

Floyd County Board of Supervisors Meeting
March 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

The Floyd County Board of Supervisors met at Floyd County Courthouse EOC/Training Room with the following in attendance: Supv Mark Kuhn, Supv Dennis Keifer and Supv Jim Jorgensen.

Jorgensen/Keifer moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Public comment: Supv Kuhn commented that Merlyn Schweizer's information on Drainage District #3 is being reviewed and will be discussed at a future meeting.

Keifer/Jorgensen moved to approve the February 27, 2023 minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Jorgensen/Keifer moved to approve the claims presented: County #1990-2039, Secondary Roads #22799-22818 and Drain #15370. Motion carried 3-0.

Updates on various board/commissions: Supv Kuhn attended and participated as a witness on Drainage District #6/56 trial and had phone conversations with Tim Whipple, Ahlers & Cooney attorney, for the pipeline. Supv Keifer sat at the counsel table one day and observed another day of the trial. Supv Jorgensen observed one day at the trial, met with Recorder Amy Assink and Auditor Carr regarding sharing office staff, and visited with the custodian regarding servicing the generator. All three supervisors participated in Deputy Sheriff negotiations.

Updates on Law Enforcement Center/Courthouse Project: Brian Shindelar, Samuels Group Site Superintendent, provided updates: Dean Snyder Construction is lining up subcontractors; Paulsen Electric is working on ground floor wiring and fixing the neutral wire in existing panels; Young's Mechanical is working on ductwork in the old VA office, working on floor and wall patches, and putting in missing registers; Continental Fire cut in sprinkler heads on first floor; Band Box is cleaning first floor and waiting rooms on third and fourth floors; Pro Wall hung drywall on ground floor. The LP tank is empty and the Board consented to removing it. The person doing the balancing of the HVAC system reported to the auditor's office that there are lots of leaks in the duct work.

Jacob Page, County Engineer, provided information road for the road rock bid, including 70% of the roads get rocked each year, the amount on each road is dependent on what is needed, the bidding process, and the All-Systems Permit criteria would benefit from having the rock on the road. Supvs Keifer commented that someone has reported to him that 30% of the rock ends up in the ditch and recommends the tonnage be reduced from 100,000 to 95,000 ton. Supv Jorgensen commented that he thinks 30% seems high and does not support 95,000 ton. Supv Kuhn asked for Page's determinations used to identify how much rock is needed, suggests the supervisors work with the engineer's office for rock needed in their districts, and does not recommend doing less than 100,000 ton at this time. The Notice to Bidders for furnishing and hauling Class D Crushed Stone on county roads will be published as written.

Four bids for the pavement marking project were reviewed: Vogel Traffic Services for \$167,961.99, Iowa Plains Signing for \$224,653.76, Select Signing for \$254,802.84, and Highway Signing for 255,614.88. Jorgensen/Keifer moved to approve the low bid of \$167,961.99 from Vogel Traffic Services, Inc. for the pavement marking project FM-CO34(108)--55-34. Motion carried 3-0.

County Engineer update: Crews have been checking routes for washouts, received CMP order, blading roads, general shop maintenance and building culverts. Office staff are working on plans for the 3rd Avenue street project in Floyd, 270 & B20 resurfacing, 155th & Victory Bridge Replacement, pavement markings project, day labor projects, rock resurfacing project, and general office work. Page attended the APAI Conference in Des Moines last week.

The Board discussed the current need for additional staff in the Recorder's office due to being short-staffed since January. Sharing a current Auditor's office staff person between the Recorder's and Auditor's offices was discussed. Both department's FY23 budgets have a shared person budgeted but the sharing was with other departments. Comparisons of costs were provided for each office to have 1) a 29-hour person with no health insurance, 2) sharing a fulltime person at 60% for the Recorder and 40% for the Auditor with flexibility in physical hours to accommodate the Recorder's office when short-staffed, and 3) the Recorder having a fulltime person with health insurance and the Auditor having a 29-hour week person with no health. Kuhn/Jorgensen moved to hiring a fulltime staff person in the Recorder's office at the budget numbers presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Jorgensen/Keifer moved to set the canvass of the March 7 Special Election on Monday, March 13 at 4 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Kuhn provided an update on intervening at the Iowa Utility Board’s (IUB) Technical hearing on Summit Carbon Solutions pipeline and the Area Development Corporation continuing to defer action on signing an easement agreement. On February 17, the IUB set a procedural schedule which sets dates for a technical conference, intervention filing deadlines and direct testimony dates, Summit Carbon’s direct testimony, supplemental testimony and rebuttal dates, public comments and the permit hearing in October 2023 at the Webster County fairgrounds. At a March 15 technical conference, Tim Whipple, Ahlers & Cooney attorney, will represent Floyd and other counties, in regard to support of the Sierra Club’s motion filed in February to reconsider the procedural schedule and IUB Board Member Josh Byrnes dissenting vote. Kuhn would like Whipple to ask the IUB at the March 15 meeting if the IUB would allow video to show the concerns of Floyd County at the intervention testimony hearing; Kuhn would like the board to procure a drone video with a voice-over narrator at an estimated cost of \$1,000-1,500 with flight over areas of concern in the proximity of the proposed pipeline such as the Avenue of Saints development park, city of Rockford, Drainage District #3, where the two pipelines intersect, residential and commercial areas. Keifer/Jorgensen moved to direct Tim to inquire at the March 15 IUB Technical Conference if video evidence can be presented at the intervention hearings. Motion carried 3-0.

Keifer/Jorgensen moved to approve Ahlers & Cooney bills in the amount of \$6,160 and \$238 for pipeline intervention and ordinances with payment from the American Rescue Plan Act funds. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board continued with FY24 budget reviews including changes from last week, corrections to line items after departmental reviews of their respective budgets, courthouse projects including lowering ceilings and window treatment, unknown change orders for the LEC/Courthouse project, redirecting flues in the mechanical room, leveling board room/garage floor, potential need for a water softener, transfer from General Fund to Secondary Roads or other funding options. Auditor Carr suggested the board take action on March 13 to set the max levy hearing for March 27 with intent to have the budget hearing on April 10; this would be required in order meet the Iowa Dept of Transportation Secondary Road budgeted deadline due date of April 15 which was not addressed in the SF181 extension of budgets due April 30.

The Board recessed at 11:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

Denise Ballard, Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan representative, provided an overview of the group members, design and fees and specific information with Floyd County’s product. Discussion also included out of pocket funding level options, what levels of employee/employer share of premiums are funded with other entities in the pool, and carryover funding levels/balances. Ballard will have her staff send Auditor Carr information on an update of premium rates at 4%.

The Board Recess at 1:30 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

The Board continued with FY24 budget reviews including changes from previous discussion, removing funding Secondary Roads from the General Fund, increasing building project costs, increasing ambulance services, reallocating emergency management funding between General and General Supplemental funds, adding in some additional revenues and minor adjustments in FY23. Fund balance and max levy options were reviewed.

Future agenda items: Setting max levy and note hiring of Dispatcher.

Jorgensen/Keifer moved to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0.

ATTEST: _____

Gloria A. Carr
Floyd County Auditor

Mark A. Kuhn, Chair
Floyd County Board of Supervisors