

January 15, 2024

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on the above date at 8:30 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; Roger Shindel and Stephanie Lathrop, of Carosh (attended virtually), Russ Van Renterghem, Sheriff; Chris Clingan, Conservation Director; Andrew McGuire and Carter Brehm, Secondary Roads; Cami Eslick, Patti Sines, Channing Rucks, Oskaloosa Herald, Andrew Ritland, County Attorney (via phone) and Teri Rogers, Auditor. This meeting was live streamed by Communications Research Institute of William Penn University.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the agenda. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public comments: None

Roger Shindell and Stephanie Lathrop presented the quarterly review of HIPAA compliance for the county. The new training system has been launched. Stephanie explained the new dashboard and reviewed reports and training completion percentages for HIPAA compliance. She reports the county is in good shape from an audit and training perspective. The overall completion rate as of Jan. 14, 2024, was 87.8%.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve minutes for Jan 2 and Jan 4. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the bills for December in the amount of \$1,079,510.65. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the payroll changes for Secondary Roads and the Sheriff's office. Trever Parton and Jacob Bell have left employment with the county from Secondary Roads effective Nov. 3, 2023. Troy Fulton and Roy Winkleman are two new hires. Troy started work on Jan. 2, 2024, and Roy's first day was Jan. 8, 2024. Both will be added to payroll with an hourly rate of \$25.95. Bill Swink retired from the Secondary Roads department after 38 years of service on Dec. 29, 2023. The board thanked Bill for his many years of service to the county. Effective Jan 1, 2024, Brandi Brown left her position as the Civil Clerk in the Sheriff's office for a position as a dispatcher in the 911 Call Center. She will be removed from the sheriff's office payroll. Brandy Greatbatch is leaving the 911 Call Center and taking Brandi Brown's place in the Sheriff's office effective Jan. 15, 2024. Her annual salary will be \$37,000. Due to her transferring from one county agency to another, she will maintain her vacation and sick time benefits and original anniversary date of June 2, 2007, with the county. Chelsey Johnson's salary will be increased to \$37,918 due to additional responsibilities as the "senior" Civil Clerk per the work session with the board on Dec 19, 2023. Matt McCain will be retiring effective Jan. 31, 2024, after 27 years of service. The Board thanked Matt for his many

years of service. He will be removed from payroll at the end of January. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the date of Monday, February 26, 2024, for employee training. The courthouse will be closed all day. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to accept the semi-annual report from Treasurer and the quarterly reports from the Recorder and Sheriff. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the service agreement for the GASB 75 FYE 6/30/24 and 6/30/25 valuation work. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the engagement letter with Koopmans Law Group L.L.C. for government relations efforts. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the Snow Removal Agreement with Keokuk County. This is a temporary agreement and is necessary due to bridge construction. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the preliminary and final plan for the Williams subdivision. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the following resolution allowing the Mahaska County Sheriff's office to charge the maximum allowable federal mileage rate for county owned vehicles as annually determined by the IRS.

RESOLUTION NO 2024-3

WHEREAS, the maximum allowable federal mileage rate as determined by the Internal Revenue Service is adjusted annually and,

WHEREAS, it would be in the best public interest for the Mahaska County Sheriff's Office to charge the maximum allowable federal mileage rate for county owned vehicles,

WHEREAS, the Mahaska County Board of Supervisors is authorized under Iowa Code Section 70A.9 to set the mileage rate the Sheriff may charge under Section 331.655 (1)(j) in an amount not to exceed the maximum allowable under Federal Internal Revenue Service Rules per mile,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mahaska County Board of Supervisors, that this date met in lawful session, that the Mahaska County Sheriff's

Office is hereby authorized to charge the maximum allowable federal mileage rate for county owned vehicles as annually determined by the Internal Revenue Service (.67 cents per mile).

Dated at Mahaska County, Iowa
This 15th day of January 2024

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve payment to Henry M. Adkins for the new voting machines received last fall. The funding for this was appropriated for the past 5 years through the Capital Improvement Plan. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

A draft of the Communications Agreement with the City of Oskaloosa for 911 services has been created. The timeline for implementation will probably be July 1, 2024. This item will be tabled for the next board meeting.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve reappointments to the Mahaska County Solid Waste Management Commission of Alan De Bruin, Ron Terpstra and Russell Hammes. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Conservation Director Chris Clingan gave an update on all things Conservation related.

- ✚ Approximately 50 acres of prairie were planted.
- ✚ An appreciation dinner for volunteers has been scheduled for February. Currently MCC has approximately 112 volunteers with 1,768 hours of volunteered time at a value of \$54,808 in labor saved.
- ✚ The traveling wolf exhibit in December was very popular, garnering 731 visitors. This was funded by the Friends Group.
- ✚ The public input meeting for the proposed Comprehensive Park Vision Plan scheduled for Jan. 11, 2024, was postponed due to inclement weather. The meeting was rescheduled for Jan. 25 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Public meetings will be held to allow the public to look through the analysis and give feedback on what they would like to see in the future of the park system.
- ✚ Chris has been working with the Univ of Iowa on park planning for upgrades to White Oak and access for water trails at various areas in the county.
- ✚ Friends of MCC have been working on raising money for Phase 1 of the Playscape project and have collected \$155,000 through grants and private donations.
- ✚ Mahaska County Conservation is partnering with Green Iowa/AmeriCorps to help with projects at several areas. Green Iowa/AmeriCorps is made up of students interested in the conservation field. Along with crew/site coordinators, there will be a crew of seven to nine additional students.
- ✚ Director Clingan is working to reestablish a REAP Committee. One existed in the past, but it was dissolved.

Andrew McGuire, Mahaska County Engineer, provided an update on the MODES (Mahaska/Oskaloosa Drives Economic Success) public input meeting that was held Jan. 8, 2024,

at the Environmental Learning Center. This is just a planning and linkage study along with an environmental assessment, not construction planning. There were approximately 151 attendees out of 1100 mailers that were sent out to residents in the study area. For anyone who wants to submit comments, they can visit modesiowa.com. It is expected that by early summer, the preferred route will be determined and shared again in a public forum.

Committee Reports:

Member Webb reported that the cast iron sewer pipes in the Law Enforcement Center will need to be replaced. Troy Bemis is working on getting bids for the project.

Public Comments: None

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

Attest: _____

Teri Rogers
Mahaska County Auditor

Mark Groenendyk
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors