

Supervisors Room, Courthouse
Pocahontas, Iowa
May 4, 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, Kyle Smith; and Auditor, Kelly Jepsen. Others Present: Reporter, Erin Sommers.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Stauter, to approve the minutes, dated April 27, 2021, as presented. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Aden, to approve the tentative agenda as posted. Ayes all, motion carried.

Sheriff, Steve Nelson and the Iowa Department of Corrections Jail Inspector, Delbert Longley, discussed the state of the current jail and explained the County's options. Pocahontas County's jail is in the top three worst jails in the state. The jail is currently grandfathered in, but once a design change takes place, that status is lost. Currently there are three options: build a new jail, transport the prisoners to other jails, or do nothing until we are forced to make a change to the design. If we choose the latter, the jail would be immediately shut down, leaving the County in a bad situation. Longley advised that there are only three counties in the state that transport their prisoners and there is a reason why. Between staffing for transporting and finding a jail to house the prisoners, the cost and time involved is unpredictable. You are also at the mercy of the County housing our prisoners. If the other county decides they want us to pick up our prisoners to take them somewhere, or they do not want them anymore, we would have to drop everything to go get them. Longley also advised that if the County decides to build a new jail that he would strongly recommend using a consultant. He is familiar with the consultant the Sheriff recommends using and he has never heard anything negative about him. The Board thanked Longley for his wealth of knowledge.

Russ Jergens, EMA/E-911/Zoning Administrator, presented three quotes for a 60'x120'x16' steel building. Todd Morton, from Gillet Grove quoted two Reaves Building Systems, one with rafters on 4' center for \$145,621.00 and the other with rafters on 8' center for \$139,989.39. Tom Witt Contractor, Inc. from Newell, IA quoted a Lester Building with rafters on 8' center with a finished ceiling and overhead doors for \$188,580.00. The door and ceiling accounted for \$35,042.00 of Witt's bid. The building would be used to house EMA's, Sheriff's, and Secondary Roads' equipment. EMA and possibly Public Health would be housing extra supplies and equipment related to COVID. Motion by Ives, seconded by Smith, to accept the bid from Reaves Building Systems for the building with the rafters on 4' center and make them aware that the County may want to add some footage to the length after further studying our needs. Ayes all, motion carried.

At 11:10 a.m., a public hearing was held for the FY21 Budget Amendment. Auditor Jepsen presented the affidavits of publications. There was no one present to object, and no written objections were filed. Motion by Smith, seconded by Ives, to adopt the FY21 Amended Budget, with a net decrease of \$61,421, with the following Appropriation by Resolution. The chairman called the question with the following recorded vote: Ayes –Ives, Aden, Siepker, Stauter, Smith; Nays-none. Whereby the Chairman declared the resolution duly adopted to-wit:

RESOLUTION #2021-05-#13
Amendment of Current County Budget
2020/2021

The Board of Supervisors of Pocahontas County met on this date for the purpose of amending the current 2020/2021 County Budget. No objectors were present.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY TO adopt the 2020/2021 budget amendment as published and change the following appropriations as listed:

Department Number	Department Title	Appropriation Prior To	Appropriation Adjustment	Final Appropriation
EXPENDITURES				
05	Sheriff	\$1,258	\$367	\$1,625
28	Medical Examiner	\$15,268	\$10,100	\$25,368
51	Courthouse & Grounds	\$37,527	\$23,750	\$61,277
53	County Development	\$3,150	\$900	\$4,050
TOTAL		\$57,203	\$35,117	\$92,320

County Treasurer, Amy Johnson, presented a quote for two new chairs for her office. Motion by Aden, seconded by Smith, to acknowledge the Treasurer's purchase of two office chairs from Office Elements, totaling \$830.00. Ayes all, motion carried.

