

December 23rd, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:02 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present at the meeting were Heath Hansen, Doug Sorensen, Rick Thompson, Chassity Musfeldt, Todd Johnson, Dennis Carter, Mitch Rydl, John Hansen, Tyer Thygesen, & Meg Andersen- Zoom.

Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Sheriff Johnson discussed the current billing for the inmate housing in other counties and the meal reimbursement cost. Johnson explained that the total billed amount was coded all under the HVAC expense because the counties that are housing the inmates for Audubon make all the meals in house, so there is no way to break out an amount. Johnson presented a hiring resolution for a Deputy Sheriff. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the hiring resolution #2024-55 for Coby Gust to be hired as a full-time Deputy Sheriff as follows. Vote-all in favor.

Resolution 2024-55

Be it hereby resolved by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, that Coby Gust be hired as a full-time Deputy Sheriff for Audubon County effective December 31st, 2024. His salary will start at 80% of the Sheriff's salary, based on experience. Coby will also start with a week of vacation due to his certification and experience. This position will follow the Union Contract.

Dated this 23rd day of December 2024, with the vote thereon being as follows:

Ayes: Thompson, Hansen, Sorensen

Nays: None

/s/Heath Hansen

/s/Chassity Musfeldt

Audubon County Board of Supervisors

Attest

Sheriff Johnson presented a memorandum of understanding between Audubon County and Teamsters Local 238 (Union). Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the MOU with the Union to increase the pay in the amount of \$1/per hour of Dispatcher/Jailer/Civil Clerk Melissa Thygesen as a result of the assignment of additional duties to her position. The increase shall be effective retroactively to December 6th, 2024, and shall remain in effect as long as the additional duties remain assigned to Thygesen. Vote-all in favor.

Dennis Carter joined the meeting to represent the Audubon County Historical Society. Carter presented budget reports and information from the last year/previous years of the Historical Society. He gave an overview of recent happenings, and upcoming needs. Carter said the last few years, Audubon County has allocated \$15,000 per fiscal year, and prior to Covid the County had allocated \$5,000 per fiscal year. Carter is requesting \$20,000 for the FY26. Supervisors will take this into consideration during budget preparation in the upcoming month. No decisions were made on the FY26 allocation.

Engineer Rydl gave Secondary Roads construction and maintenance updates. Rydl said rock prices will be going up at least 5% in the next year. Crews have been continuing to prep for upcoming winter weather. The pavement marking plans are ready for submittal and will have a March letting date. Rydl would like to request an upcoming meeting with the Brayton City Mayor, one Supervisor, and one Councilperson regarding the Brayton road project.

The 3rd and final reading of the EMS resolution to declare Emergency Medical Services to be an essential service in Audubon County was completed. Chairman Hansen read the Resolution aloud. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve Resolution 2024-51 as follows. Vote-all in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-51

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) TO BE AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE IN AUDUBON COUNTY, IOWA AND SETTING FORTH A FUNDING MECHANISM FOR SUCH SERVICES AS AUTHORIZED BY IOWA CODE SECTION 422D.1

WHEREAS, the Audubon County Board of Supervisors has the authority under Iowa Code §331.301(1) to "...exercise any power and perform any function it deems appropriate to protect and preserve the rights, privileges, and property of the county or of its residents, and to preserve and improve the peace, safety, health,

welfare, comfort, and convenience of its residents”; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2021, Iowa Senate File 615 was signed into law by Governor Reynolds, amending Iowa Code Section 422D.1, giving Iowa Counties the ability to declare EMS an essential service for their respective county, thereby making it possible for counties to propose additional funding sources for EMS to the county’s voters at an election.

WHEREAS, Audubon County supports EMS to its residents and seeks to provide Emergency Medical Services to all its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, ensuring efficient and effective EMS coverage is essential for maintaining the health and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Audubon County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of maintaining and advancing the level of care, capability, and coverage of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Audubon County; and

WHEREAS, Audubon County Board of Supervisors, on 12/03/2024 directed that notice of the first meeting to consider this resolution be made and any other actions be taken as necessary to proceed with the process under Iowa Code Section 422D.1 to declare EMS to be an essential county service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, that: Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is hereby declared an essential service in Audubon County, Iowa,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Audubon County Board of Supervisors will establish an Audubon County EMS Advisory Council; an

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there shall be placed on the 11-03-2025 general election ballot a proposal to fund Audubon County Emergency Medical Services by the imposition of the following taxes, or a combination thereof:

- a) A local option surtax not to exceed one percent (1%), and/or
- b) An ad valorem property tax not to exceed seventy-five cents (\$.75) per one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of taxable value on all taxable property within the County.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if a proposition to fund EMS through either a local option surtax or ad valorem property tax, or some combination thereof, fails to receive a favorable vote by at least sixty percent of those voting on the question, this resolution shall be deemed null and void.

HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for Audubon County, Iowa, on this 23rd day of December, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

	1st Reading	2nd Reading	3rd Reading & Approval
Date:	December 3, 2024	December 17 th , 2024	December 23, 2024
Hansen:	Aye	Aye	Aye
Thompson:	Aye	Aye	Aye
Sorensen:	Aye	Aye	Aye
/s/Heath Hansen Chairman, Audubon County Board of Supervisors		/s/Lisa Frederiksen Audubon County Auditor	

Custodian Hansen and Supervisors discussed the status of the HVAC project. Iowa Prison Industries is set to start moving items back into the Courthouse on 1-21-25. Custodian Hansen suggested getting an ad in the newspaper to alert the public on when the Courthouse will be open again. Shelving quotes for the upstairs Vault were reviewed. Supervisors told Hansen to go ahead and get them ordered. The leak in the HVAC system has been found and resolved. It was a manufacturer defect.

EMA Director Thygesen discussed forming the advisory board for the proposed EMS Essential Services for Audubon County. The board would likely consist of 12 members representing the entire County. Meg Andersen, City Clerk of Exira, zoomed in to discuss the tree grant she is writing for Audubon County. She would like to have the letter of support from the County by Friday. A phone call was made to Exchange State Bank in Exira to discuss the Line of Credit GO Loan Agreement details. Supervisors have asked to extend drawing on the loan, as October was supposed to be the end. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve claims submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount \$153,975.27 and published in a separate publication at the end of December 2024. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to approve Resolution 2024-54 to end the probationary period and increase the pay of Attorney’s Office Legal Assistant Tiffany Henkle as follows. Vote-all in

RESOLUTION 2024-54

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors that Tiffany Henkle, employed as a full-time County Attorney's Office Legal Assistant, shall have her wage rate changed to \$25.00/hour at 40 hours per week, to reflect the end of her probationary employment period. This rate change shall be effective starting January 8, 2025.

Dated Audubon County, Iowa this 23rd day of December, 2024.

/s/Heath Hansen _____
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors, Audubon County, Iowa

ATTEST

By:/s/Chassity Musfeldt _____
Audubon County Auditor, Clerk

Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the meeting minutes of 12-17-24. Vote-all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:43 am.

/s/Heath Hansen _____
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt _____
Attest: Audubon County Auditor Clerk