

Office of Mills County Auditor
Carol Robertson
Mills County Courthouse
Glenwood, IA

The Board of Supervisors met this 14th day of March 2023, at the Mills County Courthouse in Glenwood with Supervisors Lonnie Mayberry, Carol Vinton and Richard Crouch present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch to approve the Consent Agenda and Minutes as presented from March 7, 2023, and Accounts Payable. Also, approval of a 12-month Class E Retail Alcohol License for Beer Barn Corporation, 19203 Bunge Ave, and a 12-month Class C Retail Alcohol License for Keg Creek Brewing Company, LLC, 22381 221st St. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

John Thomas, Golden Hills RC & D, was present for his scheduled meeting. Thomas updated the Board on Hungry Canyons Alliance and EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection Program) projects and funding.

Jacob Ferro, Mills County Engineer, was present for his scheduled meeting. Motion by Crouch, seconded by Vinton to approve HWY 34 traffic control lights in the amount of \$42,562 with Saddler Electric. The lights will be an improvement from what the State had put in, however, with the wind and pole placement they may still have occasional issues. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Ferro discussed with the Board the possibility of hiring part-time clerical help, which would allow the current Office Manager to have a backup for their duties. He will return with an official request along with hours and salary for job posting.

Holly Jackson, Building and Zoning, joined the meeting with Ferro to discuss complaints to both the Engineer's office and her office on land disturbance in the Loess Hills. They were asking the Board and the County Attorney, DeShawne Bird-Sell for guidance on how they want to handle the complaints. Current County Ordinance states that if more than an acre of land is disturbed, they must get a grading permit. County Attorney Bird-Sell stated that the complainants need to hire a Civil Attorney to handle the dispute. However, once the size of the project, grading, possible disbursement and hauling of dirt were better clarified it became apparent that County Ordinances may have been ignored. Further investigation is needed. There are currently three different ATV/Dirt Bike areas that were being discussed, all with different situations and possible legal disputes.

Mike Stewart, Assessor's Board of Review, and Christina Govig, County Assessor, were present for their meeting. Board of Review were inquiring if they are able to have another Board do a review when there could be a perception of biases to the public. Due to cost in possible law suits from doing the assessment, other counties will not agree to handle the litigation. Stewart knows his Board will be fair, but still doesn't like how it looks to the public. There was no action taken.

Michelle Grassau, Jennie Davis-Rubek, Amber McClary and Chloe Hammers were present for their scheduled meeting, representing the Leadership Group through Mills County Chamber. Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch to support the Sign project in the amount of \$5,000. The estimate for the completed sign is approximately \$50,000, which includes limestone and solar lighting. The Board also suggested several avenues for them to look into for Grants and other monetary support. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Patrick Binns, IT Director, was present for his meeting. Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch for approval to purchase a laptop in the amount of \$2,042.37 from CDW for IT Director Binns, his previous laptop no longer works. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Motion by Crouch, seconded by Vinton for purchase of a drone in the amount of \$1,349 from Lite Commercial for the IT Department to aide in GIS trail videos and basic Videography of Mills County. Binns' IT Assistant, Qiurong Yin, has gone to training and is now certified as a Drone Pilot. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch on approval for 20 licenses at the price of \$2,400 of Monday.com, which will aide in better tracking and monitoring of projects throughout different

departments in the county. Binns has requested the Board to bring their laptops with them next Tuesday so he may add the program to them and do some training. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Binns also updated the Board on the Annex Building renovation project. March 23rd Project to be posted and March 30th for a pre-bid meeting at the Annex.

Travis Hitchcock, E-911/Communications Director, was present for his scheduled meeting. Hitchcock updated the Board on the 911 renovation schedule. May 12th cable will be run by CenturyLink and other vendors/contractors will be on the premises. Week of May 15 -19th will require 911 to be completely in the EOC for the renovation to be completed. May 24th they will be back in the 911 area and have training with the new equipment.

DeShawne Bird-Sell, County Attorney, was present for her meeting. Motion by Crouch, seconded by Vinton to accept resignation of Deputy County Attorney, Ryan Dale, effective March 17, 2023. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch on appointment of Dawn Landon to Part-Time Deputy County Attorney, effective Monday, March 20, 2023, having passed her prescreening at an annual salary of \$91,667. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Josh England, Chief Deputy Sheriff, was present for his scheduled meeting. Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch to authorize pay increase to \$43,219 effective March 16, 2023, for Detention Officer Adam Elwood, having completed his one-year probation, per union contract. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0.

Elizabeth Richardson, Veteran's Affairs Director, was present for her scheduled meeting. Motion by Crouch, seconded by Vinton for authorization to purchase new markers for Veteran's graves at a price increase of \$3.80 (were \$31.60 now are \$35.40). Richardson stated they go through 30-40 markers each year on average and are increasing usage, needing approximately 58 more. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

Richardson also discussed the Veteran Affairs building at 602 S Locust ST for possible purchase instead of rental. Having a current appraisal, Richardson and the Board agreed that the building needs a more thorough inspection before making any decision on purchase.

Christina Govig, County Assessor, was present for her scheduled meeting. Motion by Crouch, seconded by Vinton to sign Impoundments and Family Farm Applications. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0

The Board of Supervisors left the session to meet as a Board of Canvassers for the March 7th Hotel/Motel Tax Special Election. Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch to approve the following 196 votes cast as: Yes:163, No: 33. Motion carried on a vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0. Motion by Vinton, seconded by Crouch to File Post Election Audit of hand count of Oak Township which matched original count. Motion carried on vote: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0 The Board returned to open session after canvass of the March 7, 2023, Special Election.

There being no further business to come before the Board, they adjourned to meet on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

Lonnie Mayberry, Chair

ATTEST:

Carol Robertson, Auditor