County Engineer, Jack Moellering, and the Board discussed different road concerns.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to appoint Don Trexel to the Commission of Veterans Affairs. Ayes all, motion carried. Trexel will fulfill the remainder of the three-year term ending on December 31, 2022. Auditor Jepsen will send the letters as requested by the Board.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the First Amendment to the Pocahontas Volunteer Contract. Ayes all, motion carried. The contract is with the Iowa Department of Human Services for fiscal year 22, regarding volunteers for the General Assistance Program.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Stauter, to tentatively approve Amendment #1 to the Report of Classification Report for DD 59. Ayes –Ives, Aden, Siepker, Stauter; Nays-none; Abstain-Smith. Motion carried.

On behalf of the Jt. DD 181 Interim Board, motion was made by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve payment to Pocahontas County Secondary Roads for materials to be used in Jt. DD 181 Little Cedar, for \$274.46. Ayes all, motion carried. Location: SW Quarter of Section 10, Cedar Township, Pocahontas County

Motion by Smith, seconded by Aden, to approve Jt. DD 63 Main Open Ditch claim from Darren Stearns for beaver trapping in Section 35 of Rush Township, Palo Alto County, for \$100.00. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Stauter, to approve Jt. DD 63 Branch Main Tile Contractor's Pay Request #2 from Reutzel Excavating, Inc. for \$119,212.44. Ayes all, motion carried.

The Auditor's Office applied for a \$10,000 grant through the Secretary of State's Office, pursuant to the Help America Vote Act, to address cybersecurity threats. Since Pocahontas County was awarded the grant, a motion was made by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to authorize the Chairman to sign the Iowa Secretary of State HAVA Cybersecurity Grant Agreement. Ayes all, motion carried

Motion by Ives, seconded by Smith, to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter addressed to .Gov Domain Registration. Ayes all, motion carried. The letter advises that Pocahontas County will accept responsibility for the .gov account that our IT Director, Dereck Hebert, was able to acquire for Pocahontas County free of charge.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Ives, to acknowledge receipt of Manure Management Plans: (1) Pitstick Pork–ID# 63746, located in the SE NE, Section 11, Williams Township, Calhoun County, with Pitstick Pork, LLC as owner & Trent Siebrecht as contact person; (2) Hauswirth Finisher Farm – ID# 64514, located in the SE SW, Section 31, Powhatan Township, with Morning Glory Farms, LLC as owner & Keith Kratchmer as contact person; (3) Kopriva Finisher Farm – ID# 64541, located in the N NE, Section 4, Cummins Township, with M Holdings, LLC as owner & Keith Kratchmer as contact person; and (4) Garrison Ridge LLC-Schmidt – ID# 58740, located in the SE SE, Section 13, Des Moines Township, with Joel Schmidt as owner & contact person. Ayes all, motion carried.

Auditor, Kelly Jepsen, advised of a grant she applied for to receive new laptops for elections and inquired on the Board's preference concerning minutes.

Weekly meetings: Ives-two Solid Waste meetings; Aden-two Solid Waste meetings and Pathfinders; Siepker-Upper Des Moines, Rolling Hills, interviews for Commission of Veterans Affairs, Secondary Road's Safety meeting, and Department Head meeting; Stauter- Secondary Road's Safety meeting; and Smith-Department Head meeting. All Supervisors participated in the Jt. DD 63 Branch Main Tile Reclassification Hearing in Emmetsburg.

Paul Greufe, Human Resource representative, discussed the wage study; the process used to determine how employees fell within a certain pay band, the comparability group used to determine the wages associated with each pay band, and the implementation. This will ensure our employees are being compensated appropriately for the job they do using a consistent process.

Sheriff, Steve Nelson, and the Board discussed moving forward with the process of a jail feasibility study. Motion by Smith, seconded by Aden, to request a contract from John Hansen from Midwest Construction Consultants for a jail feasibility study. Ayes all, motion carried.

Supervisor Ives gave an update on DD 168 wetland mitigations and Supervisor Smith advised on a different mower for the Courthouse.

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

Clarence Siepker, Chairman

Kelly Jepsen, Auditor