

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

The Board of Supervisors convened at 8:30 a.m. with all members present. Also present was Warren Haacke (Media). Motion by Marreel, second by Walk to include letter head use and to approve the amended agenda. All voted aye.

Motion by Walk, second by Marreel to approve the minutes of the April 22nd meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes.

At 8:45 a.m. the Chair opened the public hearing for the Ruehlow 4 Site confinement feeding operation. Present were Penney Morse, Darwin Ruehlow and Blake Ruehlow. The Chair asked if the Auditor's office had received any public comments prior to the meeting. The Auditor stated that he had received a letter from Penney Morse. The Board stated that they had not received any comments. Penney read a letter referring to the Iowa Policy Project's report on Hog CAFOs and Sustainability and the impact on local development and water quality in Iowa. Penney asked the BOS to question the manure management plan application and to ask if two of the fields listed with Happy Pork are still being used by Happy Pork or have they found other fields to use. Darwin stated that Happy Pork hasn't applied manure on this land for three years. Penney suggested that the manure plans that come before the Board be reviewed so that over-application doesn't occur and that the same fields aren't used in more than one plan. She also requested the Board to send a letter to the DNR expressing concerns over lack of oversight on the manure plans. After further discussion the public hearing was closed at 8:59 a.m.

Motion by Marreel, second by Walk to send the application to the DNR with no negative comments from the BOS and that the BOS does agree with the scoring of the Matrix. The BOS will ask the DNR if it has any oversight concerning manure being applied on the same field by more than one facility. Roll call vote: all ayes.

County Engineer Jim Hyde discussed salaries for summer help and wage increase for Jim Wherry. Summer help start at \$8.50 per hour then go \$10.00 per hour if they return the next year and then to \$10.50 the third year. Mowers receive \$11.75 per hour. Consensus to give the summer help and mowers twenty-five cents (.25) per hour and to give Jim Wherry a 4.5 % increase. The same increase as other non-union county employees. Discussed new shingles for the Engineer's office and ditch burning. Tony Wood made a request to have two new driveways installed and to extend two others. After discussion, consensus to go ahead with the driveways.

Conservation Director Milt Owen discussed the County Weed Commissioner's position. Also present was Dennis Conrad. Dennis stated that he would be interested in the position. Supervisor Walk explained that the new commissioner

will be required to pass a core manual test and a category 6 test.

Items of note: Walk reported on the HUD meeting, CLG presentation and the EMA budget amendment hearing. Marreel reported on a meeting with the County Engineer and Horizon Wind officials and the DECAT meeting. Voaklander reported on the Economic Development meeting.

Marreel left the meeting at 9:35 a.m. to attend a funeral.

Received manure management plan updates from M & L Pork Inc. and G & I Inc., Mark Patterson, Groth Farms and an original plan from the Benson Site. Discussed appointments to the Board of Health and P&Z Board. No action was taken.

Motion by Walk, second by Voaklander to approve waiving the fourteen day requirement between the draft and issuance of a final construction permit for the Friesen Farm LLC Site confinement building. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Walk, second by Voaklander to approve an agreement with NIACOG to administer a local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion by Walk, second by Voaklander to approve Resolution #733-08 a resolution committing a local match and designating Joe Myhre as the authorized representative for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant program. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Discussed with County Attorney Mark Walk transmission lines that overhang on County right-of-way. It was determined that regulations for the lines are set by the State Utility Board. Discussed the County Weed Commissioner position. County Attorney stated that the job position needs to be posted and an ad placed in the county newspapers. Discussed the use of County Supervisor letter head. County Attorney advised that when letter head is used it needs to be approved by all three board members.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Lowell Tesch - Mitchell County Auditor

Joel Voaklander – Chair Board of Supervisors