

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, April 26, 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.

Discussion was held with County Attorney Jim Barry regarding Resolution #04-26-21-01 designating Portions of the Muscatine County Courthouse as Non-Public Areas. Barry stated that the Non-Public areas will be posted with signage and the Non-Public Areas designations will be to deter video-taping and interacting with employees. Judge Tom Reidel stated that the importance of being pro-active to avoid problems with privacy and video-taping occur in the Non-Public Areas. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the Resolution #04-26-21-01 designating portions of the Muscatine County Courthouse as Non-Public Areas. In discussion with the Board, Budget Administrator Sherry Seright stated that video cameras are already in place in the Courthouse. Judge Reidel stated that Deputy Michael Wade is pro-active with reviewing video of activity in the Courthouse as citizens enter and exit the building. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #04-26-21-01
DESIGNATING PORTIONS OF THE MUSCATINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AS
NON-PUBLIC AREAS

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa has determined that providing signage to designate “non-public areas” of the Courthouse is in the best interests of the citizens of Muscatine County; and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the confidential and sensitive information of the general public and of potential jurors, crime victims, and minors that is handled, stored and/or processed in the Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, to avoid confusion to the public and provide for a reasonable restriction to public access that will allow employees to work efficiently and protect sensitive private and/or personal information.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that Muscatine County designates the following areas as “non-public” areas of the Courthouse in which the public is to have limited or no access. In accordance herewith, the Board directs that appropriate signage be placed in these non-public areas in order to notify the public that these areas are not open to the public:

1. The office of the Clerk of Court in and for Muscatine County (located on 1st Floor) and any other file storage rooms/closets as may otherwise be located in the Courthouse or used for the storage of case files and information;

2. The District Court Courtroom, Judges Chambers, Court Reporter Office and Court Administration Office (located on 3rd Floor);
3. The area behind the desk and countertop for the Clerk's Office employee located in the hallway by the elevator door (located on 3rd Floor);
4. The Associate District Court Courtroom (West Courtroom), Judges Chambers and Court Reporter Office (located on 3rd Floor);
5. The secondary or overflow District Court Courtroom, Judge's Chambers and Court Reporter Office (located on 1st Floor west end);
6. The Jury Room, Prisoner Room and Attorney/Witness Room adjacent to the District Courtroom (located on 3rd Floor);
7. The office of the Muscatine County Medical Examiner (located on 2nd Floor);
8. The office of the Muscatine County Attorney – Fine Collections (located on 1st Floor);
9. The office of Juvenile Court Services (located on 2nd Floor);
10. The Magistrate's Courtroom (located on 1st Floor);
11. Any chambers or other office utilized by Judicial Magistrate (as may be located in the Courthouse);
12. Any room used as a Law Library (located in the Courthouse);
13. The Courthouse basement or any other locked storage rooms;
14. The Courthouse tower.

For purposes of clarification, all other hallways, stairs, entrances, bathrooms and the Courthouse rotunda (all three (3) floors) shall remain open to the public during normal Courthouse hours and then as may otherwise be regulated by applicable Courthouse policies or rules.

In accordance with the foregoing, no photography, audio or video recording, broadcasting or live streaming shall be allowed in, or of, "non-public areas" of the Muscatine County Courthouse, except as follows:

1. By written approval of a Judge of the 7th Judicial District (pursuant to Chapter 25 of the Iowa Rules of Court for State offices);
2. By invitation of appropriate county personnel to conduct official business (for County offices only); and/or
3. As the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors may otherwise allow by way of an amendment to this Resolution.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of April 2021.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

Discussion was held with Mike Nolan of Horizon Architecture presenting the bids received by 10:00 A.M. on April 22, 2021 for the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion Project as follows: Swanson Construction - \$1,675,000.00; Todd Hackett Construction Company - \$1,940,000.00. Nolan recommended the bid from the low bidder Swanson Construction. The Board requested a representative from Swanson Construction attend a meeting in one week to discuss timelines and concerns for the project before accepting the bid. On a motion from Mather, second from Sorensen, the Board tabled the bidding process for the Muscatine County Jail Booking Expansion for one week. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with Historic Preservation Commissioner Lynn Pruitt regarding the Historic Preservation Commission to submit a FY2022 Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) grant application. Pruitt stated that additional funding is needed to build an approximately 18' X 20' Pavilion and place signage at the Fairport Fish Hatchery site with the historic information. Pruitt stated that the Corp of Engineers will not allow any work or repair on the current pump house that is on the site due to it being in a flood plain. Pruitt stated that part of the pump house will be attempted to be salvaged and used in the proposed pavilion. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board approved the FY2022 Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) grant application in the amount of \$12,620 with a local match of \$6,310. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the following utility permits: Muscatine Power and Water – installing a 2” HDPE will be installed along and across Solomon Avenue near Eagle Ridge Road to Mosquota Road and along Kenner Road, Sections 19 and 30 – T77N –ROIW and 161 kV overhead transmission line construction with all poles are on private easements with some areas having right of way overhang. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved the following permit: Eastern Iowa Light & Power – changing 1.25 miles of 3 Phase overhead power lines to 3 Phase underground cables for the new Central Iowa Power Cooperative power lines that will be rebuilt and to get the overhead out of trees, Sections 12 and 13 – T77N – ROIW and Sections 7 and 18 – T77N- ROIE. Ayes: All. Saucedo asked if the underground lines are mapped. County Engineer Keith White stated that the lines are not mapped and companies need to do locates before digging.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, the Board approved the following utility permits: Eastern Iowa REC in Section 11 – 76N – 4W Span 277/480V over 231st for irrigation, approximate 1,730 feet west of Cranston Road and bore under 280th Street our 7200V Primary to provide electricity for new house and shop, Section 34-T76N – R3W. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects. Sorensen complimented and thanked White for his work on the G-28 project.

Discussion was held with Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas reviewing the CDBG Buyout Funding Application. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board approved the Resolution #04-26-21-02 Authorizing a CDBG Buyout Funding Application. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #04-26-21-02
AUTHORIZING A CDBG BUYOUT FUNDING APPLICATION

WHEREAS, Muscatine County, Iowa sustained severe flood damage as a result of Cedar River flooding beginning in March 2019; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the of the flood damage, the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors determined it was in the best interest of Muscatine County and its residents to participate in and facilitate a property buyout program funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Public Assistance (PA), the State of Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) Flood Recovery Fund (FRF) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); and

WHEREAS, the local and state match required by FEMA is approximately \$37,755.25; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Buyout Grant is available through the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) and can be used as a local and state match to meet the national objectives including LMI households and urgent needs; and

WHEREAS, Muscatine County supports an application to IEDA for CDBG Buyout funding which will serve as a local and state match.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Bi-State Regional Commission to submit an application for CDBG buyout funding on behalf of Muscatine County.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th 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 minutes of the April 19, 2021 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received an update from Christy Roby-Williams regarding COVID-19.

Saucedo received an email from Michael Goulds, Iowa Economic Development Authority regarding a potential visit to Muscatine in fall 2021.

Saucedo received a call from a West Liberty Council member regarding concerns with updating a 28E Agreement and referred the call to County Attorney Jim Barry.

Saucedo received an email regarding SF 523 that passed and will go to the Iowa Senate next week.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sauer attended the Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting on April 19, 2021.

Sauer attended the River Bend Transit meeting on April 21, 2021.

Sauer attended the Muscatine County Board of Health meeting on April 21, 2021 to discuss administering vaccines with citizens that need assistance with transportation or finding locations with vaccines available.

Saucedo attended the Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce & Industry meeting on April 24, 2021.

Saucedo attended a meeting with a group regarding a potential housing development and discussion about volunteer help.

Mather attended the Veterans Affairs Commission meeting on April 20, 2021.

Sorensen attended the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Board Meeting on April 19, 2021.

Sorensen attended the Muscatine County Joint Communications Commission Board Quarterly meeting on April 22, 2021.

Sorensen and Saucedo attended the Housing Issues meeting on April 22, 2021.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the April 2021 payroll claims.
Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated that three of the four Union contract have reached tentative agreements, with possibly two of the agreements being ratified by the Union. Schreiber stated that the Deputy Union contract remains open with negotiations to be scheduled for next week.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, the Board went into closed session at 10:08 A.M. pursuant to Chapter 21.5.1 (i), code of Iowa, for a performance evaluation. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board returned to open session at 11:28 A.M. Roll call vote. Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 A.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Santos Saucedo, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors