

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of Clinton County, Iowa, met at the Clinton County Law Center, Clinton, IA. Present were Supervisors Irwin, Srp and George. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

9:00 A.M. Review Correspondence and Claims Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

9:15 A.M. Formal Action & Motions Claims Approval

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions 2024-250 through 2024-251 and two (2) Motions were approved on the Consent Agenda:

RESOLUTION 2024-250

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Maintenance Department has terminated the employment of Luke Earnst, as a temporary part-time custodian; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Clinton County, Iowa, that the County Auditor be and is hereby authorized to stop issuance of biweekly paychecks to Luke Ernst, effective September 16, 2024.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairperson

RESOLUTION 2024-251

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Assessor's Office has determined a 2023 valuation adjustment is required on parcel 18-11590013; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Assessor's Office has informed the Treasurer's office regarding the intention to correct the valuation on the parcel and abate the taxes; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Clinton County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Clinton County Treasurer to abate the 2023 tax bill for the following parcel:

- Parcel 18-11590013: value should be zero -0- as parcel was combined into 18-11550001 and already valued and taxed there.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairperson

MOTION by Supervisor Srp to authorize the Chairperson to sign Utility Permit Number 3-30 for Preston Telephone to bore fiberoptic cable and duct work along 345<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 190<sup>th</sup> Street, then 350<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The proposed work is located within Clinton County right-of-way in sections 17, 20, and 19 T82N R05E in Center Township.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.

Motion carried.

MOTION by Supervisor Srp to authorize the Chairperson to sign Utility Permit Number 3-31 for Preston Telephone to bore fiberoptic cable and duct work along 320<sup>th</sup> Ave. The proposed work is located within Clinton County right-of-way in sections 11 and 14 T82N R04E in Center Township.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution was presented and on motion approved:

RESOLUTION 2024-252

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Board of Supervisors shall extend the moratorium on applications to rezone to the Renewable Energy Overlay District related to utility-scale wind installations according to section 3.6.10.F.2 of the Clinton County Zoning Ordinance, and

WHEREAS, the extension on the moratorium shall be repealed automatically on December 31, 2024, unless extended before that date by resolution of the Board of Supervisors; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Clinton County Board of Supervisors that the moratorium on applications to rezone to the Renewable Energy Overlay District related to utility-scale wind installations be extended until December 31, 2024.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Abstain; Irwin: Yes.

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairperson

DEPARTMENT HEADS, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

Clinton County Auditor Eric Van Lancker let the Board know its October 7 meeting will be in the large conference room of the County Satellite Office in DeWitt as the Law Center is hosting a regional training that day.

Supervisor Srp said Conservation Board meeting did not have a quorum last week so they will meet this week.

Chairman Irwin said the next wind turbine meetings are set for October 9 & 30 at Northeast High School at 6 p.m. He thanked Northeast High School for hosting the wind turbine meetings.

Supervisor George said she gave the outdoor siren presentation to Goose Lake City Council, and they voted not to take over the siren there.

County Treasurer Dustin Johnson said tax collections are in full swing and expect a busy week.

County Engineer Todd Kinney said Old Highway 61 road and bridge work is still on schedule and expected to open by the end of the month.

### DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

County Compensation Board Establishment: The Board reviewed the legislation approved earlier this year that ended County Compensation Board's that make recommendations on elected officials' salaries. Van Lancker explained the two options for the comp board terms.

The following resolution was presented and on motion approved:

#### RESOLUTION 2024-253

WHEREAS, pursuant to Iowa Code Section 331.905, as amended in 2024 by Senate File 2442, the county board of supervisors may vote to establish a county compensation board; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to this same Code Section, when the board of supervisors establishes a county compensation board, the compensation board shall be comprised of seven members who are residents of the county. Two members shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one member each by the county auditor, county attorney, county recorder, county treasurer, and county sheriff. The members of the county compensation board shall not be officers or employees of the state or a political subdivision of the state and shall serve staggered terms; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Board of Supervisors, in consultation with other County elected officials, determined the duration for the initial staggered terms for members of the County Compensation Board to run based on the election years of the County Auditor, County Attorney, County Recorder, County Treasurer, and County Sheriff. The two Board of Supervisor members will serve staggered alternating terms from each other; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Clinton County hereby establishes a county compensation board for the county; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Clinton County directs each of the elected officials to submit their respective appointments to the board of supervisors by November 29, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the representatives of the County Supervisors (1 of 2), County Auditor and County Sheriff shall serve an initial term of four years and the representatives of County Supervisors (2 of 2), County Treasurer, County Recorder and County Attorney shall serve an initial term of two years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution shall apply retroactively to July 1, 2024.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairperson

Potential Energy Efficiency Grant Projects: Van Lancker said he and Budget Director Nicholas Manrique spoke with County Maintenance Manager Matt Lancaster about the projects being proposed for the grant. After that discussion, it is their recommendation to the Board that the entire DeWitt building and Courthouse be completed with the funds. He said maintenance was already making plans to work on the basement ceiling and lighting in their own time. Both the DeWitt project and Courthouse would add up close to the grant funds of \$76,610. Irwin said he would support the updated recommendation.

