

Supervisors Room, Courthouse
Pocahontas, Iowa
March 16, 2021

The Board of Supervisors of Pocahontas County, Iowa, met in regular session pursuant to adjournment.

Members present: Chairman, Clarence Siepker; Supervisors, Jeffrey Ives, Brent Aden, Louis Stauter, Auditor, Kelly Jepsen. Others Present: Reporter, Erin Somers. Telephonically: Supervisor Kyle Smith.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve the minutes, dated March 9, 2021, as presented. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Stauter, to approve the tentative agenda with the addition of changing the date of public hearing for the FY22 Budget. Ayes all, motion carried.

Janea Blomquist & Jerry Chizek from the ISU Extension, presented information on the outreach programs they offer to the residents of Pocahontas County.

Dan Feistner, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss staffing for his office. Motion by Ives, seconded by Aden, to approve a pay increase for Judy Essing, County Attorney's Administrative Assistant. Ayes all, motion carried. Essing's new pay will be \$20.98/hour, effective today, March 16, 2021. Motion by Stauter, seconded by Ives, to approve to hire of Stephanie Teague as the Collections Administrator for the County Attorney's office. Ayes all, motion carried. Teague started employment today, March 16, 2021, at \$16.00/hour.

Melvin Wardlow and Jennifer Watts from Havelock, came before the Board and requested an assignment of County held certificates on parcels #02-26-479-003 & #02-26-479-004, located at 978 Main Street, Havelock. Amy Johnson, County Treasurer, recommended that the taxes and drainage not be abated, as the ownership of said parcels is in question. Motion by Ives, seconded by Stauter, to authorize the Treasurer to sell the two tax certificates, #2009-93 and #2008-44, for the cost of the back taxes and drainage of \$7,079.81 plus the transfer fee of \$20.00, totaling \$7,099.81. Ayes all, motion carried.

Gary Atherton, Assistant to the Engineer/Drainage Clerk, and the Board discussed annexing DD 89 into DD 59 Main Open Ditch since DD 89 outlets into DD 59 Main Open Ditch. DD 89 uses approximately 900 feet of DD 59 Main Open Ditch and drains approximately 1,000 acres. After discussion with Jon Rosengren, Bolton & Menk Engineer, a motion was made by Stauter, seconded by Smith, to annex DD 89 into DD 59 Main Open Ditch and reclassify. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve the Recorder's Report of Fees Collected for the month of January. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Stauter, to approve the FY22 ISAC Health Insurance Contract. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve a pay increase for Sheriff's Deputy, Neil Christians, as he has completed 18-months of service. Ayes all. Motion carried. Effective, March 17, 2021, Christians' new hourly rate will be \$29.70/hour, as per union contract.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Smith, to approve the estimate from Murphy's Flooring for \$4,689.95. Ayes all, motion carried. The estimate is for the removal and installation of 455 square feet of hard surface that will replace the green carpet on the south hallway on the third floor of the Courthouse.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Smith, to acknowledge receipt of Manure Management Plans: (1) Roger Bjork – ID# 58289 located in the NE SE, Section 34, Poland Township, Buena Vista County, with Roger Bjork as owner & contact person; and (2) B & B Hog Farms Inc. – ID# 59153 located in SE SW, Section 3, Des Moines Township with Brad Banwart as owner & contact person. Ayes all, motion carried.

Jack Moellering, County Engineer, advised that the DOT sent an agreement for a detour off primary highway onto local roads while they are working on the rail road crossing. Since it was not on the agenda, Auditor Jepsen will add it to next week's agenda.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Smith, to approve an \$80.00 subsidy, per residence, for dust control. Ayes all, motion carried. Both Pro-Coop and Wessel's Oil Company will be offering the subsidy on behalf of the County.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to table discussion on an inspector for the 2021 NW Communications fiber installation project until next week. Ayes all, motion carried.

Kelvin Aljets and Don Cirks, from Secondary Roads, presented two quotes for two mower tractors with trading in two 2000 New Holland TS110 with Vermeer M540. Western Iowa Equipment, from Pomeroy, IA, quoted a 2019 and a 2020 McCormick with Farm King 9 foot disc mower attachments for \$115,000.00 after trade-in. Pocahontas Equipment, Pocahontas, IA, quoted two M6-111DTC-F Kubota's with two DM1022 Kubota 7'2" disc mowers for \$128,400.00, after trade-in. After discussion, motion was made by Aden, seconded by Stauter, to authorize Secondary Roads to purchase the two M6-111DTC-F Kubota's with two DM1022 Kubota 7'2" disc mowers, using the two 2000 New Holland TS110 with Vermeer M540, at a net cost of \$128,400.00. Ayes all, motion carried.

Moellering and the Board discussed the Roads crew working 4-ten hour days. It was the consensus of the Board to allow the Roads crew to work 4-ten hour days from Memorial Day to Labor Day for one year and then re-evaluate in September 2021. The hours worked will be from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. In weeks including holidays, 5-eight hour days will be worked. This schedule is for Secondary Roads crew only, office staff will continue working 5-eight hour days. Atherton will send notices to contractors letting them know that they will be closed on Fridays from Memorial Day till Labor Day.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to move the public hearing on the FY22 Budget to Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the Supervisors Room of the Courthouse. Ayes all, motion carried.

Auditor Jepsen advised that she had been contacted by someone interested in buying the County's snow broom. Jepsen will reach out to Conservation to see if they have any interest in it to sweep rocks out of the grass at the parks.

Weekly meetings: Ives-ISAC Spring Conference, NACo, and Economic Development; Aden- Economic Development; Siepker-Conservation, Rolling Hills, and drainage concerns; Stauter-Fair board; and Smith- Safety and Building committee meetings.

Supervisor Smith expressed his appreciation for all the help the Conservation Department has given the Courthouse with snow removal and picking up branches. The rest of the Board and Auditor Jepsen agreed.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Clarence Siepker, Chairman

Kelly Jepsen, Auditor