

October 8th, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present at the meeting were Heath Hansen, Doug Sorensen, Rick Thompson, Chassity Musfeldt, Brenda Muzney, Rob Welch, Kent Grabill, Don Mosinski, Mitch Rydl, Tyler Thygesen, Lauren Mortensen, Ben Linde, Deb Campbell, Miranda Bills, Abe Sanquist, Beth Watson, Stacie Harris-Molina, Brandon Bruch, and Todd Johnson- phone.

Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Region XII, represented by Lauren Mortensen, discussed the county's hazard mitigation plan. Mortensen explained all the updates to the current plan. The Supervisors, EMA Director Thygesen and Engineer Rydl helped answer questions regarding the critical facilities of the county and the county's action plan. After Mortensen makes updates after today's discussion, there will be a 30-day comment period, then she will provide a resolution for adoption for the new plan. Public comment was opened at 9:19 am. Kent Grabill presented the annual weed commissioner report and answered questions regarding some of the county's most problematic weeds. Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to accept/file the annual weed commissioner report. Vote-all in favor.

Abe Sandquist requested to meet with the Supervisors at 9:30 am regarding a possible compost facility being built in Audubon County. Sandquist said he was looking at a possible location (Multi-Pig Heron Ave) to put in a commercial compost facility to convert food waste into fertilizer. Engineer Rydl discussed his concerns with the amount of semi-truck traffic that would be traveling the gravel roads and bridges. Sandquist thought it would only be around 4-5 trucks a day going in and out of the facility. Questions/concerns addressed included if it would present a bad smell for surrounding neighbors, what roads they would plan on taking, meetings with planning and zoning, and possible job opportunities for the area. Sandquist said there weren't any houses located directly by the possible location, but looking at Beacon Maps there are a couple residences within a ½ mile and mile radius. More discussion will follow at a later time.

Department Heads had their monthly meeting with Supervisors at 9:45 am. Recorder Bills stressed to the Supervisors that the county is currently at 2 out of the 4 points for the Wellness Program and urges Department Heads to remind employees to get their physical and online assessments done to keep the county insurance rates down. Concerns and questions were discussed on the HVAC project in the Courthouse. There were a lot of frustrations involving the construction work being done in offices that are being utilized in the Courthouse during the renovation with no advance notice that workers would be in those rooms. It had been the understanding that the company will give a head's up when they need to complete work in certain areas, but this has not been the case in several instances. Department Heads were encouraged to compile a list of concerns and questions for the Engineer/Construction company that can be presented to Graphite at tomorrow's meeting. Sheriff Johnson called in to the Department Head meeting to discuss the possibility of the Veteran's Affairs office being relocated to Exira. Johnson had voiced concerns from Veterans that like the office being located within the Courthouse because they can do all their business with other county offices while they are visiting with Veteran's Affairs. Beth Watson and Stacie Harris-Molina, with Veteran's Affairs, had concerns about the VA office space in the Courthouse being ADA and HIPPA compliant. They were worried about conversations with Veterans being able to be heard through the office walls, and having everyone see them as they walk into the office. Johnson pointed out that the current VA office was once used as an Attorney's office, and it is soundproof so that shouldn't be considered a problem in regards to violating HIPPA. Harris-Molina had received input from a daughter of a Veteran who said it is very inconvenient to find handicapped parking at the Courthouse to bring her father into that office and had to park far away. Sheriff Johnson told her that they have parking available right in front of the handicapped entrance on the south side of the Courthouse by the Sheriff's entrance and encouraged them to use that space. Johnson inquired about the Exira location having a curb right in front of the office and how it could be handicap accessible. Watson and Harris-Molina explained where the slope was located for anyone in a wheelchair.

Brandon Bruch met with Supervisors at 10:00 am regarding the purchase of county property. Bruch inquired about the county owned tract of timber in Douglas Township and if there was any possibility the county would sell it. He would like to eventually build a cabin on the property and keep all the trees intact. Chairman Hansen said it is quite a process to be able to sell county owned land, as it would have to go through public

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hearings and a bidding process. Since there is a high need for housing in Audubon County, this would be a great idea for a family wanting to build. Hansen said they will run this by the County Attorney and see if there could be a stipulation that if the land were to be sold, that the potential new landowner would have to abide by the stipulation of keeping the timber intact.

Engineer Rydl discussed the Secondary Roads maintenance and construction updates. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to accept/file the resignation letter of Secondary Road's employee Tyson Smith. Vote-all in favor. Rydl said there are currently two job openings with Secondary Roads. Anyone interested can find the job applications and position information on the county website or stop into the Secondary Roads location. Other updates include having the Sharon 19/Shelby County line bridge work complete by the end of this week, a November/December letting for the Hamlin Feed Mill Road, and the Puck Intersection now being fully open to public on Audubon and Carroll County sides.

Veteran's Affairs Watson and Harris-Molina met with Supervisors at 10:30 am. They presented the VA Quarterly report. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to accept/file the VA FY25 Quarter 1 report. Vote-all in favor. Discussion was held on the VA county policies that have not been updated since 1997. Watson stressed this needs to be done regularly and is willing to start getting those up to date. Don Mosinski inquired as to why the past VA Directors have not been updating these policies. Harris-Molina said the policies need to define specific dollar amounts that can be allocated. Watson and Harris-Molina discussed the county's VA budget and would like to reevaluate some of the line-item amounts during the upcoming budget prep for FY26 and try to cut back on some of the areas where they felt the money was not necessary. They discussed their reasonings again as to why they felt the VA office should be located outside of the Courthouse and the benefits to sharing space with Public Health.

Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to accept/file MMP Annual Updates for Hatteras LLC #60813. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to approve the meeting minutes of October 1st, 2024. Vote-all in favor. Supervisors reviewed claims for approval and asked about a \$42,000 claim under the category "Other Fixed Assets". Auditor Clerk Musfeldt explained that if it is coded under the 6000's number, it is a fixed asset, and in this instance, it was the new 2025 Silverado bought by the Conservation Department. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$305,504.03 and published in a separate publication at the end of October 2024. Vote-all in favor. Supervisors reviewed their month end reports for September 2024. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to accept/file the Auditor's Month End reports for September 2024. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to adopt/approve the 2024 Wage Works FSA renewal documents. Vote-all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

/s/ Heath Hansen Attest: /s/ Chassity Musfeldt

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Audubon County Auditor Clerk