

Guthrie County Board of Supervisors

Regular Session

August 13, 2024

The Guthrie County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Tuesday, August 13, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Maggie Armstrong, Mike Dickson, Brian Johnson, Jerome "J.D." Kuster and Steve Smith.

Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Johnson second by Smith to approve consent agenda, which included minutes from August 6, 2024. All ayes.

No public comments were received.

Guthrie County resident's including Lyle Wilson, Brenda Wilson, Candice Salvin, Gus Crowder, Kelly Nielsen, Kelli Nielsen, Brenda Wickland, Keith Wilson and Rick Rumelhart joined the meeting to express concerns and opposition to the CO2 Pipeline. The main question from the group was how the board plans to take a stance on this issue. Supervisor Johnson stated that the Board doesn't have jurisdiction on this topic. Supervisor Dickson stated that he is putting together some resolutions to present to the Board on the Eminent Domain aspect of this issue. Supervisor Smith stated that it's important to let the people know where the Board stands on these issues, even if their hands are tied. Kelly Nielsen expressed his concern for the land he has worked to pay off and hand down to his children, may now be taken on eminent domain. He stated even if the Board can't do anything to stop it, they should still take a stance against it because that's their job. There was also concern for the safety of the resident's who live near the pipelines, as well as threats to water sources. Dickson stated that he hopes everyone is voicing their concerns to the Iowa Utility Board (IUB). He stated his ground is affected by the pipeline as well, and he doesn't agree with eminent domain. The IUB has granted applications for the pipeline, which are federally regulated, meaning Counties who have set ordinances will lose their lawsuits. Salvin stated the problem the citizens are having has been the lack of action, and they have an opportunity to draw a line in the sand. They believe the Board should go as far as they can to defend their people. Senator Jesse Green stated that a project that crosses counties is no longer regulated by a single county and is regulated by commerce. Green recommended the Board do a Resolution, and he will make sure those get to the right people. Green will also review setbacks for Ordinances. Green admitted that this issue falls to the legislature, and that it is out of the hands of the county. Keith Wilson stated that this pipeline is not going to help us locally or the State, it's only going to hurt the landowners. He stated there is no negotiating and, as far as this group is concerned, the pipeline can stop at the Road.

Senator Green then provided an update from the State level, and discussed unfunded mandates with the Board.

Brenda Campbell, Treasurer, joined the meeting for approval on her Annual Treasurer's Report.

Motion by Dickson second by Smith to approve Treasurer's annual report. All ayes.

Jotham Arber, Health Services Director, provided a Health Services update. They had a surprise Medicare survey last week. Arber also discussed post closure costs for the Transfer Station, which have increased from \$14,000 to \$16,000. This is just money that is airmarked in case the transfer station would have to close.

Motion to approve transfer station closure cost of \$16,000 by Dickson second by Armstrong. All ayes.

Jamie Lindsay, Human Resources, updated the Board on a recent site visit completed by IMWCA, the county worker's compensation company.

Josh Sebern, Engineer, presented a new sustainable leadership structure for his department.

Board discussed a prior discussion on a proposed Bear Grove ATV/UTV Park & Campground, and the need for further direction being given for a conditional use permit.

A letter was received from the Donning Company seeking interest from the Board on a commemorative book for the 175th Anniversary of Guthrie County. The board agreed to seek out the cost before they make a decision to move forward.

The Board discussed EMS, and meetings held within the last week with Adair, Panora and Stuart services. Armstrong stated that she believes the \$100,000 of levy funds currently being withheld for the potential of hiring an EMS Director should be put back into the pot for the services. If there is a need to hire an EMS Director, to advice an EMS advisory council, then the County should hire that person.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:41 a.m. Motion by Smith second by Johnson. All ayes.

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

Attest: Dani Fink
Guthrie County Auditor