

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, March 20, 2023

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

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

On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, claims dated March 20, 2023, were approved in the amount of \$370,879.31. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the following utility permit: Muscatine Power and Water, Muscatine, Iowa – install two-inch orange high-density polyethylene conduit along Old Highway 61 from 2121 Old Highway 61 to 2077 Old Highway 61 in Section 25 and 26, T76N, R3W. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the minutes of the March 13, 2023 regular meeting and March 14, 2023 special meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

#### Correspondence:

All Supervisors received a call from Jim Buser regarding uncontrolled intersections.

All Supervisors received emails from several residents regarding the road and bridge conditions on 245<sup>th</sup> Street, Conesville, Iowa.

Sorensen received an email from the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine regarding signing letters of support for grant applications prepared by the Community Grant Writer.

Sauer received calls from a two resident regarding mounds of dirt on the east end of 140<sup>th</sup> Street, Moscow, Iowa. Sauer stated the mounds were made by a badger and County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky was notified.

Chick received several calls from residents regarding the road and bridge conditions on 245<sup>th</sup> Street, Conesville, Iowa.

Chick received a call from a resident regarding uncontrolled intersections.

#### Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sauer attended a River Bend Transit Board of Directors meeting on March 15, 2023.

Chick attended a Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce and Industry meeting on March 13, 2023.

Chick attended a Housing Task group meeting on March 14, 2023.

Chick and Kirchner attended a meeting with Rich Dwyer regarding levee updates on March 13, 2023

Discussion was held with the Board regarding granting Supervisor Mather blanket authorization to sign letters of support on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for grant applications prepared/submitted by the Community Grant Writer (as long as they do not commit any County dollars). Board consensus was to take no action. Mather will contact Charla Schafer of

Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine to state the Board is not granting the blanket authorization to sign letters of support.

Sauer appointed the following committee members to gather and summarize information on the possible resolutions regarding the road and bridge conditions on 245<sup>th</sup> Street, Conesville, Iowa status: Sauer (Chair), Kirchner (Supervisor for the District the bridge is located in), County Attorney Jim Barry, County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky, Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber and Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas.

Kimberly and Jerry Carson, 1113 Colton Street, Columbus Junction, stated they are property owners at 2440 Edgewater Road, Conesville, Iowa. Kimberly Carson stated they bought 2446 Edgewater Road in 1987 (the address was later changed to 2440 Edgewater Road) and expressed her concerns regarding the road and bridge conditions on 245<sup>th</sup> Street, Conesville, Iowa, which is a Service A road that has not been maintained over the past several years. Carson stated they remodeled their property on Edgewater Road to make it a home and added a two-story addition to accommodate their growing family. Carson stated over the next 12 years they lived there full-time with mail delivery, LP delivery and school bus pick up. Carson stated the flood of 2008 caused devastating damage to their home and the area. The home was remodeled over the next four years under guidance of the zoning commission and FEMA encouraging them to rebuild and raise their house. Carson stated during that time they bought a second home and moved to Columbus Junction to be closer to their children's school. Carson stated they currently live at 2440 Edgewater Road nine months of the year with intentions to retire there. Carson stated Dusty Buffington presented information to the Board on bridge replacements built with double wide railroad flat cars in Washington and Buchanan Counties, which is a lower cost solution. Jerry Carson stated 245<sup>th</sup> Street has not been well maintained since 2008. Carson asked the Board to review the option of a railroad flat car bridge to save the county money. Mather asked Jerry Carson if the residents would consider an agreement to own the road as a private road if the county built a bridge. Jerry Carson stated he could not speak for the other residents but his answer would be "no" to this option. Jerry Carson stated the railroad flat car bridges in Buchanan County have been reviewed by Iowa State Engineering Department and the weight limits on the bridges are not posted as the limits are high. County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky stated the railroad flat car bridges in Washington County are posted with weight limits. Horesowsky explained a railroad flat car bridge will require a crane on both sides of the bridge which will require a causeway to be built and require a Department of Natural Resource permit. Horesowsky also stated other counties are using old pilings which is not an option for this bridge. Sorensen stated the Board has appointed a committee to look at all the options for the road and bridge conditions.

Dan Christofferson, 1731 180<sup>th</sup> Street, Nichols, Iowa addressed the Board stating his concern regarding uncontrolled intersections in Muscatine County. Christofferson stated his 16-year-old grandson, Troy Christofferson, was involved in a collision with a semi-truck at a 4-way intersection on a rural gravel road with no stop signs and was severely injured. Christofferson presented a letter he sent to Senator Grassley regarding his concerns with uncontrolled intersections and also presented Senator Grassley's reply letter. Christofferson asked the Board to post stop signs at uncontrolled intersections to prevent future accidents. Sorensen stated the Board

is reviewing the current policy with the County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Tibe Vander Linden  
County Auditor

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Scott Sauer, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors