

October 21, 2024

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 Danay Garcia, IT; Andrew Ritland, County Attorney; Zach Kauffman, Maintenance Director; Russ Van Renterghem, Sheriff; Carter Brehm and Andrew McGuire, Secondary Roads; Deann De Groot, Oskaloosa Chamber; Kelly Hefner, Oskaloosa Water Department, Rick Teed and Teri Rogers, Mahaska County Auditor.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the agenda for today's meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

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

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the bills for September in the amount of \$2,108,932.26. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the payroll changes for the Sheriff's office. Shelbie Pettyjohn has been hired as a full-time jailer. Her employment will begin on Monday, Oct. 28th, 2024, and her annual salary will be \$47,649 which is the beginning step of county pay grade #14. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the following resolution approving the creation of a County Compensation Board. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

**Resolution Number 2024-17
ESTABLISHING A COUNTY COMPENSATION BOARD**

A resolution by Mahaska County to establish a county compensation board as authorized by Iowa Code Section 331.905.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Iowa Code Section 331.905, as amended in 2024 by Senate File 2442, the county board of supervisors may vote to establish a county compensation board.

WHEREAS, pursuant to this same Code Section, when the board of supervisors establishes a county compensation board, the compensation board shall be comprised of seven members who are residents of the county. Two members shall be appointed by the

board of supervisors, one member each by the county auditor, county attorney, county recorder, county treasurer, and county sheriff. The members of the county compensation board shall not be officers or employees of the state or a political subdivision of the state and shall serve staggered terms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Mahaska County hereby establishes a county compensation board for the county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mahaska County directs each of the elected officials to submit their respective appointments to the board of supervisors by Nov. 15, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the representatives of the Auditor and Sheriff shall serve an initial term of two years, while the representatives of the Attorney, Recorder and Treasurer shall serve initial terms of four years. One representative for the Supervisors shall serve an initial term of two years and the other representative shall serve an initial term of four years. This schedule was determined by looking at the term expiration dates of the elected officials' representatives recently serving as advocates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall apply retroactively to July 1, 2024.

HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Mahaska County on this 21st day of October 2024.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the letter for Police Protection Services for the incorporated cities in Mahaska County with the following updates. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

- ✚ Add language regarding calls for service cost the county for 1 ½ deputies, but the rate is only being based on the cost of one deputy.
- ✚ Add language for additional patrol hours, if needed, will cost \$70 per hour.
- ✚ Clarify in the last paragraph that us is the Mahaska County Auditor.

The Board considered agenda items #8 and #9 together .. the Law Enforcement Center repair invoices shared with the City of Oskaloosa and the sewer/water contract/bids for the Law Center repair. Member Webb provided an update after the City Council's meeting on Oct. 7th. There is an Operations fund and a Maintenance/Repair fund in the county budget. In the 1996 agreement, the City agreed to lease for Police use designated areas of the Law Enforcement Center. In FY24, the City set aside funds in the amount of \$80,000 to repair cast iron pipes in the Law Center. There is a clause to the 28E agreement that states if the maintenance and repair fund go below \$20,000 then the City and County each contribute \$2,400 to bring the fund back up above that threshold. City Manager, Amal Eltahir, wants to, every year, let the fund go below \$20,000, triggering the County and City to put in \$2,400; thus, the City would be making \$2,400 payments towards their responsibility of approximately \$33,000 which would take 14 years. This is unacceptable. The cost of this project is estimated to be \$210,750. The County budgeted \$100,000 for FY25/26. Wanders made a motion to fix the pipes. The

motion did not receive a second. The Board consented to table items #8 and #9 until after another joint meeting of the working committee. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the following resolution approving the Jasper and Mahaska County joint resolution in support of RISE grant applications for Co-Line Welding expansion. This resolution is to support an application for funding and allows Co-Line to submit an application. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-18
A RESOLUTION APPROVING MAHASKA COUNTY'S
PARTICIPATION IN THE REVITALIZE IOWA'S SOUND
ECONOMY (RISE) PROGRAM – IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY
FUNDING – FOR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the State Code of Iowa has authorized the RISE program; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Transportation is always accepting applications for Immediate Opportunity funding; and

WHEREAS, the improved roadway will support the expansion of an existing business and said expansion will involve a private investment estimated at \$4,251,000 and the creation of 25 new employment opportunities

WHEREAS, the expansion of this existing business is contingent upon an improved roadway, and

WHEREAS, this roadway will be maintained by Mahaska County and dedicated for public use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Mahaska County, Iowa, that the County endorses this project states the following:

1. There is an Immediate Need for the project and RISE Funds are essential
2. Mahaska County will accept said roadway for public maintenance within the existing permanent road use easements, also known as right-of-way, and that said road and construction of roadway will be of adequate design
3. Mahaska County agrees to jointly pay the matching funds with Jasper County identified in the grant application for the roadway project

AYES: Chuck Webb, Steve Wanders, Mark Groenendyk

NAYS:

Approved this 21st day of October 2024.

Andrew McGuire and Carter Brehm shared some history with the Board regarding this topic. This used to be a gravel road and was paved with asphalt in 2002. It is now

showing signs of distress. The agreement created in 2002 did not address maintenance, rehabilitation or replacement costs. Options on different concepts to rehabilitate the roadway were shared. Additional conversation was had regarding extending pavement further to the north and the consensus was to have the County Engineer send a letter to the adjacent property owners and share with them the process that was utilized ahead of the 2002 pavement project where adjacent landowner participation was collectively and approximately 70% of the total project cost. It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve final plans for HMA Resurfacing with Soil Stabilization for Project Number L-2024(01)-73-62 on a portion of 230th Street and Lynn Avenue as well as setting the date, time and location to receive bids. The letting date is November 26th at 10:00 am. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

The second MODES public information meeting will be held Wednesday, Oct. 23rd from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm at the Environmental Learning Center. The study team will reveal three different recommended alignments to be taken to the NEPA phase and will share next steps.

Kelly Hefner with the Oskaloosa Water Department appeared before the Board regarding conceptual land acquisition for water department infrastructure. There is a small plot of land near Secondary Roads that is owned by the County and would be an ideal location for a water tower. The elevation is good, and the infrastructure is already in place. A commercial appraisal and a survey should be completed by the Water Department prior to moving forward along with a public hearing per 331.361(2). The board decided to table the final discussion before the water department spends any money. This will be an action item on the agenda for the first meeting in November.

Committee Reports: None

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 – Chairman
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors