

October 23, 2017

THE FORTY-FIRST 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 23, 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. Various members of the public were also in attendance.

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.

Jan McGovern attended a Region 1 transportation meeting in Postville, UERPC Board meeting in Postville, UERPC Executive Board Meeting in Postville.

Pat Murray attended a RSVP recognition in Decorah.

Don Burnikel attended a Howard County Economic Development meeting in Chester.

The board discussed proposed Supervisor comments on future Master Matrix applications:

- The public members in attendance brought up the following concerns:
- Grain farmers should be included.
- Gas tax was brought up – how much does it generate and it is more fair since all people pay it
- Counties are having funding issues.
- Can the county post roads?
- Do license fees go to help roads?
- Can the county have an election to vote on a road tax?
- County can vote on local option Sales Tax
- Does the county have any plans on how to proceed forward with funding? The county is currently TIFing the wind turbines to update roads, bridges and equipment.
- Can the county TIF CAFO's?
- Wind turbines are taxed at the actual construction costs.
- People need to contact their legislatures to try and change how CAFO's are taxed.
- Asked about Minnesota and it was stated the DNR is tougher in Minnesota
- Asked about a committee
- CAFO's are built in the spring, the roads take a lot of wear and tear.
- People build when they can build – when they build when it is wet they leave mud on roads and county has to re-grade
- Does the county have anyone who inspects the CAFO's?
- The CAFO owners have plans they must follow – DNR is supposed to monitor
- People have talked to the DNR – don't feel there is a lot of backing from the DNR
- CAFO's should not be built on Karst area
- Satellite ground penetrating pictures show the ground, DNR would not look at the pictures
- There are legitimate concerns.
- How do the sites get chosen for CAFO's to be built? What type of rules and regulations?
- Nuisance issue; who do they file it with? The board said it would be the DNR.
- Understand everyone's concerns
- Tiles that run into sink holes
- Different types of soils
- Manure is from animals which is an organic product
- Different topography needs to be addressed with the Master Matrix.

- Farmers have fought the home rule
- Manure application has improved with technology and equipment – flow meters, soil samples
- Should run the manure through a digester prior to applying
- How do the producers haul manure on someone else’s land? The producer works it out with each landowner by agreement and that land would have to be in the manure management plan.
- If not enough land to spread manure, it could stop a CAFO from being built – need to have the land
- Manure is typically knifed in now, which is better than spreading it on top of the land.
- Farming has changed over the years.
- People have to be aware of the environment.
- Can CAFO’s look at scrubbers?
- Hogs cannot digest phosphorous which creates algae.
- Does anyone test tile lines?
- Letters to the editor and news articles are making the general public aware.
- Don’t want to see people limited to their farming practices just because of where they live.

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

1. Project Updates
2. 30th St. Request
3. Other road issues

A motion by Jan McGovern seconded by Pat Murray to approve to have the Chair, Don Burnikel sign letters for the Regional Health Services of Howard County which defines them as a county hospital. Motion passed.

A motion by Pat Murray seconded by Jan McGovern to approve a liquor license renewal for Jo’s Long Branch effective 11-1-2017. Motion passed.

A motion by Jan McGovern seconded by Pat Murray to approve to allow the County Auditor, Julie Chapman, to sign a Certificate for the \$5,000,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2018A. Motion passed.

The board discussed the boring for the internet and phone lines. They are waiting to hear back from Northeast Iowa Telephone on the procedure.

The board discussed supervisor comments on construction applications and will work on formalizing their supervisor comments.

The board tabled storage issues.

The board went to look at the proposed boring.

Chairman, Don Burnikel adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

ATTEST:

Julie Chapman, Howard County
Auditor

Don Burnikel, Chair Howard County
Board of Supervisors