

Guthrie County Board of Supervisors

Regular Session

August 8, 2023

The Guthrie County Board of Supervisors met this 8th day of August, 2023, in regular session in the meeting room at the Guthrie County Courthouse in Guthrie Center, Iowa with the following members present: Maggie Armstrong, Mike Dickson, Brian Johnson, Jerome “J.D.” Kuster and Steve Smith.

The meeting came to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Smith second by Armstrong to approve consent agenda, minutes from August 1, 2023 and August 3, 2023 and claims from July 26, 2023 through August 8, 2023 in the amount of \$385,185.15. Motion carried: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0.

Chris Whitaker, Region XII Zoning, joined the meeting to discuss a request for a minor subdivision named Smith Acres. The planning and zoning commission voted 3-2 to deny the minor subdivision. Whitaker reminded the Board that the commission is a recommending body. Dickson and Kuster express concerns over approving the minor subdivision since the commission voted it down. They each stated that they appoint the members to the commission and they don't want to go against them. Armstrong suggested Board members reach out to planning and zoning commissioners and hold this topic until next week.

Motion by Kuster second by Dickson to table action on Smith Acres Minor Subdivision until the Board of Supervisors can discuss further with Planning & Zoning Commissioners. Motion carried: Ayes: 4 Nays: 1(Johnson).

Johnson asked Whitaker about zoning ordinances on nuisance properties in the county. Whitaker stated that a nuisance ordinance would come in the form of a county ordinance versus a zoning ordinance.

Marty Arganbright, Guthrie County Sheriff and Jesse Swensen, Guthrie County Jail Administrator, joined the meeting to discuss housing of outside inmates. They are currently housing 8 inmates from Polk County, and charging \$60 per inmate per day. The maximum number of outside inmates they will take is 15. Swensen asked the Board's permission to open the application process for hiring additional jailers. Armstrong stated that they do not need the Board's approval to hire jailers or dispatchers, the Board only has approval over the number of deputies under an elected official.

Josh Sebern, Guthrie County Engineer, joined the meeting to discuss the Transportation Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) Grant application. This would cover upgrades to traffic control devices on Wagon Road, at a curve approximately 3 miles south of Panorama.

Motion by Armstrong second by Smith to approve application for Traffic Control Device Funds. Motion carried: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0.

Motion by Armstrong second by Dickson to approve Resolution 24-05: Approval of Transportation Safety Improvement Program Grant Application. Motion carried on a roll call vote: Dickson: Aye, Smith: Aye, Armstrong: Aye, Kuster: Aye, Johnson: Aye.

Sebern then discussed the RURAL Grant Application, and stated he has received several letters of support from local and state elected officials as well as local entities such as the schools, EMS and EMA. Sebern then provided an update on bridge postings and analysis his department is working on.

Johnson presented a Guthrie County Mission statement created by a small group of county department heads and elected officials. The mission statement reads as follows:

## **Guthrie County Iowa**

### **Our Mission**

Serve the residents of Guthrie County by purposefully providing quality public services and programs that enhance quality of life, promote safety, and ensure fiscal responsibility.

### **Value Statements**

1. Govern with accountability and communicate effectively.
2. Be transparent in our operation.
3. Promote a healthy community.
4. Demonstrate integrity and expect excellence.

Motion by Johnson second by Smith to approve Guthrie County Mission statement. Motion carried: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the Board adjourned at 10:22 a.m. until its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2023. Motion by Smith second by Kuster. Motion carried: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0.

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Brian Johnson, Chair  
Guthrie County Board of Supervisors

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Attest: Dani Fink,  
Guthrie County Auditor