

Approved Minutes Emmet County Board of Supervisors

December 18, 2018

Regular Meeting 9:00 a.m.

Board Room, Courthouse

Present: Bev Juhl, Chair  
John Pluth, Vice-Chair  
Jeff Quastad  
Roger Hash  
Tim Schumacher

Absent:

Juhl, Chair, called the meeting to order with all Board Members present. Motion was made by Schumacher, seconded by Quastad, to approve the minutes from last week's meeting, also approving them for publication. All ayes, motion carried.

Alison Hauser, County Social Services (CSS) quadrant leader, introduced her new employee Tasha Ludwig. She will be working out of the Emmet County office. Hauser stated that Emmet County belongs to the Western Quadrant Region, which is comprised of six counties. Supervisor Pluth will now be the Board's contact person for CSS, replacing retiring Supervisor, Bev Juhl. There will be a training meeting on January 16. Hauser stated at some point the Western Quadrant committee will meet with each County and present information so that each County can get a concept of the whole Western Quadrant.

Mike Martens, Emmet County Sheriff, came before the Board informing the Board of the IA Department of Health Grant he recently applied for. If he were approved for the grant, this would pay for tuition and housing for all of Emmet County's medical examiners and investigators at the meeting to be held in St Louis MO on January 19, 2019. The grant is for \$2020.00

Martens second item of discussion was the security system for the entire courthouse. He presented three bids for the project. Heartland Security \$40,226.00; Midwest Technology \$19,837.83 and the economy bid also from Midwest Technology for \$14,337.00. Approximately 20 cameras will be placed in all hallway and entrances. Martens stated that these systems are all networked based and are turnkey systems. Juhl asked about the timeframe for installation. Martens added that it would happen soon. Martens stated that there would be a written security posting at each courthouse entrance, stating this is a great deterrent for individuals.

It was moved by Schumacher to approve the middle bid of \$19,837.83 from Midwest Technology, adding three additional outdoor cameras, seconded by Hash. All ayes, motion carried. This security item will be put back on the agenda on January 2, 2019, possibly using L.O.S.S.T. (Local Option Sales & Service Tax) funds to pay for the security system. The Board told Martens to go ahead with the security project.

John Torbert, Executive Director, Iowa Drainage District Association (IDDA), presented the annual drainage report. Torbert stated he wanted to speak on three things today. IDDA has had a grant for 12 years now for the CREP program (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program). This program, administered by IDALS (Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship). Personnel is provided by IDDA. They go out and contact landowners persuading them to install wetlands on their property for the purpose of nitrogen level, and then issue easements. The contract was re-bid this fall and IDDA received the contract for another three years, Torbert stated that this provides additional revenue for administrations and our programmers. Torbert stated that this is a really good fit for the association in terms of the kinds of things we do.

The second item of information Torbert shared with the Board is the waters of the United States. Going back to previous administration, we had a rule proposed by EPA called the Waters of the United States and we had concerns from many individuals on that rule. Individuals felt it would greatly increase the jurisdiction that the EPA would have on waters that they do not currently administer, that rule was put on hold by courts. We had a new administration come in, backed out the old rule, and a new rule is proposed. Torbert believes that from what he has read, drainage districts are safe and this rule does not significantly expand the authority of EPA.

Torbert stated we are heading into a legislative session in January, one big issues talked about will be additional money for water quality, specifically a sales tax increase. There was legislation passed this year that provided additional funding, but this is not enough if we are going to make significant improvements. That money provides funding for conservation practices on the land and provides a cost share for the landowner. He stated that in speaking with Governor Reynolds, she stated that this is the beginning of the discussion.

Arvin Druvenga and David Schmidt, Winther, Stave & Co., LLP presented the FY2018 audit for Emmet County. It was moved by Schumacher, seconded by Pluth, to accept the audit for 2018. All ayes, motion carried.

It was moved by Hash, seconded by Schumacher, to approve the re-appointment of Dan Nelsen to the Ringsted Benefitted Fire District, his term will until July 1, 2021.

At 10:00 a.m., it was moved by Quastad, seconded by Pluth, to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1) (c). Roll

call vote was taken: Ayes: Schumacher, Hash, Quastad, Pluth and Juhl Nays: None. Motion carried. The meeting moved into closed session.

It was moved by Hash, seconded by Quastad, to go out of closed session. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting moved out of closed session at 11:35 a.m.

No action was taken during the closed session.

Walter Davis-Oeth, Engineer, came before the Board informing the Board that Richard Blinkmann, Maintenance Supervisor for Secondary Roads, is retiring as of March of 2019. Blinkmann has worked for the County for over 43.2 years. He stated his expertise would be missed. Travis Fredericksen is filling in as interim for these duties at this time. Davis-Oeth is asking for permission to re-hire for that position. Davis-Oeth stated they would start advertising for that position.

Davis-Oeth stated we did go ahead and reorder salt for the roads. Secondary roads are blading the roads, when they can with the weather.

The Board reviewed the Authorization to use for Facility ID #70339, Celandier IA Lakes 14 Site, located in Section 14, Iowa Lake Township, Emmet County, Iowa and also reviewed the Manure Management Plan for Facility Hoffman 1 #67655, owner CAH Livestock.

A motion was made by Quastad, seconded by Hash, to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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Colleen Anderson, Assistant to the Auditor

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Bev Juhl, Chair