

January 30th, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:06 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present were Heath Hansen, Rick Thompson, Ben Linde, Lisa Frederiksen, Brian Simpson, Todd Johnson, Melissa Thygesen, Mike Galloway, Michelle Kilmer, John Hansen, Jotham Arber, Chassity Musfeldt, Nathan Wahlert, Meg Andersen, Mitch Rydl, Chris Swensen, & Mike Huegerich. Doug Sorensen was absent.

Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. It Director Ben Linde discussed his budget with the Supervisors. They would like to start meeting with Department Heads possibly next week to go over their budgets.

At 9:38 am the regular meeting went into a closed meeting per Iowa Code 20.17 (3) for Sheriff Union Negotiations. Mike Galloway, Brian Simpson, Todd Johnson, Melissa Thygesen, Heath Hansen and Rick Thompson were present for the closed meeting.

The closed meeting was adjourned, and the regular meeting continued. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the meeting minutes of 1-22-24. Vote-all in favor. The Supervisors met with VA Director Michelle Kilmer to discuss her plans during the HVAC relocation. Kilmer stated she was okay with being located at the Armory or the City Hall. Custodian John Hansen discussed the need of a small snowblower for the Courthouse use. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the purchase of a snowblower. Vote-all in favor. Discussion was held on the status of the new Courthouse windows. A phone call was made to the asbestos removal contractor to discuss the availability of start dates. The Supervisors told them they should be able to start anytime after the first of April. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$191,796.01 and listed in a separate publication. Vote-all in favor.

Jotham Arber with Public Health met with the Supervisors to discuss the Public Health updates. He went over the reports and case numbers as of December 2023.

The City of Exira was represented by City Clerk Megan Andersen, City Councilman Nathan Wahlert, and Mayor Mike Huegerich to have discussion with the Supervisors. Andersen gave an update of current happenings in Exira including the massive sewer project, housing needs, and street infrastructure. The Supervisors want to make sure to keep a good, open line of communication with the cities and asked if they had any other major concerns. Andersen brought up East Side Drive and Edgerton Street and verified with the Engineer, Mitch Rydl, that the East Side Drive was on the work schedule for 2026. Andersen said that they were part of a community visioning project and explained the process.

The Iowa DOT acquisition- US Hwy 71 bridge over Sifford Creek was discussed with County Attorney Chris Swensen. Swensen explain with the Trails Act they changed the original intent on purchasing and will be buying an easement instead. He will be reviewing the document before Supervisor approval. Rydl and Swensen discussed the current update on the Zoning Ordinance for the wind turbine setbacks. Rydl gave a Secondary Construction and Maintenance update. He said the guys have been busy fixing and washing all the equipment used in the last snowstorm. Hansen asked Rydl if he had thought anymore on the idea of sharing a snowblower with the City of Audubon. Discussion on family insurance contributions and handbook status was postponed until Supervisor Sorensen is in attendance. Meeting adjourned at 1:23 pm. Vote-all in favor.

/s/ Heath Hansen
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt
Audubon County Auditor Clerk