

October 24, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:05 am by Chairman Doug Sorensen. Present were Doug Sorensen, Rick Thompson, Heath Hansen, Lisa Frederiksen, Chris Swensen, John Hansen, Chassity Musfeldt, Justin Veik-via phone, Tyler Thygesen, Jared Hershberger, Holly McCoy-Nelson, Cliff Barker, Gareth- JCG Land, Mitch Rydl, and Jotham Arber.

Motion- Hansen Second- Thompson to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the meeting minutes of October 17th, 2023. Vote-all in favor.

A phone call was made to Justin Veik to discuss the received HVAC bids. He told the Supervisors he had reached out to the two lowest bidders. They were both open to working with Audubon County to help scale the project back to help it fit into the budget. As for awarding a contractor the job, he said normally the apparent lowest bidder would get it. He wanted to reach out and speak with one of them to inquire about a few concerns he had before giving his recommendation. It was noted that if Audubon chooses to not go with the apparent lowest bidder, they need to have it documented as to why. The first step is getting a contractor on board with the budget and needs. A bid would not be awarded until a final number is agreed upon pending the extent of work to be done. John Hansen answered questions regarding leaving the current boiler in use to help reduce cost. Hansen said the boiler maintenance guy was here within the last month and said it is looking the best it ever has. More discussion will follow next week.

Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve moving the regular Board of Supervisor's meeting on Tuesday November 7th, 2023, to Wednesday November 8th, 2023 due to Elections. Vote-all in favor.

EMA Director Tyler Thygesen spoke with the Supervisors about the upcoming first payment of the new E911 Tower. Payment is due December 1st and the budget is short \$188,000. He had reached out to Motorola and was waiting to hear back from them to see if they could work with the County on that first payment date. One possibility was having the Supervisor's budget pay for the maintenance payments on the tower to help alleviate some of the EMA budget to pay for the first tower payment. Auditor Lisa Frederiksen gave a possible option. She has the State Auditors looking into doing an interfund loan from the Economic Development fund to cover the E911 tower payment. Thygesen gave the Supervisors a head's up that the EMA Board had approved a newer EMA vehicle to be purchased, included in the budget amendment, so that claim will be coming through soon.

A phone call was made to Ron Pieracci to discuss the Tyler Incode 10 software issues. A list has been provided to the company of the main issues and concerns that the Courthouse has. A meeting will be set up in December with a company representative and the Auditor's office to work on getting issues resolved. Auditor Frederiksen said it would be very beneficial to get someone here in-person to help train the office.

Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to approve the Election Canvas dates for November 14th & November 21st both at 1:00 pm. Vote-all in favor.

Members from APEX Clean Energy and JCG Land joined the meeting for the discussion on a possible temporary moratorium on the wind turbine setback. Hansen stressed that he wanted to make sure to listen to all members of Audubon County when reviewing these setbacks. Holly McCoy-Nelson with APEX said they have had a lot of local response with positive feedback on the turbine project. Hansen stressed it is important to take into consideration the neighbors who could possibly be affected by a turbine built next to their house. Jared Hershberger with APEX said when they first came to Audubon County they had spoken with landowners and the interest in the wind turbines was definitely there, and that is why they have proceeded with this. McCoy-Nelson pointed out all the positive that could come from the turbines including the revenues that benefit the community. Hershberger said their main concern with the possibility of the temporary moratorium is that it creates a sense of all around uncertainty. McCoy-Nelson said she appreciated the chance to speak on this matter. If it is decided to go forward with changing the setbacks, a letter will need to be submitted from the Supervisors to the Planning & Zoning administrator for their Board to review. Public hearings would follow after the Planning & Zoning Board reviewed the letter.

Jotham Arber with Public Health presented the Quarterly report for Audubon County. He said Kent Irwin

Page 142

and Tyler Thygesen are currently working on a full-scale exercise for next summer for emergency preparedness. This would help everyone know what roles play and what they need in the event of a disaster happening within the county. Arber said they did just get approved to help pay for well cleaning and sanitization. A homeowner can apply and get reimbursed up to \$300 towards a certified well inspector/maintainer to make sure the water is clean.

Engineer Mitch Rydl gave the Secondary Roads Maintenance & Construction updates. He said they will be needing to acquire a very small amount of land from Puck Enterprise for ROW use. He went through the DOT manual to come up with a compensation estimate to purchase this.

Motion- Thompson Second- Hansen to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 pm.

/s/Doug Sorensen
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt
Audubon County Auditor Clerk