

September 18, 2023

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 Darin Hite, IT; Tom Flaherty, Economic Director; Andrew Ritland, County Attorney; Russ Van Renterghem, County Sheriff; Troy Bemis, Maintenance Director; Eric Dursky, County Sanitarian; Channing Rucks, Oskey Herald; Amal Eltahir, City Manager; Rep. Helena Hayes, Iowa House; Tiffany Kruizenga, ISG, Inc.; Bert Bandstra, John Bandstra, Trent Brackin, Gordon Foster, Dave Prine, Sandra Rempe, Gary and Joyce Wilson, Morris and Ellen Wubbels, Nick Ryan via phone and Teri Rogers, County 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 Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the agenda for today's meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public comments:

- Bert Bandstra thanked the Board for their work on the 28E agreement and the airport.
- Nick Ryan supports a countywide vote and strongly encouraged the Board to send a letter of opposition to the airport to the City of Oskaloosa and the City of Pella.
- Helena Hayes spoke about eminent domain and invited everyone to a Town Hall regarding the hazardous CO2 pipeline at the Fremont Community Center this Wednesday night at 6:00 pm.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve minutes of Sep 5th. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the bills for August in the amount of \$4,136,893.34. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Tiffany Kruizenga, ISG, Inc. Pipeline Project Coordinator appeared before the Board. ISG will act as a resource for landowners making sure the code is followed throughout the construction phase of Navigator's hazardous carbon sequestration pipeline. ISG is the inspector for agricultural land; other inspectors will be hired by the pipeline company.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) regarding reimbursement from the mental health agency of SE Iowa for County employees. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to begin using South Iowa Area Detention Service Agency (SIADSA) for juvenile detention. Member Chuck Webb is on the Board and visited the facility last week. All present vote aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the 95% drawings and specification for Shive-Hattery HVAC replacement schedule. Bids are due in the Auditor's office by 2:30 pm on Oct. 19, 2023. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Discussion occurred regarding a public measure being placed on the November 2023 ballot regarding how voters feel about the proposed regional airport. The county has no authority to ask a polling question on a ballot during an election. Attorney Ritland advised that any public measure must have specific statutory authorization to be included on the ballot and that there is no authority to add a general public policy question.

Committee Reports:

- ⊕ Chuck Webb mentioned that there is a SIEDA meeting next week
- ⊕ Steve Wanders provided an update on mental health meeting; administrative policy change.

Public Comments:

- ⊕ Mark G gave an update on the SE connector. Grant received from DOT and funding from Mariannette Miller-Meeks office for the environmental studies. For input or if you're interested in being part of a MODES study, contact Tom Flaherty or a board member.
- ⊕ ISAC meeting held Sept. 13th; reported 30 counties are over their levy limit of 3.50 for General Basic fund.
- ⊕ Nick Ryan would like to see the board investigate a way to do a public opinion poll outside the ballot restrictions. He would also like to see a letter of opposition to closing 220th.
- ⊕ John Bandstra thanked the Board and Representative Hayes for their support of landowners against eminent domain.
- ⊕ Trent Brackin appeared before the Board and spoke about how the profile of the county roads has changed over the last few years. Trent gave his opinion about road crown, proper slope percentage and adequate ditch depth for appropriate drainage. The maintenance of secondary roads needs to be addressed to prevent further destruction.
- ⊕ Gordon Foster, Trent's neighbor, echoed Trent's comments about the roads and the grader ditch.
- ⊕ Rep. Hayes spoke about seven counties that are opposing the carbon pipeline and have created ordinances.

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

Attest: _____

Teri Rogers
Mahaska County Auditor

Mark Groenendyk
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors