

March 18, 2024

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on the above date at 9:00 a.m. in the third-floor conference room of the Mahaska County courthouse. Present were the following board members: Chairman – Mark Groenendyk; Vice chairman – Steve Wanders; and Member – Chuck Webb. Also present were Darin Hite, IT; Troy Bemis, Maintenance Director; Andrew Ritland, County Attorney; Russ Van Renterghem, Sheriff; Chris Clingan, Conservation Director; Frank Hansen, MCG; John Bandstra, Angie Foster, Dave Prine and Teri Rogers, Auditor. This meeting was live streamed by Communications Research Institute of William Penn University.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the agenda for today's meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public comments: None

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to add names to Mar 12 meeting attendance list; Shea Greiner and Jeanette Newendorp. It was moved by Wanders and Webb to approve minutes for Mar 4 and Mar 12, as amended. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to defer action for the approval of the Class C Retail Alcohol license for Hy-Vee, Inc. since Hy-Vee lies within the City of Oskaloosa and to approve the 12-month Class C Retail Alcohol license for Southstar Farms, LLC. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to accept the payroll changes for Conservation. Ashley Hunter has been hired as a part-time ELC attendant and will be added to payroll effective March 15, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$13 with 0 benefits. Ryan Swarts and KayLynn Sieber will be removed from payroll effective March 15, 2024. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to set the date and time for a public hearing for Monday, April 15, 2024, at 9:00 am for possible action on vacating alley and road in Maxon's Addition in the Town of Peoria. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Frank Hansen, MCG, appeared before the Board for a discussion about expanding the fiber network in the County. Costs and the workforce have stabilized since the pandemic. All work at MCG is done in-house, nothing is contracted out. It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the contract/agreement with Musco/MCG for county-wide rural broadband services using ARPA funds. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to decline the mowing contract bid from DB Landscaping for mowing the grounds at the DHS building location. Conservation has offered to take over this task as they had previously done this. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- ✚ Mark Groenendyk spoke about County Day at the Capitol and the ISAC Spring Conference which took place last week Wednesday – Friday. Major topics were new legislation HF718 and its impact on county government, Human Resources in County Government and EMS services and funding.
- ✚ After the March 12 meeting, a Mayor approached Mark about hiring an Economic Development Director that would work with the smaller cities.
- ✚ Status of EMA Audit – the first three auditing firms EMA asked for a bid neglected to offer one. Josh Stevens is reaching out to other firms.
- ✚ Auditor Rogers spoke about the upcoming special election for City Council member to replace Steve Burdett in Ward 4. Special election date is April 2nd, and the new voting location is the old YMCA in the gymnasium. Two candidates have turned papers in: Jimmy Carter and Abu Ibrahim. The old YMCA will also be the new voting location for the June primary and the November general elections due to the Grant Senior Center being sold and now under construction.

Public Comments: None

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to adjourn. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Attest: _____
Teri Rogers
Mahaska County Auditor

Mark Groenendyk
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors