

Floyd County Board of Supervisors Meeting

July 26, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

The Floyd County Board of Supervisors met in the Board Room of the Floyd County Courthouse with the following in attendance: Supv Mark Kuhn, Supv Dennis Keifer, and Supv Jim Jorgensen.

Keifer/Jorgensen moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried 3-0.

Public comment: none.

Keifer/Jorgensen moved to approve the July 22, 2024 minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Jorgensen/Keifer moved to approve the claims presented: County #165-199 and Eng/Secondary Roads #10775-10784. Motion carried 3-0.

Alliant	Elect	66.72	1
Amazon	Supplies	23.98	1
A Bellinger	Reimb	138.51	1
J Butterfield	Reimb	109.44	1
S Butterfield	Reimb	186.39	1
Centrl IA	Supplies	565.00	1
Colwell	TJ-Road	353.91	1
Floyd	TJ-Road	445.18	1
Marble Rock	TJ-Road	953.10	1
Rudd	TJ-Road	1224.75	1
D & L	Reprs	213.27	1
B Hinz	Reimb	120.27	1
S Funte	Reimb	62.70	1
Gordon Flesch	Lease	106.00	1
Hauser Weishaar	Services	1000.00	1
IA DOT	Fuel	791.60	3
IA DOT	Fuel/parts	5821.78	1
IA Workforce	Unempl	1548.21	2
JDF	Supplies	523.47	3
LEAF	Services	993.68	1
Lessin	Parts	136.56	1
J Lovik	Reimb	116.85	1
Marco	Maint	467.91	1
Mick Gage	Serv	5781.00	1
Mid Am	Util	656.32	3
Mikes C&O	Tires	388.88	1
Osage PD	Service	36.00	1
Schueth Ace	Hwd	30.58	1
D Swartzrock	Reimb	59.85	1
The Shredder	Service	107.00	1
Vanguard	Appraisal	160.00	1
Visa	Misc	345.97	1
Visual Edge	Equip	49.98	2
L Wulff	Reimb	144.21	1

Updates on various boards/commissions/activities: Keifer attended the Pure Prairie Farms grand opening, participated in the Communications Tower project call, and listened in on the Floyd County Medical Center (FCMC) Trustee meeting. Kuhn attended County Social Services, Charles City Area Development Corporation and FCMC Trustee meetings.

Kuhn provided an overview of the FCMC meeting where he presented the supervisor's proposal regarding funding future ambulance costs. At the meeting, Kuhn was asked to retract his statement about the trustees making a proposal. Kuhn admitted he was wrong about his comment of the trustees voting on a proposal that was discussed by Dawnett Willis, FCMC Administrator, at an Ambulance Commission meeting but a proposal was clearly discussed at a trustee meeting. Kuhn is calling for Willis and Ron James, FCMC Trustee chair, to review the way meetings are held as items discussed are not on the agenda. Past agendas and minutes were referenced which Kuhn identified as violations of the Iowa Open Meetings Law. The July 23 FCMC minutes did not reference the supervisor's proposal, Kuhn's proposal to earmark \$279,000 of \$500,000 property tax revenue for ambulance funding, or consider FCMC's ending fund balance compared to the combined city of Charles City's and County's ending funding balances. Kuhn referenced a "secret meeting" during his presentation that caused the

meeting to end abruptly due to the accusation toward the trustees. However, Kuhn claims he was referring to a meeting of city and hospital executive leadership, two of three agencies of the 28E ambulance funding agreement; Kuhn speaks of this as an intent of violation of the law with respect to quorums and where the idea sparked that the hospital would not fund the last year of the agreement or extend the agreement three additional years.

Sharon Enabnit, FCMC trustee, questioned Kuhn's accusations of the trustees violating the law being any different than Kuhn bring up the hospital topics under the supervisor's agenda item of "update on various boards/commissions/activities since the last meeting". Kuhn responded the supervisor's agenda item is to comment on meetings they have gone to. Willis commented that the rules apply differently to him than to others and stated the hospital has not violated any meeting laws. Kuhn responded several meetings reference pertinent issues of the emergency medical systems fund that has been discussed. Willis mentioned she and the trustees have never said they would not honor the 28E agreement as long as the city and county also do their part of the contract.

Sheriff Deputy Travis Bartz presented the Communications Tower preliminary construction design drawings for the Rockford site. Keifer/Jorgensen moved to approve the drawings. Motion carried 3-0.

Kuhn presented a revised Emergency Medical Services proposal for consideration: 1) The EMS Tax Levy question placed on the General Election ballot would ask voters to impose a property tax levy of \$450,000/year on all taxable property for a period of five years. There would not be a local income tax surcharge on the ballot. 2) If the EMS Tax Levy passes, \$450,000/year will be deposited in the EMS Trust Fund (Fund) starting with the property taxes due September 2025. The 28E Agreement would be amended to direct \$106,090 from FCMC be made to the Fund in monthly installments of \$8,840.83 starting on July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. 3) The proposal requests FCMC make the base payment of \$106,090 per year plus an additional payment to the Fund of \$13,555.94 per year for each of the three years of the new 3-year City and County Agreement with AMR. All payments would be made to the Fund which can only be used for EMS services. The annual \$13,555.94 payment is equal to one-third of the difference between one-third of the amount the City and County pay to AMR in FY26,  $\$440,273.50/3 = \$146,757.83$  minus the base payment of \$106,090 made by FCMC equals  $\$40,667.83/3 = \$13,555.94$ . The proposal would phase in payments made by FCMC over three years until the FCMC pays a full one-third share of the cost for emergency ambulance services provided by AMR at the end of the amended 28E Agreement and the new 3-year Agreement with AMR on June 30, 2029. FCMC's payments to the Fund would be \$119,645.94 in FY27, \$133,202.88 in FY28, and \$146,757.82 in FY29.

Keifer commented that the hospital and community benefit from ambulance services and it seems fair for the hospital to pay one-third of AMR's costs until there could be other ambulance providers or system available. Keifer stated that even with the \$776,000/year for 15 years, a spreadsheet provided by Keith Starr, City Councilman, would require another \$2 million to borrow which doesn't seem practical. Jorgensen commented he is not opposed to the proposal.

Enabnit commented that nothing has been mentioned about the tax dollars going to a private, for-profit corporation and AMR will not provide financial reports. Gordon Boge commented that tax dollars go to private businesses all the time, such as Bruening for Secondary Roads rock. Willis talked about standing up for our own for ambulance services, has nothing negative to say about care of the local service, but AMR is not transparent, and we're throwing good money after a bad business model. Willis feels it might cost taxpayers more upfront money but in the long run it will save taxpayers money to find a long-term strategic solution. Kuhn recalled Starr's comment at an Ambulance Commission meeting that a municipal ambulance service couldn't provide the services at any less cost. Cala McGregor mentioned that the city of Nashua runs their own service with several volunteers and thinks there are other options to consider. Kuhn/Jorgensen moved to forward Kuhn's proposal as written and request a special meeting with the FCMC Board of Trustees to discuss the proposal in person. Motion carried 3-0. Jorgensen commented he thinks it is important to keep the conversation open for an in-house, municipal ambulance service as a 25% increase in the proposal may not be enough. Kuhn said he is committed to put something on the ballot.

The Board discussed rules for the public hearing of the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on Monday. Discussion regarding the hearing include allowing three minutes per speaker, not allowing giving unused time to someone else to use, read e-mails presented, e-mails read being limited to three minutes, allowing persons who send e-mails also being allowed three minutes to speak at the hearing, and having an official timekeeper. Kuhn proposes after the hearing that there be no less than three readings and amendments to the ordinance not be taken from the floor, but rather amendments only come from supervisors, and amendments be in written form so they are clear. Keifer does not think the turbine companies should get to comment; Kuhn disagrees because they are the

proposing the projects and are a resource for information. Kuhn suggested having 10 minutes each for speakers who support and oppose the amendment; consensus was five each. Kuhn/Keifer moved to limit speakers to three minutes, no transfer of time to another speaker, anyone can speak, a timer will be used, written amendments during the reading phase are required, allow five minutes each for pro and con rebuttals on amendments, e-mails will be read during the hearing. Motion carried 3-0.

Future agenda items: none.

Keifer/Jorgensen moved to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0.

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Carr  
Floyd County Auditor

Mark A. Kuhn, Chair  
Floyd County Board of Supervisors