

## December 21, 2020

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on the above date at 8:00 a.m. in the third floor conference room of the Mahaska County courthouse. Present were the following board members: Chairman – Mark Groenendyk; Vice chairman – Steve Wanders and Member – Chuck Webb. Also present were Rose Anne Mefford; Darin Hite; Joe Lancello, KBOE; Tom Flaherty, Econ Development; Andy McGuire; Zach Mousel; Mike Rodwell; Troy Bemis; Dave Sedivec; Wendell Campbell; Russ Van Renterghem; Jamey Robinson; Connie VanPolen; and Susan Brown, Mahaska County Auditor. Attending via telephone conference were Kathryn Kaul-Goodman. This meeting was live streamed by Communications Research Institute of William Penn University.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. with a moment of silence.

District Associate Judge Rose Anne Mefford presided over the swearing in of Supervisor Mark Groenendyk; Auditor Susan Brown and Sheriff Russell Van Renterghem for four year terms to expire on December 31, 2024.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the agenda for today's meeting with the following changes: remove appointment to Board of Health and note that county attorney will call in to meeting at 8:30 for closed session. Motion voted with changes made. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Kathryn Kaul-Goodman made a request to be reappointed to the Mahaska County Solid Waste Commission noting the accomplishments of the commission as she has been chair. Supervisor Groenendyk noted that January 4, 2021 meeting will be at 9:00 a.m.

Wendell Campbell discussed with the board plans to incentivize new housing construction with a revolving loan fund. Housing study to start in 2021. Would like to see county as partner in funding.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve minutes of December 7. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve adding Trever Parton as Equipment Operator in Secondary Road Department effective December 28, 2020. Begin at 90% of base rate which is \$23.47/hr. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

8:30 a.m. It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to go into closed session per Iowa Code Section 21.5(c) to discuss strategy with counsel. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

9:25 a.m. It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to return to open session. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Co Engineer discussed with board a request to Sec Rd for rock on a dead end segment of road (in T74N R17W) of which the north half was vacated in 1948. It has not been maintained in the sixty plus years since. Does not have a road classification assigned. Engineer will check with co attorney as to legal options.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Groenendyk to appoint Ron Terpstra and Russ Hammes to the Mahaska County Solid Waste Commission for the coming year. All present voted aye. Motion carried. It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to reappoint to the commission Alan DeBruin and Mark Groenendyk for the coming year. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Groenendyk seconded by Webb to reappoint John Jacobs and Ron Groenendyk to the Pioneer Cemetery Commission to three year terms ending December 31, 2023. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to reappoint Curt Jager to Conservation Board for 5 year term ending December 31, 2025. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Discussion on recommended 3% wage increase for Mahaska County elected officials by Compensation Board for FY22. Health plan and secondary road contracts noted. It was moved by Webb seconded by Groenendyk to approve a 3.00% increase for all Mahaska County elected officials for fiscal year 21-22. Aye – Groenendyk, Webb. Nay – Wanders. Motion carried. Board is appreciative of the compensation board bringing a reasonable expectation for consideration.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve final draft of Mahaska County Employee Handbook received on Nov 19, 2020. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Board discussed communication avenues for them with IT Director Hite who recommended You tube over Facebook but would need to check on any software needs.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve an amendment to lease agreement with Love, Inc. for space at the Mahaska Building removing requirement to pay rent and adding a \$1000 deposit to be held in trust. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Seven proposals were opened in response to request for proposal on four tower sites in the emergency communication radio system. The proposals will be forwarded on to consultants Mozzitello and Freeman for review. Board will act on awarding project at Jan 4, 2021 meeting. Those submitting proposals: 1. Murphy Tower Service LLC, Carlisle, IA; 2. Tower Systems Inc., Watertown, SD; 3. Saber Industries, Sioux City, IA; 4. Finish Excavating, E Dubuque, IL; 5. Trillium Tower Development, Rice, MN; 6. One Way Wireless Construction, Shakopee, MN; 7. Allstate Tower Inc., Henderson, KY.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders based on conversation in closed session to direct counsel to draft letter to EMA/911 commissions informing that county will not fund 911 through EMA, county wants to do 911 legally and will fund as was done through previous formula spelled out in first agreement beginning in 1991. Funding needs to go to 911 board with contributions from county general funds and incorporated cities. Do not desire to fund lawyers on both sides of the issue. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Co Treasurer Connie VanPolen thanked the Mahaska County Conservation Board for the use of the Environmental Learning Center for the tax sale held on November 16, 2020.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to adjourn. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan L. Brown  
Mahaska Co Auditor

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Mark Groenendyk  
Mahaska County Board of Supervisors