

Supervisors Room, Courthouse
Pocahontas, IA October 18, 2016

The Board of Supervisors of Pocahontas County, IA met in regular session pursuant to adjournment.

Members present: Chairman Jeffrey K. Ives, Clarence Siepker, JoAnn Peters, Louis Stauter, Ed Dewey.

The minutes of October 11, 2016 were approved as presented on motion of Stauter, seconded by Siepker. Ayes all, motion carried.

The tentative agenda was approved as amended on motion of Dewey, seconded by Stauter to include the additional posting of Renee VonBokern, Union Negotiator – Union Grievance – Closed Session per Chapter 21.5 (C) . Ayes all, motion carried.

Daryl Long, Sextant for the Swan Lake Township Pioneer Cemetery presented his report of activities at the cemetery for the year. Long noted the solar lighting system has been vandalized or stolen over the last few years and Daryl is working with law enforcement for a resolution. Planted 10 trees last year and they are doing very well. With the excess rainfall this year he has not had to do much watering. The latch to the wrought iron gate has been repaired and reinstalled. The walnut tree log was placed on Winegarden Auction this summer and was sold. The log was purchased for \$320.00 by Robert Siddall. Siddall delivered the log to the Threshermans to be ripped into boards during their annual event. The boards will be used to make plaques and other items. There were some downed tree limbs and trimmed branches hauled to the Laurens City dump site. There was one post damaged and replaced. The cemetery and parking were sprayed for weeds with no fertilizer put down as the lawn looks very nice. Scott Herrig from Albert City has been mowing the lawn and the cemetery looks very nice. Daryl was thanked for his maintenance of the cemetery and parking.

It was moved by Peters, seconded by Siepker to approve the quarterly reports of the Auditor and Sheriff as presented. The recorder's report is not available. Ayes all, motion carried.

The board reviewed the final phone count from STT with the additional requests of three cordless and one conference phone. It was moved by Siepker, seconded by Peters to approve the additional \$1,367.00 of cost for a total of \$35,852.00 Ayes all, motion carried.

It was moved by Siepker, seconded by Dewey to approve the quote of Next Generation Technologies of \$3,933.00 for additional equipment to allow the phone system in the Community Services Building to dial direct to the courthouse. Ayes all, motion carried.

It was moved by Peters, seconded by Stauter to approve the contract in the amount \$227,832.00 with Shekar Engineering and authorize the chairman to sign the documents for Drainage District No. 43-72. Ayes all, motion carried.

It was moved by Stauter, seconded by Dewey to cancel the regular board meeting of November 8, 2016 due to the General Election. Ayes all, motion carried.

It was moved by Siepker, seconded by Stauter to set November 15th and November 29th as the regular claim dates for the month of November only. Ayes all, motion carried.

The board next considered the Powhatan Finisher Farm, Section 20, Powhatan Township is being reviewed for the drainage district tile appearing to be in close proximity of the construction area. Chairman Ives contacted Keith Kratchmer and he agreed to pay the cost of locating the district tile. The Martin Finisher Farm, Section 19, Des Moines Township, needs verification of distances to waterway and open ditch. The DNR representative was unavailable and will be contacted for clarification of separation distances of the waterway and open ditch. It was moved by Stauter, seconded by Peters to table action pending clarification on each of these CAFO construction permit concerns. Ayes all, motion carried.

Deb Phrehm, Program Manager of Homeward Housing provided handouts and information to the board regarding the Homeward Housing Project. This organization was started in 1998 and owned by 8 Rural Electric Cooperatives. The Mission Statement – *“To help rural Iowans purchase good quality, affordable housing and to improve their existing homes. Homeward believes that homeownership is an important part of economic development.”* The current loan programs provide down payment assistance, home improvement loans, community construction loans, Homeward Housing Trust Fund grants and loans. A Homeward Housing Trust Fund was established in 2006 with 11 counties. The trust fund has requested \$283,686 with a \$70,922 (25%) matching fund to be provided by Homeward. Each county has two representatives on the Board with Pocahontas County representatives Tom Grau and Supervisor JoAnn Peters. Homeward has been providing the cash match for the trust fund since it was established and is now requesting that the 11 counties each provide \$5,000 to fund the cash match. This is necessary to maintain the cash flow for the trust fund. Homeward is requesting a commitment by January 15, 2017 with payment due to Homeward not later than January 1, 2018.

Jack Moellering, County Engineer presented the final plans for the new parking lot and sidewalk construction at the Community Services Building. The county will provide the granular materials and the pipe for the down spout. The bid notice will be prepared and advertised the week of October 24th with a start date of November 1st and completion date of June 15, 2017. It was moved by Stauter, seconded by Siepker to approve the plans and proceed with advertising the bids with the above stated time lines. Ayes all, motion carried.

It was moved by Stauter, seconded by Peters to table action on the utility permit and Sno Pak permit have not arrive. Ayes all, motion carried.

The board continued the discussion of tree trimming in the right of way. Moellering has inquired of other counties how they handle the trees in the right of way.

It was moved by Stauter, seconded by Siepker for the board to enter closed session at 11:50 a.m. this 18th day of October 2016 pursuant to Chapter 21, (c) pending litigation to discuss grievance of the sheriff's union. Roll Call vote – Ayes - Siepker, Peters, Ives, Stauter, Dewey; Nays – none. Motion carried.

It was moved by Stauter, seconded by Peters to return to open session at 12:00 p.m. this 18th day of October, 2016 with no action taken at this time. Roll Call Vote – Ayes – Siepker, Peters, Ives, Stauter, Dewey; Nays – none. Whereby the motion carried.

The Board was provided handouts for the interview process for the county attorney's position. Supervisors Dewey and Siepker will sit in on the interviews with County Attorney Ann Beneke.

Supervisors Weekly Reports; Ives worked with the CAFO Construction permit applicants for clarification and drainage concerns. Peters and Siepker attended the JT. Telephonic conference call with Calhoun County for JT. D.D. 173-67 bid specifications. Dewey attended the Wellness Committee meeting and the JT. 173-67 drainage meeting. Stauter attended the County Conservation Board meeting and the JT drainage meeting.

There being no further business the board adjourned.

Jeffrey K. Ives, Chairman

Margene A. Bunda, County Auditor