

October 02, 2023

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; Tom Flaherty, Economic Director; Andrew Ritland, County Attorney; Andrew McGuire, County Engineer; Shawn Christ, Lindsey Thomas, County Assessor; Eric Dursky, County Sanitarian; Troy Bemis, Maintenance Director; Rep. Helena Hayes, Paul Greufe, P.J. Greufe & Associates; Deann De Groot, Oskaloosa Chamber; Channing Rucks, Oskaloosa Herald; Andrew Alexander, John Bandstra, Jean Stanford, Doyle Turner, Micah Van Mersbergen, Gary and Joyce Wilson and Teri Rogers, County 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:

✚ Andrew McGuire and Shawn Christ approached the Board and provided updates on city and county development. Shawn spoke about Oskaloosa's Comprehensive Plan, known as Plan Osky and Andrew spoke about the MODES project along with the SE Connector. Maps were displayed on the projector so the meeting attendees could follow along. Regarding city development, we viewed a future land use map showing the growth potential for residential and commercial property over the next 10-20 years. Regarding county road projects, google "MODES Oskaloosa" if you want to provide input. Public input sessions are being planned.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve minutes of Sep 18th and Sep 25th. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Received quarterly HIPAA update from Stephanie Lathrop with Carosh Compliance Solutions. As of Oct. 1, 2023, the completion rate for the county is 86.6%. Great job overall.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the Wellness Committee's recommendation for the employee bio-screening package for 2023. Lindsey Thomas presented cost analysis information received from the Occupational Health Department at MHP. She will work with MHP to schedule a date late in October for on-site flu shots and biometric screening for county employees and their spouses. Expenses for spouses will be out-of-pocket. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Assessor's office. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to sign the letter of support for keeping the Dakota Access Pipeline in operation. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve payroll changes for Secondary Roads. James Cushwa resigned his position as Operator effective Sept. 5th, 2023. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Deann De Groot appeared before the Board and informed them that the Mahaska County Revolving Loan fund committee met on Sept. 22, 2023, and reviewed two applications for the Restaurant Grant funds. The committee recommends awarding the \$15,000 grant to Bridget's Public House. It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to accept the committee's recommendation and to award the grant. An agreement will be made before the funds are distributed. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Doyle Turner, Woodbury County resident, addressed the Board. He is a retired banker and farmer and is working to raise awareness that there are viable options other than CO2 pipelines. He has identified two companies that are willing to buy the CO2 from the ethanol plants and would build Green Methanol plants at each site. One is Carbon Sink.

Committee Reports:

- ✚ Chuck Webb spoke about the proposed water tower north of Walmart. He also mentioned that the MCRF board wants to see the 6–7-mile cross-country track remain north of the Lacy Complex if the proposed housing development moves forward in that area.
- ✚ Steve Wanders provided update on 10-15 transit. They have given over 100,000 free rides to veterans. Solid public transit option with 10 counties involved.

Public Comments:

- ✚ Mark Groenendyk announced that Economic Director, Tom Flaherty, submitted his resignation. His last day will be Oct. 6, 2023. The Board acknowledged all the great things that occurred in the county during Tom's tenure. They thanked him for his work on multiple projects including the MODES project and the Certified Site.
- ✚ John Bandstra thanked the Board for bringing people to the board meetings that keep the public informed on important topics.

By roll call vote, it was moved for the Board to go into Closed Session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.9.

Roll call vote:

Mark Groenendyk:	Aye
Steve Wanders:	Aye
Chuck Webb:	Aye

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders for the Board to go back into open session. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

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