

**Supervisors Room, Courthouse
Pocahontas, Iowa
June 3, 2025**

The Board of Supervisors of Pocahontas County, Iowa, met for a regular session pursuant to adjournment. Members present: Chairman, Clarence Siepker; Supervisors, Peter Seehusen, Louis Stauter, Kyle Smith, Brent Aden; Nita Hinrickson, Auditor. Others present: Erin Sommers, Reporter; Katie Halligan; Jeff Luft; John Ahlers; Gary Atherton, Assist to Engineer/Drainage Clerk; Tate Schmeling, Engineer; Steve Nelson, Sheriff; Tyler Buman; Jacob Hagan; Dereck Hebert; Brian Larsen; Dan Allen; Brandi Henderson; Jim Pentico; Dee Sindergard; Alison Hauser; Sandy Loney.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Seehusen to approve the minutes from May 27, 2025 as presented. Ayes all, motion carried.

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

Acting as Trustee to JT DD77 supervisors met via conference call with Palo Alto County to hear a possible petition request by Luft and Son's. Drainage minutes available upon request at Auditor's office.

Acting as Drainage Ditch Trustee supervisors met via conference call with Calhoun County to approve Watchman Services bill in the amount of \$1,200.00. See drainage minutes available upon request at Auditor's office.

Tyler Buman & Jacob Hagan from Agri Via introduced themselves and their new business for Ag Engineering Services. They are based out of Perry, IA.

Tate Schmeling, Engineer presented crack sealing estimates from Bargaen. Schmeling recommended using Bargaen for C29 & C49 and the county would do the smaller projects.

Dereck Hebert, IT presented contracts from ReGov/ReNewGov to be in a beta program for the launch of new county software. After discussion, motion by Smith, seconded by Aden to approve signing the contract with ReGov for the beta program.

Old Business – DD44 ROW Atherton advised that one owner said he wasn't interested and the other didn't want to for what was approved in 2021. Atherton will reach out to Bolten and Mink as was approved in 2021 to proceed with preparing a report.

Law Enforcement – Seehusen presented different scenarios by per capita, per call and a percentage of Gen Funds. Seehusen presented pros and cons to all. Stauter stated he had talked with different counties and said there are really only three options. One to leave as is, two \$50 to \$60 per capita or three per call. Seehusen stated that one was not an option as the cities are not able to pay that. Seehusen would also like to move some of deputy's salaries from Rural Basic to General Fund. Hinrickson stated that if we moved funds, we had to get rid of something else. Hinrickson also said that when she asked counties why they take out of general fund, it was not necessarily because of city's paying for law enforcement but to make the county funds balance. Dee Sindergard stated that they already have had more expenses for Rolfe's FY26 and no longer could pay the \$66,000. After more discussion, motion by Stauter, seconded by Seehusen to propose to Fonda and Rolfe to do 14.13% of city's general fund or \$13,569.89 and \$16,118.37 respectively for FY26. This would be for one year and then it would be looked at again. Ayes all, motion carried.

Alison Hauser has been approved for the Byrne Grant for a liaison position. Hauser and Sandy Loney were present for the discussion. Siepker gave an overview of Mental Health for the last 10 years. Hinrickson advised that \$428 of additional insurance that Rolling Hills currently paid was not included in the benefits. Hauser advised to take it out of the supplies line item. Hauser advised that there would be a 7% increase each year for this innovator grant. If approved, Hinrickson reviewed with Hauser and the board, a Memo of Understanding or agreement that once legal reviewed should be signed. The agreement covers the position if grant is terminated and State of Iowa doesn't hire Hauser as a provider, no cost will be incurred by the County, all vacation will be used and not paid out and benefit determination. Hauser was in agreement. After further discussion, motion by Aden, seconded by Stauter to approve doing the grant. Ayes all, motion carried. Hinrickson will get the Memo or an Agreement finalized and then get signatures.

The board then discussed benefits with Hauser. After discussion, motion by Smith, seconded by Stauter to approve adding 10 days of vacation as of July 1 with no accrual of vacation time for the first year and to carryover all vacation time. Ayes all, motion carried.

Nita Hinrickson, Auditor stated that the board received an email from Dan Feistner of a new provision in Iowa Code 331.755 stating that the BOS can hire outside counsel instead of county attorney if the need would arise.

John Hansen, Midwest Consultants informed the board that there is approximately \$162,000 in contingency for the jail. Hansen presented a quote for furniture. He estimated it to be around \$80,000 but the quote came in at \$69,603.50 with labor included. Recommendation to approve quote from MSS Contract Furniture. Motion by Smith, seconded by Seehusen. Ayes all, motion carried.

Hansen had Reding propose a quote for grading on the East side of the LEC. After discussion, motion by Smith, seconded by Aden to approve the change order request for \$64,010.90. Ayes all, motion carried.

Hansen asked with that change order to pay \$29,700.00 from the bond and the rest from the county. This area would be additional grounds for the county and would also be available for the community to park on for events at expo center and during fair. Motion by Smith, seconded by Aden to pay \$33,310.90 plus the cost of rock from the courthouse and grounds fund. Ayes – Seehusen, Siepker, Smith, Aden. Nay – Stauter. Motion carried.

The county received two quotes for workman’s comp. After discussion, motion by Seehusen seconded by Aden to approve and sign IMWCA Workman’s Comp Quote in the amount of \$119,902.00. Ayes Seehusen, Stauter, Siepker and Aden. Smith abstained. Motion carried.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Seehusen to approve JT DD 63 Lat 10A Invoice from Rouse Excavation for \$850.00. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Smith to acknowledge Ashley Aschenbrenner’s resignation as full-time dispatcher effective May 31, 2025. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Seehusen to approve Manure Management Plans (1) Rock Island – ID# 71822 NW SE Section 35, Sherman Township GrowAg Investments, LLP as owner & Scott Jacobsen as contact person (2) Brabec Finisher – ID# 67271 NE NE, Section 18, Dover Township Kosky Family Farms LLC as owner & Rusty Kosky as contact person (3) Pocahontas Site – ID# 60391SW NE, Section 6, Grant Township John Conlin as owner & contact person (4) Brian Aden Feedlot – ID# 66770 NW SW, Section 1, Colfax Township Brian Aden as owner & Extended Ag Services as contact person. Ayes all, motion carried.

Weekly meetings: Seehusen- CFR, Mental Health, Drainage; Stauter-Mental Health, Drainage, Police; Siepker- Dept Head, UDMO, Rolling Hills, Mental Health; Smith- Dept Head, Jail, Drainage Concern; Aden- MIDAS.

With no further business, motion by Seehusen seconded by Aden to declare the meeting adjourned. Ayes all, motion carried.

Clarence Siepker, Chairman

Nita Hinrickson, Auditor