

April 17, 2023

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on the above date at 9:00 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 Darin Hite, IT; Tom Flaherty, Economic Development; Lindsey Thomas, County Assessor; Chris Clingan, Conservation Director; Mike Rodwell and Carter Brehm, Secondary Roads; Micah Van Mersbergen, Brian Jacobsen and Teri Rogers, County Auditor. This meeting was live streamed by Communications Research Institute of William Penn University.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the agenda for today's meeting.

Public comments:

✚ Micah Van Mersbergen provided an update on the wind prime project. JP Morgan just announced they are advocating for eminent domain to be used for wind, solar and carbon sequestration pipeline projects. Micah asked the Board to get public opinion on his proposal.

Carosh Compliance did not call in to make their quarterly presentation. This item will be tabled for now to give them time to connect.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve minutes of April 3, April 4, and April 10. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the bills for March in the amount of \$2,235,372.05. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the 3rd quarter reports for the Recorder's office and the Sheriff's office. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Connie Van Polen's retirement letter was read by Chairman Groenendyk. The board members thanked Connie for her 30 years of service.

The Buchanan proposal was discussed and then tabled until Chuck Webb can consult with Attorney Ritland.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the insurance committee's recommendations for FY 2024. Lindsey Thomas made a presentation to the Board. The Committee reviewed the County's stop loss coverage and recommended an increase from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Open enrollment will be planned for May. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Sarah Hol, Real Estate Deputy from the Auditor's office, presented a map of the Fairchild property. County ordinance says lots must be a minimum of 2 net acres. The Fairchild property is currently 1.12 net acres, adding roughly 0.9 acres to the east extending the southern lot line to Beal's property. The lot extension will be allowed by the County Sanitarian and County Engineer. The Board will discuss this with Attorney Ritland before returning to the Board for approval.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the payroll changes for the Sheriff's Office. Katie O'Halloran, part-time jailer, has resigned effective April 6th, 2023. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the payroll changes for the Conservation Department. Charles Figy has been hired as a Summer Conservation Tech and Kaylynn Sieber has been hired as the ELC Attendant. Their hire date was April 6, 2023 with an hourly wage of \$15. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the estimate from Power Services Company, LLC to fix the louvers in the communications tower site. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the Project Funding Agreement for pavement improvements to a portion of Merino Avenue. A small portion of this project is privately owned and belongs to Myron Gordin. He has agreed to reimburse the county for his share. The Board thanked Mr. Gordin for making this public/private partnership possible. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Reviewed bids for paving on 275th Street and Merino Avenue, project number L-2023(03)-73-62. Six bids were received this time with Metro Pavers, Inc., of Iowa City, Iowa being the lowest bidder with a bid of \$864,422.74. It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to accept this bid and approve the contract. The late start day is September 5 and construction should be complete in 35 days. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to table the quarterly presentation by Carosh Compliance Solutions until the May 1st meeting. They were unable to make their presentation today. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- ✚ Chuck Webb mentioned the next meeting for Pathfinders will be May 2, 2023.
- ✚ Chuck Webb informed us that the Compensation Board will be meeting again today at 1:00 pm at Secondary Roads.

Public Comments: None

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

Attest: _____

Teri Rogers
Mahaska County Auditor

Mark Groenendyk
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors