average and his goal would be to lower premium rates, so they could possibly afford his services, if he could prove he could save the County money. Watkins stated the Muscatine County Safety Committee needs to look at the program and the Board needs a firmer cost before making a decision. McCulley stated he would perform an initial 8 hour review free of charge to determine what services the County

needs in order to provide a better analysis of the cost for Muscatine County. Board consensus was for McCulley to meet with the Safety Committee and departments having safety issues to perform the initial review and return to the Board with a plan and the associated costs.

The Board was updated on the Civil War Memorial by Lee Miller, Chairperson of the Civil War Memorial Committee. Miller stated that thanks to the generosity of the Muscatine County citizens, corporations, and a grant from the Roy J Carver trust, they have almost enough to finish the monument at a cost of \$252,300. Miller stated they have raised \$225,300 with the balance of \$27,000 due and payable after the erection of the monument. Miller stated the statue will be inscribed with the names of 513 Muscatine County soldiers. Miller asked the Board to send invitations to Governor Branstad to perform the dedication, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt David Lamb of Commanding Company "A" 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment to act as Honor Guard for the ceremony and to special guests including area U.S. Senators and Representatives, State Senators and Representatives, and area City Mayors. Miller stated he will invite VFW and American Legion dignitaries and will work with the Chamber of Commerce on scheduling the dedication for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July or Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, to avoid conflicts. Watkins stated it is most important to find out when the Governor, VFW and American Legion dignitaries and Honor Guard group are available. Board consensus was to establish the date and then come back for approval of the letters. Miller stated that the VFW and American Legion Women's Auxiliaries are planning a BBQ around the ceremony at one of their locations. Miller asked the Board if they want the statue covered with a tarp until the ceremony. Consensus of the Board was to leave that decision as well as determining and conducting the rededication up to the committee to decide. Watkins stated that the Board of Supervisors will accept the statue on behalf of the County, but that the committee should get all of the credit because they have done all of the work. Miller stated they are entertaining bids to contractors to try and save the old monument for relocation to Greenwood Cemetery in the soldiers section. Miller stated he thinks it is fitting that they are doing this during the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Miller believes Muscatine is the only community in the entire nation that is dedicating a memorial during the sesquicentennial.

Mary Odell, Board of Health, updated the Board on state funding for a Local Public Health Service grant. Odell stated the Local Public Health Service grant funds only service Muscatine County residents. Odell stated they are in a difficult situation with this grant because over the last three years there has been a decrease in funding which is currently at 83% of the 2009 funding level. Odell stated the grant funds home care aid services, public health nursing dollars and the local Board of Health. Odell stated that this grant is used as a funder of last resorts and with the increase in need for services, they have no other funding available to pay for these services. Odell stated they have averaged \$12,000 per month of usage on these grant funds which only leaves about \$4,000 per month for the last 5 months of FY2011. Odell stated the Board of Health has approved a client funding prioritization which includes measures reducing services, but that she may have to return to the Board of Supervisors for a one time allocation of additional funding, if all other sources are exhausted. Howard asked if there is legislation at the State level that could hurt their funding. Odell stated there is legislation that could mean a further cut. Watkins stated that the County is required to provide these services. Kelly stated that it does not matter to her that it is the law, but it is the right thing to do. The Board asked Odell to keep them informed of the financial situation as they may have to do a budget amendment.

The Board canvassed the Levee District #17 Election held on January 15, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 4 votes were cast. Jesse Shield received 4 votes. Jesse Shield was elected.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #9 Election held on January 15, 2011. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning January 22, 2011 – 3 votes were cast. Marvin Blair received 3 votes. Marvin Blair was elected.

On a motion by Howard, second by Kelly, minutes of the Monday, January 24, 2011 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen, Howard and Furlong received an email concerning proposed gun bans in county buildings.

Kelly received a letter from Bi-State Drug and Alcohol Consortium offering training for supervisors and department heads.

Furlong received a call reporting ice on Echo Avenue.

Committee Reports:

Furlong attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Watkins and Kelly attended a Bi-State Regional meeting January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Watkins attended a Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce meeting January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Furlong toured the new Jail addition with Project Manager Stu Willits on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Sorensen attended the ISAC New Officers School in Des Moines on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

County Assessor Dale McCrea reported he is trying to recruit someone for a Board of Review vacancy and has posted the vacancy on the County website. McCrea also reminded the Board of an Examining Board vacancy which is appointed by the Conference Board. McCrea reported that Gerdau Steel settled for \$3.1 million down from \$5 million and that he still has two other cases yet to be settled.

County Engineer Keith White presented a title sheet for plans for a box culvert extension on Taylor Avenue stating that he routinely brings these to the Board for signature when the design work has been completed. White stated that right-of-way acquisition contracts which are negotiated by Dean Beranek and Dennis Michael are just signed by the Chairperson. White stated that the title sheet will go to the DOT to be let and the Board will not see it again until after the letting when they send the results to the County. White stated that the Board will have to approve contract documents from the chosen contractor and then sign the final payment voucher at the end of the project.

The Board reviewed the proposed FY11/12 Muscatine County Budget for publication. Kelly stated she thinks the Board needs to revisit the funding for the Young Moms program as she agrees prevention programming is a better use of our dollars and she would really like to increase them to \$20,000. Watkins stated he would like to see the four agencies get together to see if they can work together to maximize use of all their funds and he would also like to see their success

rate with people utilizing the program. Furlong stated he supports prevention, but has concern over the other groups providing similar services not being funded and feels funding for Young Moms should remain at \$12,000. Kelly stated the Young Moms program provides different services to different people. Sorensen stated he supports the program and believes strongly in the Y and their mission, but he does not understand the program well enough to justify giving it more. Howard thinks it is more of an issue that the County only has so much money to bring to the table. Watkins stated he would still like to see results. Board consensus was to leave the funding at \$12,000. The Board reviewed proposed capital expenditures for FY11/12. Budget Coordinator Sherry Seright asked for clarification on whether the Iron City Avenue bridge project should be removed from the FY11/12 budget. Sorensen stated he is confident on the funding level included in the budget, but that it will not necessarily be spent for that project. Board consensus was to leave funding in the Secondary Roads budget as proposed. Furlong stated the Saulsbury bridge project is in the 5 Year Plan and may need to be addressed soon. Watkins stated that the proposed budget reflects a decrease of 17 cents per thousand dollars of taxable value in the Urban levy and an increase of 18 cents per thousand dollars of taxable value in the Rural levy. Watkins stated that citizens need to lobby legislators for a use tax increase to fund roads. Howard and Furlong agreed.

On a motion by Howard, second by Furlong, the Board set a public hearing for the proposed FY11/12 Muscatine County Budget for Monday, February 28, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

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David H. Watkins, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors