

Guthrie County Board of Supervisors

Regular Session

March 26, 2024

The Guthrie County Board of Supervisors met this 26th day of March, 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.

Consent Agenda, included minutes from March 19, 2024 and March 21, 2024. Motion to approve the consent agenda by Smith, second by Armstrong. All ayes.

No public comments were received.

Peggy Hoyt, Peoples Bank Branch Manager – Scranton and Dawn Rudolph, Greene County Supervisor joined the meeting to discuss 25 CHI – Highway 25 Corridor Housing Initiative, which is an exterior matching grant program dedicated to increasing property values and improving the general attractiveness and availability of housing within the corridor. The grant funds up to 50% of the total project cost, with a maximum grant of \$1500 per home. Applications are accepted annually, by April 1st, but this year they extended the deadline to May 1st. Grants are given until funds are depleted, and applications are approved based on need. Funds are awarded after the expense has been incurred and documentation provided. Hoyt and Rudolph are asking the Board to consider an amount to help fund the Bagley and Bayard communities. The City of Bayard has committed \$3000, but if they have an abundance of applicants they may contribute more. Bagley would like to contribute, but working to find the funding.

Lauren Mortensen, Region XII Economic Development Planner, worked with the Board to update the county hazard mitigation plan.

Dana Minter, Guthrie County Attorney, joined the meeting to discuss salary increases for her office for fiscal year 25. Case counts for Guthrie County are around 300-400 higher compared to surrounding counties. Our county collections program brings in a similar amount to Madison County and Carroll County, and is substantially higher in collection totals compared to surrounding counties. Minter is estimating that the county attorney budget could return upwards of \$9500 at the end of this current fiscal year. Minter justified her request for additional dollars for salaries on the collections program, and her decreased expense need.

Motion by Dickson to allow an additional 2% raise for the County Attorney staff, second by Smith. All ayes.

Board discussed the EMS Request for Proposal following its revision from the County Attorney.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the Board adjourned at 10:55 a.m. until its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2024. Motion by Smith second by Johnson. All ayes.

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

Attest: Dani Fink
Guthrie County Auditor