

Board Minutes January 2, 2024

The Board of Supervisors met at 9:30am January 2, 2024 with all members present. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited, and the meeting was called to order by Benjamin D. Steines, County Auditor. Steines called for nominations for Chair for 2024. Langreck was nominated by Vick, Vermace was nominated by Faldet. The vote was held and Langreck was elected Chair with Vick, Kelsay, Langreck, and Vermace voting for Langreck; and Faldet voting for Vermace. Steines called for nominations for Vice Chair. Vick was nominated by Kelsay, Vermace was nominated by Faldet. The vote was held and Vick was elected Vice Chair with Vick, Kelsay, and Langreck voting for Vick, and Vermace and Faldet voting for Vermace. Langreck assumed the chair.

Trisha Wilkins, NEIA Community Action Director, met with the Board to present an annual report, request funding for FY25, and review the General Relief budget for FY25.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Vermace to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of the last meeting, the liquor license for The Zipper, and to accept and file the monthly report of the VA Commission and the quarterly report of the County Auditor. Motion carried unanimously.

Sean Snyder, Emergency Management Coordinator, met with the Board to review the Emergency Management Commission budget for FY25.

Nicole Uthoff, Department of Human Services, met with the Board to review the DHS facilities budget for the local office for FY25.

Scott Logsdon, Recycling Supervisor, met with the Board to review his FY25 budget.

Mark Dawley, resident of Bluffton, met with the Board to report an issue with the surveyed property line and road adjacent to his house. Michael Kueny, County Engineer, presented a map and findings by the County Surveyor. Kueny reported that a vacation of eleven feet of road right-of-way may alleviate Dawley's concerns without creating an issue for the road department. Moved by Kelsay and seconded by Vick to adopt resolution 24-29, setting a public hearing on the proposed vacation for January 15, 2024 at 10:00am. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Jon Lubke, IT & GIS Director, met with the Board to discuss the continuing issues with the A/V upgrade in the Annex building and the proposed change order from CTI. The Board was not in favor of signing the change order but would like to have the CTI personnel on the agenda for a future meeting.

Michael Kueny, County Engineer, and Nick Rissman, Howard County Engineer, met with the Board to review the FY25 road department budget.

Moved by Vermace and seconded by Faldet to name the Decorah Public Opinion and Calmar Courier the Official County Newspapers for 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Faldet to approve the 2024 list of County Holidays as presented by Steines. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Vermace to leave the mileage, meal, lodging, and medical reimbursements the same for 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Kelsay and seconded by Vick to appoint Doug Groux as the Weed Commissioner for 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Vermace and seconded by Kelsay to adopt resolution 24-30, the Construction Evaluation Resolution for the Master Matrix scoring of CAFO operation for 2024. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. The resolution will be forwarded to the DNR as required.

The Board discussed the Freeport residents' request to hold a public meeting in Freeport on Thursday January 4th at 7:00pm. Moved by Faldet and seconded by Vermace to post a meeting notice for the meeting as an official meeting of the Board. Motion failed with Vermace and Faldet voting aye; and Vick, Kelsay, and Langreck voting nay. The residents still plan to hold the meeting and two of the Board members plan to attend.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Vermace to enter into contract with Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission for administration for the State Revolving Loan funding for the Festina Sewer Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Kelsay and seconded by Faldet to adjourn to 9:30am Monday, January 8, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST

Benjamin D Steines
County Auditor

Daniel Langreck, Chair
Board of Supervisors