Railport Settlement Funds Budgeting/ARPA update: Van Lancker and Manrique said the Board had planned on using general surplus funds to cover overruns on ARPA projects and for the parking lot project at the Law Center. However, Van Lancker said the railport settlement funds were not a known quantity at the time of those discussions. He said the County now knows it is receiving more than \$2 million from the City of Clinton from the settlement in a couple of weeks. Van Lancker said using some of those funds to cover the overruns of the ARPA projects could preserve the County's general fund reserves. Van Lancker said this is a good time to discuss this as the County is planning to start the budget amendment process next week. Irwin still supports using the general supplemental funds for a portion of the parking lot and building. Van Lancker gave options on how the settlement funds can be used which include capital projects or on bonds to pay for capital projects. Johnson said there is consideration to keep some funds in reserves for capital projects. Srp said he would support using the settlement funds for the overruns and the parking lot and letting the rest set in capital projects until more projects come up. Johnson agreed to place the funds in capital projects now and wait for the next budget to determine how much to use for debt service tax levy. Srp said he was thinking about an idea that would use half of the settlement funds for debt service tax levy relief and the rest for any capital projects that come up. Irwin said he would also like to preserve the general fund dollars as long as they can, but also likes the idea providing debt service levy.

Mental Health Region Budget Cut Update: Chairman Irwin said the region voted last week to cut \$3 million from the current budget and is considering another \$1 million. He said this will impact each county's jail for mental health services and prescription meds for mental health. He said it will also impact local providers. Jail Administrator Paul Hammond said the prescription impact depends on what medications are being used. Irwin said it will require a change in the budget amendment. Irwin said based on a recent conversation, the state may help with some of the funding, but there is no promise for that. County Mental Health Director Becky Eskildsen said the fiscal agent said there are still bills to be paid from the previous fiscal year. She also reviewed some of the programs that will be halted immediately for the rest of the fiscal year. Srp asked if all regions were making these cuts and asked about equity of services around the State. Irwin responded other regions are doing similar functions but the issue in our region is that since the region

missed the carry-over threshold, the State is going to retain payments to the region in the amount of almost \$3 million. Irwin said the State has more than \$20 million its holding for regions that did not meet the threshold.

Union Negotiation Board of Supervisors Representative Assignments: Irwin said he believed the Board could participate in negotiations without the rules of an open meeting. County HR Director Ally Ellison said the 28E for the Communications Commission contract states Sheriff’s Office Chief Deputy Steve Diesch and a county supervisor will be in contract negotiations. She said the sheriff’s contract has been represented by the Sheriff, Human Resources Director, representing attorney and a supervisor. Ellison said Communication negotiations starts in November and the Sheriff’s Office will start toward the end of November.

County Administration Building Project Update: Irwin said they met Friday morning and discussed an additional \$33,000 change order for the HVAC work. He said within a couple of weeks they should have the second floor of the south side completed and then move around to the second floor of the east side of the building. Johnson said they are working on getting a paint contractor lined up but if that doesn’t happen, he said he has staff who could pitch in on the painting. They also discussed the work on the entry way. The discussion focused on having it partially done and open for voting in the building or finishing it all at once and continue to use the Auditor’s Office door for voting. Johnson wants to get it done and help the climate control in the building. George is worried about opening the doorway and then having to close it again.

10:24 A.M. Public Hearing with Possible Action

Chairman Irwin called a public hearing into order to solicit public comment on the plans and specifications for a proposed County Secondary Road Department shed in Delmar.

Proof of publication was presented, accepted and returned for filing.

Present were Board of Supervisors, County Auditor, County Engineer, public and media.

County Engineer Todd Kinney reviewed the plans. He said the bid letting will be October 15 with a June 2025 completion. He said it has been delayed due to the process to acquire the lots from the City of Delmar.

No comments were received before the meeting. No comments were received during the hearing.

MOTION by Srp to adjourn the public hearing.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.  
at 10:25 a.m.

Motion carried. The public hearing was adjourned

The following resolution was presented and on motion approved:

RESOLUTION 2024-254

WHEREAS, in accordance with Iowa Code Section 26.12, it is required that a public hearing be held to approve the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and cost estimate for new construction projects with an estimated cost greater than the competitive quote threshold; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Board of Supervisors held a public meeting on September 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. to solicit public input regarding the project; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Clinton County, Iowa, approves the plans, specifications, and estimated cost for the Delmar Truck Shed Construction Project.

Roll Call: George: Yes; Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes.

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairperson

The Board of Supervisors adjourned to meet on Monday, September 30, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Eric Van Lancker, County Auditor

Jim Irwin, Jr., Chairperson

-APPROVED-

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson