

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MITCHELL COUNTY, IOWA**

Friday, September 14, 2012

The Board of Supervisors convened at 11:30 a.m. with all members present. Also present were Penney Morse, Clem Johanns, Judy Champion, Sandra Heckstein, Curt Younker, Larry Klemesrud, David Tollefson, Jerry Fox, Betty McCarthy, Don Hendrickson, Mark Ross, Rick Gross, Dave Hartogh, Kurt Meyer, LeRoy Steward, Pat Skuster, Amy Folkerts, Karen Purcell, Diane Popp, Leo Meitner, Mark Walk, Deb Nicklay (Globe Gazette), Steph Crock (ABC News 6), Cassandra Leff (Riceville Recorder) and Jim Cross (Press News). Motion by Voaklander, second by Walk to approve the agenda. All voted aye.

A possible closing of the Mitchell County Courthouse building based on a letter of concern by Karl Kaufman, Structural Engineer with FEH Associates, was discussed. Supervisor Chair Bob Marreel shared copies of the letter that he had received earlier in the morning from FEH. The letter stated that a building assessment performed on September 5, 2012 included observations of deficiencies related to the building envelope, ADA and accessibility, mechanical/electrical/plumbing systems and structural systems. There were specific conditions observed in the attic that has caused structural concern. In the opinion of the structural engineer, these conditions pose a potentially dangerous condition and a life safety concern that warrants a detailed review and analysis of the structural integrity of the roof framing and north wall.

It was reported that the Court system was moving out and since they are moving out the rest of the Courthouse offices should move also. Alternative sites were discussed. The Plaza was mentioned as an option and Mary Dunea offered the Washington school building rent free. It was stated that there isn't the necessary computer hook ups for the various offices or air conditioning.

After more discussion, motion by Voaklander, second by Marreel to move to the Plaza, if available, and to move as soon as feasibly possible. Roll call vote: Voaklander and Marreel voted aye and Walk voted nay. Walk wanted to look at other options. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

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Lowell Tesch - Mitchell County Auditor

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Bob Marreel – Chair Board of Supervisors