

## Board Minutes January 8, 2024

The Board of Supervisors met at 9:30am January 8, 2024 with all members present. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited, and the meeting was called to order.

Kathy Schwartzhoff and Colinne McCann, Helping Services of NEIA, were joined by several citizens involved in the Youth Mentoring Program to present a proclamation to the Board. Moved by Vermace and seconded by Vick to proclaim the month of January 2024 as Youth Mentoring Month in Winneshiek County. Motion carried unanimously.

Carson Eggland, Director of Helping Services of NEIA, met with the Board to give an annual report and request funding for FY25.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Faldet to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of the last meeting, the claims filed with the Board, and to accept and file the monthly report of the County Recorder. Motion carried unanimously.

Members of the Winneshiek County Soil and Water Conservation Board met with the Board to report on projects and request funding for FY25.

Faith Hlubek, Veterans Affairs Administrator, met with the Board to review her FY25 budget and annual reports.

Krista VandenBrink, Public Health Director, met with the Board to review her FY25 budget.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Kelsay to open the public hearing on the proposed sale of land in Freeport. Motion carried unanimously. Several comments were received in person, by proxy, and in writing; along with comments reported from the community meeting held Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup> and a petition signed by approximately 376 county residents. All comments were opposed to the sale of the property for various reasons including: flooding concerns, procedural concerns, and a possible burial site. Moved by Faldet and seconded by Kelsay to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously. Moved by Kelsay and seconded by Faldet to delay the opening of the bids until January 22<sup>nd</sup> to facilitate contacting the bidders about the possible burial site and whether that would affect their bids. Motion carried with Vick, Kelsay, Langreck, and Faldet voting aye; and Vermace voting nay. The Board discussed the procedure used to solicit bids and possible restrictions that could be considered for future land use. Moved by Faldet and seconded by Vermace to reject all of the bids without opening them, to give time to discuss the bidding process and possibly schedule a new public hearing and bidding procedure.

Motion carried unanimously. The Board will discuss the terms, procedure, and timeline for future consideration at the next meeting.

Andy Van Der Maaten, County Attorney, met with the Board to review several legal issues and his FY25 budget.

Moved by Kelsay and seconded by Faldet to accept the generator transferred from the 911 Service Board for use by the County. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Vick and seconded by Faldet to accept, file, and publish the semi-annual report of the County Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed and updated the committee/board assignments for 2024.

Moved by Vermace and seconded by Faldet to start recording the Board meeting for official posting by the County. Motion failed with Vermace and Faldet voting aye; and Vick, Kelsay, and Langreck voting nay.

The Directors of the libraries in the Winneshiek County Library Association met with the Board to present annual reports and request funding for FY25. They requested the contracted property tax funding remain the same with the same percentage breakdown per library. They thanked the Board for past funding and requested the Board consider additional funding per library as they have in the past, if their budget allowed.

Kelvin Rue, Lincoln Township Trustee, and members of the Ridgeway Fire Department met with the Board to report on the new pumper truck they plan to purchase and requested funding from the Board.

Nathan Reasner and Jessie Hartsock, CTI, met with the Board to discuss options for fixing the A/V issues in the meeting space. CTI will install the proposed fix and test it before worrying about further billings.

Jon Lubke, GIS & IT Director, met with the Board to review his FY25 budget.

Michael Kueny, County Engineer, met with the Board to discuss road matters.

Moved by Faldet and seconded by Kelsay to adjourn to 9:30am Monday, January 15, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_

Benjamin D Steines  
County Auditor

Daniel Langreck, Chair  
Board of Supervisors