

THE FORTIETH 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 October 16, 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 Pat Murray and seconded by Jan McGovern to approve the agenda as posted. Motion passed.

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

Don Burnikel attended a CIDC meeting in Cresco and a NE Iowa Behavioral Health meeting in Decorah.

The board discussed the boring for the internet lines/phone lines and will get quotes for the boring of the lines.

The board conducted a public meeting on the proposed county CAFO resolution on behalf of the board of supervisors.

- Pat Murray gave a brief overview of the Resolution that he drafted and the fact that more funding needs to come to the Secondary Roads department for roads and bridges.
- Jan McGovern spoke about two producers building on Level-B roads and the producers paying to bring them up to grade.
- The board is trying to get the legislators to help the counties with this road issue.
- Question was asked, how much does it cost to maintain a mile of road? \$8,000 to \$10,000 for gravel and up to \$20,000 for a paved road.
- Question was asked, how does Secondary Roads get funding into their budgets?
 - Road Use tax
 - Local Option Sales Tax
 - County Tax Dollars
 - Gas Tax
 - Miscellaneous dollars – not much
- Jan McGovern explained how the taxes are divided out when property taxes are figured and where the split of taxes is.
- Why is the board claiming it is costing more to maintain roads because of confinements versus a road on a bare piece of property?
- How is the board figuring the costs?
- Nick Rissman explained that the fuel tax is divided up among the whole state before it comes back to Howard County.
- Are the current roads designed to withstand the extra heavy loads that are being hauled on the current roads?
- Nick Rissman explained that most of the roads are not able to handle the extra loads and they are starting to re-grade some of the roads.
- An explanation was given on how many loads go into a site each week—that number averages 2.75 loads per week.
- A comparison was shown on Chickasaw County taxes versus Howard County taxes—it was stated that Howard County taxes are higher than Chickasaw.
- Every farmer has semi's
- The board stated they are trying to keep bridges open and are having a hard time with funding.
- Was stated that the board should be careful how they go about with asking for more money—ask not to single out the CAFO's
- Why are the CAFO's paying more than a house on an acreage?
- Would hard surface roads be better?
- Question about the resolutions that have been popping up from this board.

- The board stated that ICCI has not been involved with.
- Jan McGovern explained about 10 years ago she was at a meeting with the DOT to get more funding for the roads and that the board has asked the legislature for more funding and it is falling on deaf ears.
- In the resolution, CAFO's are mentioned quite often.
- Do the supervisors talk to other supervisors in the area? If so, maybe they should all get together and go to the legislature to ask for more funding.
- Jan McGovern explained how she went to Des Moines for a gas tax.
- Pat Murray said he talked to a legislature and they have no appetite to discuss change.
- Question was asked about bare land versus building on a land for taxation purposes.
- Question was asked about how many sites in Howard County are permitted.
- Explained how much has been spent in Howard County during the building of a new CAFO and that the Secondary Roads brought the road up to a drivable roadway.
- Question was asked how many more CAFO's for 2017 to be built for this year and how many are proposed for 2018.
- Was stated that the producers would be willing to sit down with the board and draft a livable resolution for all parties involved.
- Question asked, if resolution is passed, how will the board determine who will get approved by the board and not approved by the board? The board can deny an application but will need to go to Des Moines for a hearing if they choose to deny an application.
- Karst ground was being discussed.
- Everyone wants good roads, can the producers get together and try and come up with a solution to the proposed issue.
- County is spending a lot more money on roads due to CAFO's, grain handling, farming, etc.
- Pat Murray explained the taxes on the CAFO's.
- Jan McGovern explained the Rural Services Basic Fund and how the money from Rural Services Basic fund is transferred to the Secondary Roads fund.
- Are the taxpayers getting the economic benefit they are paying for?
- Commercial taxation versus Agricultural taxation.
- Did the board have more problems with the roads with today farming practices versus 20 years ago?
- Is the board going to pass this resolution?
- How many industries will the board close a road for?
- Form a committee to come up with some solutions.
- Dave Sovereign volunteered to be on a committee.
- More CAFO's, less farmers, farmers are farming more land.

Nick Rissman came before the board to discuss Secondary Roads Business.

1. Project Updates
2. RPM Access Saratoga Wind Farm-Road Agreement
3. Resolution 1051-2017 – Removal of Building at Schley Property
4. 30th St. Request
5. Other road issues

A motion by Jan McGovern seconded by Pat Murray to approve Resolution #1051-2017 Removal of Building at Schley Property. Ayes: McGovern, Murray and Burnikel Nays: None

RESOLUTION NO. 1051-2017

REMOVAL OF BUILDING AT SCHLEY PROPERTY

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of HOWARD County, Iowa, that Nick Rissman, P.E., the County Engineer of Howard County, Iowa, be and is hereby designated, authorized, and empowered on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of said County to execute the October 2017 Agreement for Removal of Buildings and Fence at the Schley County Shop Property.

Dated at Cresco, Iowa, this 16th day of October, 2017.

ATTEST:

Julie Chapman
Howard County Auditor

Don Burnikel, Chairman
Howard County Board of Supervisors

Warren Steffen came before the board to discuss a tax abatement.

A motion by Jan McGovern seconded by Pat Murray to approve a tax abatement for Greg Gansen in the amount of \$125.14 for homestead credit. Motion passed.

Mike Miner gave a brief update on some personnel issues.

Joe Kelly brought up the assessor's office claims for board review.

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

The board discussed storage issues with various county departments.

The board will not pursue a CAFO Matrix Resolution but will formalize comments for future construction applications.

Chairman, Don Burnikel adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

Julie Chapman, Howard County
Auditor

Don Burnikel, Chair Howard County
Board of Supervisors