

MINUTES OF SIOUX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 16, 2018

- 1) The Board of Supervisors of Sioux County, Iowa, met pursuant to adjournment at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Sybesma presiding. Members present were John Degen, Mark Sybesma, Dennis Wright, Al Bloemendaal and Arlyn Kleinwolterink.
- 2) Minutes of the meeting held on October 2, 2018, were submitted, and the Chairman declared them approved.
- 3) Claims were approved for October 16, 2018 as submitted by the County Auditor.
- 4) Ryan Dokter, Sioux County Auditor, submitted the GASB 75 Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Plan, for Board information.
- 5) Doug Julius, Sioux County Engineer,
 - Updated the Board on secondary road activities.
 - Will meet with a FEMA representative on Wednesday in regards to flooding damage.
 - Updated the Board on the 2018 construction projects.
 - Reported that asphalt patching and leveling is complete and crack sealing continues as weather permits.
- 6) Committee Reports:
 - **Sybesma & Bloemendaal** – Reported on the progress of the Sioux County Regional Airport. The Sioux Center Airport will close November 7, but the Orange City Airport will remain open until the approaches are published for the new airport. November 14 is set for the grand opening of the new airport. The concrete work is done and work continues on private hangars.
 - **Wright** – 1) Reported on the ISAC Executive Board meeting from October 3, 4, and 5. Numbers remained low for the August Annual Conference, with many complaints being that the conference happens the same time as when school starts. Reported on discussion on what person would fill in for the Executive Director of ISAC in the event he cannot fulfill his duties temporarily. 2) Reported on the Rock Valley Rotary Club meeting he spoke at on October 8. 3) Attended the Sioux Rivers Advisory meeting in Le Mars on October 10.
 - **Bloemendaal**– Reported that he was appointed to serve on the Veteran’s Committee for NACo.
 - **Kleinwolterink** – 1) Attended a Landfill meeting. 2) Reported that the crop is in for the County Farm and that the crop will be put into storage. Paperwork has been signed at the FSA office to receive a federal stipend of \$1.65 for crops and that half of those funds have will be received with another potential to receive the other half in December.
- 7) Tom Kunstle, Sioux County Attorney, reported that the annual law enforcement training will take place this week at the Prairie Winds Event Center. This is a multi-county effort to educate law enforcement officials and around 100 people are registered to attend.
- 8) Rob Klocke, Sioux County Conservation Director,

- On behalf of the Conservation Board, formally petitioned the Board of Supervisors to issue general county purpose bonds for the Nature Center project in the amount of 1.8 million dollars. Further stated that the debt service will be paid by the Sioux County Conservation Foundation in lieu of the monies coming out of the county general fund.
- Klocke distributed a report from the Sioux County Conservation Foundation outlining the financial status as follows:

Sioux County Conservation Foundation Accounts

Checking Account	\$291,113.83
6 Month Bonds	\$600,000
Total	\$891,113

Pledges—Cash Flow Projections

From 1/1/2017-12/31/2021

\$510,550.00	\$530,266.67	\$520,166.67	\$475,466.66	\$257,450.00
2017 Total	2018 Total	2019 Total	2020 Total	2021 Total

Total Project Bills Paid by Foundation as of 10/11/2018

\$999,148.63

Total Project Cost \$4,553,217

Building Cost \$3,310,000

Fundraising Total

\$3,286,613.12 Pledges

\$600,000 CAT Grant

\$300,000 REC interest free loan

Total is \$4,186,613.12

Gap in funding \$366,603.88

Will need to pay REC loan \$75,000/year for 4 years interest free

Therefore, the total gap in funding is \$666,603.88

Conservation Board Reserve Account \$470,000

REAP \$59,479 (another check by November 1, additional \$12,000)

- Gordon Pottebaum explained that the amount of pledges from individuals and businesses totals roughly 2.2 million dollars, the rest is funding from the City of Hawarden \$150,000, City of Orange City \$50,000, Conservation Board Reserve Account \$600,000, County \$250,000, and \$600,000 CAT Grant from the State of Iowa. Bonds are needed to cover the expense due to the pledges being received over the course of multiple years.
- Pottebaum further explained the CAT Grant is paid by the State reimbursing 15% of each invoice submitted for the project. The whole project would need to be completed by October 31, 2020.
- Sioux County Attorney, Tom Kunstle, laid out the three options the Board could take with this, 1) decline to issue any bonds 2) motion to issue bonds with an election pursuant to 331.442(1) or 3) motion to issue bonds, agree Foundation funds will be used to pay the debt, and approve a loan from the general fund.

- Supervisor Bloemendaal stated he was more comfortable to run this process through an election process to let the citizens decide.
- Motion by Bloemendaal to issue bonds with an election. Motion died to lack of support.
- Supervisor Degen stated that he feels there is support from the citizens for the Nature Center, and it would be an educational center. Hundreds of people have been turned down over the last few years requesting to attend an educational program due to the lack of this kind of facility. He further stated that bringing this to a vote of the citizens is a waste of time and money.
- Motion by Degen to issues bonds to agree that Foundation funds will be used to pay the debt, and approve a loan from the general fund, supported by Kleinwolterink.

Discussion: Chairman Sybesma asked what the total liability would be to the County for these bonds? Sybesma requested to see the pledge cards, but Pottebaum stated that those pledges are confidential. Chairman Sybesma stated that figuring conservatively, 90% of the 2.2 million in pledges will be fulfilled, and add the gap in funding of \$666,000 to that, to know a rough estimate of the risk involved.

Lee Plasier was present for this meeting, and he urged the Board to decline the request of 1.8 million in funding for the nature center. He stated that banks are equipped to determine the adequacy of collateral for funding of this kind of project and not the County Board of Supervisors. Further, he is happy to pay his city and county taxes for law enforcement, roads, bridges, and other necessities. He stated he is all for a nature center but objects to the County guaranteeing County funds to this project.

Carl Vande Weerd asked what the County does for education? Chairman Sybesma explained the 1% Local Option Sales Tax and how that benefits cities and schools, and helps reduce the tax burden on residents. Vande Weerd believes the nature center is a good investment in youth education.

Roll Call on Vote: Wright, Yes; Bloemendaal, No; Degen, Yes; Kleinwolterink, Yes, Sybesma, No. Motion carries 3 to 2.

9) Anita Van Bruggen, Sioux County Recorder, distributed the Recorder's Quarterly Report for Board information.

10) The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 30, 2018.

 Mark Sybesma, Chairman
 Sioux County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
 Ryan Dokter
 Sioux County Auditor