

Guthrie County Board of Supervisors

Regular Session

June 11, 2024

The Guthrie County Board of Supervisors met this 11th day of June, 2024, 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 to approve the consent agenda, which included minutes from May 28, 2024, claims from May 29, 2024 through June 11, 2024 in the amount of \$252,784.99, payroll reports from June 7th, by Smith second by Johnson. All ayes.

No public comments were received.

Armstrong provided an overview of the 28E Agreement with Heart of Iowa Mental Health Region. Heart of Iowa is made up of Dallas, Guthrie and Audubon counties. With the new 28E Agreement Southern Hills region will also be included which is made up of Adair, Adams, Taylor and Union counties.

Motion by Armstrong second by Dickson to approve the 28E Agreement with Heart of Iowa Mental Health Region. All ayes.

Jotham Arber, Health Services Director, joined the meeting to provide an update on health services. Arber then presented a 28E Agreement with Guthrie and Audubon County for Home Health and Public Health Services. The agreement is for 5 years, and yearly reports will be provided to Audubon County.

Motion by Dickson second by Johnson to approve the 28E Agreement with Guthrie and Audubon County for Home Health and Public Health Services. All ayes.

Brenda Campbell, County Treasurer, joined the meeting to ask for the Board to abate property taxes for parcel 0001400200, which is owned by the City of Yale. It is an empty lot, and the current year taxes totaled \$98.

Motion by Johnson second by Armstrong to abate taxes for parcel 0001400200 (City of Yale). All ayes.

Motion by Kuster second by Armstrong to appoint Stacey Harris-Molina to the Veteran Affairs Commission for a term ending 06/30/2027. All ayes.

Board then discussed budget appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Dickson suggested 50% appropriations for all departments, except the Sheriff's department who he suggested 25% appropriations. Smith asked how it would work to reduce their percentage. Armstrong stated that budget management doesn't only fall to the Department's, but also the Board. Armstrong and Dickson stated that there have been previous requests made from the Sheriff for operational documents, and direct conversations have been had, but no progress made. Johnson stated that he doesn't like the idea of singling out a department, and he would be more willing to have monthly or bi-monthly reports to help them keep better track. Dickson stated the only control that the Board has is the purse strings.

Motion by Dickson second by Smith to appropriate 25% of the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget to the Sheriff and 50% to the rest of the County departments. Ayes: 4 Nays: 1 (Johnson).

Normal Stetzel would like to donate her parcel 000054300. The board would like more information from adjacent land owners before making a decision, which Smith will look into it.

Motion to table action on land donation from Norma Stetzel by Smith second by Johnson until more information can be determined.

The Board of Supervisors and ex officio Board of Canvassers of Guthrie County conducted the Canvass of the Primary Election, held June 4, 2024. There were 370 people who voted at the polls on election day, 57 absentee voters, zero provisional ballots were accepted for counting. A total of 427 people voted.

Candidates Nominated for County offices:

Democratic Party

County Sheriff – Marty Arganbright

Republican Party

Board of Supervisors District 2 – Brian Johnson

Board of Supervisors District 5 – Mike Dickson

County Auditor – Dani Fink

County Sheriff – Matt Harmann

Libertarian Party

Board of Supervisors District 2 – Clinton Deardorff

County Auditor – Dani Fink

County Sheriff – Matt Harmann

The candidates nominated to the libertarian party were nominated as write-in candidates, each nominee would have to accept the position by filing an affidavit of candidacy by 5:00 p.m. on June 18th.

Smith discussed the upcoming strategic planning meeting. Johnson stated that he went to Greenfield a couple weeks ago and discussed what he saw and how the local officials have been managing the aftermath.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the Board adjourned at 10:30 a.m. until its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2024. Motion by Johnson second by Smith. All ayes.

J.D. Kuster, Chair
Guthrie County Board of Supervisors

Attest: Dani Fink
Guthrie County Auditor