

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

#### THE ELEVENTH-DAY

The Board of Supervisors of Howard County, Iowa met in regular session as required by law at the Office of the Howard County Board of Supervisors, Cresco, Iowa on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Unless noted in the minutes, all motions were passed unanimously.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Burnikel at 9:00 A.M.

Those present were: Chairman in the Chair Don Burnikel, Jan McGovern, and Pat Murray. Absent: None.

A motion by Jan McGovern and seconded by Pat Murray to approve the agenda as posted. Motion passed.

A motion by Pat Murray and seconded by Jan McGovern to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion passed.

Don Burnikel attended a Child Empowerment meeting in Postville, Iowa.

Pat Murray attended a Ragbrai update meeting in Cresco.

A motion by Jan McGovern and seconded by Pat Murray to approve the Howard County Recorder's Monthly report ending Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Motion passed.

The Board of Supervisors recognized the following employees for their years of service:

Matt Andera—5 years

Cherri Caffrey—20 years

Doug Christianson—35 years

Steven Johnson—10 years

Lori Kerian—15 years

Lynn Phillips—10 years

Ryan Vandewalker—5 years.

The Board of Supervisors discussed the gopher feet allocation that is given to the Townships each year. This item has been added to the March 27<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Carol Kerian-Masters came before the Board to give an update on the Board of Health.

A motion by Jan McGovern and seconded by Pat Murray to approve the publication of the DLH Enterprises CAFO for a Public Hearing to be held on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 11:00 A.M. Motion passed.

Howard County Sanitarian Marshall Rogne and a group of concerned Citizen came before the Board to discuss the Chestnut Creek LLC Manure Management Plan.

Sue George was the spokesperson for this group. This group's main concerns are the sink holes that are in their part of the County. Sue spoke about having a neighborhood meeting on Sunday night with the neighbors concerning the proposed Chestnut Creek LLC Manure Management Plan. Sue went on to speak about the sink holes, leaking of manure, and the contamination of water in this area. Sue also spoke about a tractor falling into a sink hole on the property where the CAFO is being proposed.

Russ Stevenson spoke about farming and the sink holes in this area. His concerns are with water quality and well depths. Russ also spoke about the manure pits being built on possible sink holes and also a concern with the roads in the area.

Ernie Martin spoke about NE Iowa and the rocks and sink holes here.

Sanitarian Marshall Rogne spoke about testing the soil using bore holes. The DNR knows this is on Karst Topography and the pit will have to be built using tougher rules. Marshall spoke on how he has taken all of the information that Sue George compiled and will forward it to the Iowa DNR and they will look into this further.

Gerald George brought up where they are spreading manure which is the same field that the CAFO is being built on.

Russ Stevenson asked why they are already hauling from a different CAFO to this proposed site.

Pat Murray spoke about the spreading of manure with the plans and that the owner has to send in reports on where they are spreading manure.

Sanitarian Marshall Rogne explained that this proposed plan does not fall under the Matrix but the Board did hold this meeting to allow the Citizen to voice their concern and he also went on to speak about what the criteria the DNR will follow on this proposed plan.

Jo Ann Wangen spoke about the landowner tiling and running into their land without permission she is also concerned about sink holes and water contamination.

Sue George also showed a map with a 75 foot hole which is not shown in the map the Iowa DNR has.

Jan McGovern asked Marshall Rogne if the map has been sent in and Marshall said "yes". Jan McGovern then asked if the DNR will come and take a look at this site. No one knows if this will happen.

A question was asked why only 3 bore holes were done and the possibility that something could have been missed.

Gerald George also brought up that this farm is close to the Bigalk Creek Watershed.

Jerry Keune brought up about the DNR and the Bigalk Creek Trout Stream, could the trout stream be affected by this CAFO?

Sue George spoke about the depth of water in the wells in this area such as a 60 foot level, an 88 foot level, a 110 foot level and some other depths of wells. Sue asked if this CAFO will affect people's wells in the area around this facility. Another concern of Sue's is the Amish people with their organic farming practices.

Sue George then went on to talk about a person that has an allergy to hogs and if this facility comes to this area then why should this person have to move? Sue also spoke about a vineyard that has been planted in this area. Would this facility affect this vineyard? Another question was how this facility will affect property values? Will property values be devalued because of this facility?

Sue George is looking for the Board of Supervisors to try and do something about this facility.

It was suggested that Marshall Rogne needs to make sure everyone's Septic system is up to code as this could also affect the water quality and have everyone in this area get a water test as a base line.

Gerald George brought up the EPA, what would be their role in this matter.

A concerned Citizen from Allamakee County stated that this facility is with Reicks View Family Farms.

Discussions were then held as to who has ownership of this facility.

Sue George stated that she had sent a letter to Delbert Ihns as he is the land owner where this facility is going to be built.

Mark Kipp with Reicks View Family Farms spoke they are in attendance and listening to the concerned citizens and that they (Reicks View Family Farms) are going to be following the law.

Gerald George asked if the Iowa DNR and the State Geological department could do a study prior to approving the application for this facility.

Sue George spoke about her own health concerns and that smells make her lungs react.

Questions were asked as to what the Iowa DNR will do and will there be updates on what is happening with this proposed site. Another topic which was brought up was animal cruelty and if someone should call PETA?

A question raised was if the concerned citizens need to hire an attorney? Place articles in newspapers and other publications?

It was stated that some people in this area already have water issues and nitrate problems.

Russ Stevenson spoke about the manure management plans that get filed, what if the manure is just applied and we get a big rain. Where does the manure run off too?

Chairman Don Burnikel asked if anyone had any further questions or concerns on the Chestnut Creek LLC Manure Management Plan.

The Board moved onto the next Public hearing.

A motion by Jan McGovern and seconded by Pat Murray to approve to open the Public Hearing on the Paris Foods Inc. CAFO at 11:00 A.M. Motion passed.

Sanitarian Marshall Rogne gave a report on the Master Matrix of Paris Foods Inc. Marshall went on to speak about what the Matrix contains and stated that they need 440 points to pass. Paris Foods Inc. has a total of 445 points. Marshall had met with the Iowa DNR at the proposed site and everything looked good per the Matrix.

Gary Sovereign spoke that he had brought in a bunch of local business people he does business with to show support towards the building of this CAFO and that there are some positives to the building of these confinements.

It was noted that no comments were received by the Board of Supervisors.

Frank Moore spoke about the support that is in attendance at the hearing and does the Board of Supervisors really want local control?

A motion by Pat Murray and seconded by Jan McGovern to close the Public Hearing at 11:14 A.M. Motion passed.

Since there were no comments or concerns presented:

A motion by Jan McGovern and seconded by Pat Murray to forward to the Iowa DNR the Paris Foods Inc. application with no negative comments. Motion passed.

Howard County Treasurer Warren Steffen came before the Board to let them know of the upcoming Wellness Day which will be available to the employees of Howard County. The days will be April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. for Secondary Roads and April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:00 A.M. for the Courthouse employees. The Board gave their approval to conduct the Wellness Day.

A motion by Pat Murray and seconded by Jan McGovern to approve to pay claims. Motion passed.

Howard County Engineer Nick Rissman came before the Board to discuss the following Secondary Roads business items:

1. Discuss V36 and 40<sup>th</sup> St. near Johnson Farms.
2. FEMA updates.
3. Other road issues.

A motion by Pat Murray and seconded by Jan McGovern to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Howard County, Iowa and the City of Lime Springs, Iowa. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Don Burnikel at 12:40 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Julie Chapman, Howard County  
Auditor

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Don Burnikel, Chairman Howard County Board of  
Supervisors