

February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:05 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present were Doug Sorensen, Rick Thompson, Heath Hansen, Lisa Frederiksen, Chassity Musfeldt, Diana Munch, Mitch Rydl, Brooke Hansen, Callie Christensen, Dave Hansen, Chris Swensen, Todd Johnson, Rob Welch, and Corey Eberling & Ben Linde- via phone.

Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the attorney's office to pay for the maintenance agreement on the printer/copier for their office. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the meeting minutes of 1-26-24 & 2-13-24. Vote-all in favor. Discussion held on protocol for unclaimed flex checks. Deputy Auditor Diana Munch explained what we received and answered questions about the unclaimed money. She will discuss with Auditor how to handle the check. Discussion on the Kimballton library allocation- waiting on Attorney Swensen to check with the City of Kimballton attorney. Members from APEX Turbines spoke during the public comment period. They said they have an office rented on Market Street where Community Insurance use to be located. They will be getting signs/hours posted outside the office soon. There will be a Chamber ribbon cutting on March 5<sup>th</sup> and later that evening they will be hosting a landowner dinner. APEX is currently working with the two school districts to set up a scholarship. They recently made a donation to the Exira Christian Church food pantry.

Thompson asked Engineer Rydl about the process for the zoning public hearing for the Turbine Setbacks. Rydl said he is currently working on it with Attorney Swensen.

Auditor Frederiksen said she rolled up the FY25 budget. She also provided the board with a number of spreadsheets to review in their attempt to understand the overall County budget: Estimated beginning/ending fund balances per the three amendments and future 4<sup>th</sup> amendment for FY24; tif district recap showing that the Supervisor's verbal commitment of 50% usage of available TIF valuation had been exceeded to 77% usage; the local effort which current board does not currently monitor—the formula to calculate where county is required to give a minimum of 75% and current FY25 will be at 273% (board has always been well over 100%); bond project balance remaining in capital projects fund; 2021 bond split of costs between secondary roads, conservation cabins & ACED contribution; House File 718 effect for FY25 budget and following 4 years to bring the excess Rural Basic levy rate back to the maximum of \$3.95 by FY29 as state mandated and the effect on General Basic levy rate maximum formula dropping the General Basic levy down from \$3.50 to \$3.40 Audubon County. Auditor discussed the HF 718 mailing that would be going out to taxpayers in March; Dept of Mgmt will be pulling budget amounts beginning as soon as March 5 and the first proposed levy hearing date would have to be March 25 or later. Board will need to give reasons for the increased dollars being asked for in the two rural funds so that the budget hearing notice/ mailing can be completed. Auditor Frederiksen also gave Board the current FY24 amendment codes/amounts she had used in preparing the FY25 budget. Board will need to get the FY24 amendment hearing notice set at the next meeting.

Engineer Rydl gave Secondary Roads Maintenance & Construction updates. He explained again that by reducing the number of bridges in the county it will save money in the long run but will have a lot of upfront cost. Rydl said they have been busy doing ditch cleaning and putting out rock. He also said that the Nishnabotna Watershed Authority needs someone from Audubon County to be on that board. At 10:30 am the City of Brayton met with the Supervisors to discuss current happenings. Brooke Hansen, Callie Christensen, and Dave Hansen were present to represent. Chairman Heath Hansen asked what was currently on their agenda. Christensen said they are in the early stages of a lagoon project. Discussion was held on the rural water issues. The City of Brayton meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. Dave Hansen said they are currently trying to revamp some of the older houses. Discussion was held on the condition of some of the run-down buildings and getting them condemned/cleaned up. Engineer Rydl answered questions regarding the road in Brayton that is on the FY25 schedule to be repaired. Rydl presented maps of the road and asked various questions. They plan to start surveying that area this summer. Christensen inquired about the bridge on South Street and what it would take to remove it and put a culvert in place.

Sheriff Todd Johnson discussed the Civil Service Board. Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to recognize the renewed appointments for the following members: Deb Kramer (County Attorney Rep)- August 15, 2019- August 15, 2025; Craig Young (Supervisor's Democratic Rep)- August 15, 2021 to August 15, 2027 & David Thompson (Supervisor's Republican Rep)- August 15, 2023 to August 15, 2029. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to accept/file Deputy Sheriff resignation of Michael Brooks. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Sorensen Second- Thompson to approve resolution 2024-9 to hire Michael Brooks as an As-Needed Officer as follows. Vote-all in favor.

Resolution 2024-09

Be it hereby resolved by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, that Michael Brooks be hired as an as-needed Deputy Sheriff for Audubon County effective February 28, 2024. His wages will \$25.00 per hour and this position will follow the union contract. Dated at the Audubon County Courthouse this 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2024, with the vote thereon being as follows:

Ayes: Hansen, Sorensen, Thompson

Nays: None

/s/ Heath Hansen  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/ Chassity Musfeldt  
Audubon County Auditor Clerk

Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the backpay of \$50/month from October 2022-January 2024 for the cell phone reimbursement per the hiring resolution of IT Director Ben Linde. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve having IT Director Linde submit his monthly phone bill for back up for reimbursement. Vote-all in favor. Linde explained via phone that he has a corrected amount proposed for Courthouse phone support. Motion-Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the new amount for the phone support. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve claims for payment in the amount of \$63,856.22 as submitted by various departments and listed in a separate publication. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to accept/file the Auditor’s month end January 2024. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to keep the employee’s family health insurance portion contribution the same for FY25. Vote-all in favor. No discussion was held regarding the family insurance premium. Brief discussion was held on Conservation’s taxable benefits. More discussion will be held at next week’s meeting. Motion- Thompson Second- Sorensen to approve the corrected Resolution number for Resolution 2024-03 as follows. Vote-all in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03

Resolution Taking Additional Action to Discuss Proposal to Enter a General Fund Loan Agreement

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors (the “Board”) of Audubon County, Iowa (the “County”), heretofore proposed to enter into a loan agreement (the “General Fund Loan Agreement”) in a principal amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 pursuant to the provisions of Section 331.402 of the Code of Iowa for the general county purpose of paying the cost, to that extent, of undertaking improvements, repairs and renovations at the County Courthouse, including, but not limited to, an HVAC system overhaul (the “Project”), and has published notice of the proposed action and has held a discussion meeting thereon on January 2, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Audubon County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby determines to defer further action to enter into the Loan Agreement until the expiration of a 30-day period following the date of this meeting, January 2, 2024, within which a petition may be filed asking that the question of entering into the Loan Agreement be submitted to the registered voters of the County. The last day on which such a petition may be submitted for consideration shall be February 1, 2024.

Section 2. Further action with respect to the Loan Agreement is hereby adjourned to the Board of Supervisors meeting on February 6, 2024.

Section 3. All resolutions and orders or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this resolution, to the extent of such conflict, are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval, as provided by law. Passed and approved January 2, 2024.

/s/Heath Hansen  
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

Attest:  
/s/Lisa Frederiksen  
County Auditor

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

/s/Heath Hansen  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest:/s/Chassity Musfeldt  
Audubon County Auditor Clerk