

Scott County Board of Supervisors
April 30, 2019 8:00 a.m.

The Board of Supervisors met as a committee of the whole and pursuant to adjournment with Maxwell, Beck, Knobbe, Croken and Kinzer present.

Jason Gordon, Chairman, Greater Davenport Redevelopment Corporation (GDRC), introduced members of the GDRC Board and the new Executive Director, Roy Wennlund.

Wennlund gave an overview of the Eastern Iowa Industrial Center and said for 20 years the GDRC has been a successful public-private consortium. He said a lot of effort went into obtaining State of Iowa certification of the Center, which insures that sites are ready for business. He said the Center has utilities, is in the right location and has a trans-load facility. He said one of the objectives for further expansion is to acquire property owned by the Shriners which would be a natural extension of the Center. He noted the Center has induced \$475,000,000 of investment, almost 1,300 jobs, and building construction on 3.7 million square feet on 366 acres generating \$135,000,000 in assessed valuation. He said that annually the Center creates \$781,000,000 in total community economic impact, \$50.6 million in annual payroll, and 1,266 new jobs were created plus the associated 2,170 support jobs. He said the Center is an important part of the community and the County, generating a lot of economic impact and the GDRC would like to keep it moving and continue with support from the County.

Supervisor Maxwell asked how much room is left and what are the next plans.

Wennlund said currently about 72 acres are available.

Tim Huey, Planning and Development Director and GDRC Board member, said that the property owned by Shriners is the best area for expansion.

Wennlund said the City of Davenport is in the early planning stages to identify a location for a second industrial park, and besides marketing the Industrial Center, the next plan is to assist the city in finding this new location.

Supervisor Kinzer asked if there has been any thoughts about going to the smaller communities in Scott County that have sites available.

Wennlund answered that the GDRC Board has not had conversations about Blue Grass or Walcott but he thinks the Board would be receptive to them and that Tim Huey is a great resource on what is going on in the rest of the County.

Jon Burgstrum, County Engineer, reviewed routine road closures for the Quad City Triathlon and the Quad City Air Show, both happening in June. He said the County cooperates with sponsors, furnishes barricades to close the roads during parts of the air show and parts of the triathlon and that the Sheriff also coordinates with the two groups.

Croken asked who is unhappy when the roads are closed.

Burgstrum said he has not really received any complaints and that it is a very short-term closure for the triathlon.

Burgstrum reviewed the proposals for pavement preservation, crack filling. He said staff identified six road sections that need to have crack filling right away and there will be more to come in the fall. He said two bids came back with Illowa Investments out of Blue Grass being the low bid.

Burgstrum also reviewed proposals for widened crack repair and recommends the low bid from Illowa Investments. He noted that Illowa has a piece of specialized equipment that can apply this type of material.

Kinzer asked about the word estimated after the stated price on both of the resolutions.

Burgstrum said staff and vendors examined the cracks, estimated total length, and that the final price will be based on what is actually filled. He said there may be some they do not fill to avoid making them wider by routing, and the estimated cost might be different than final cost. He said the price is based on the estimated amount of cracking on the 4.3 miles of road, but the contracted unit prices will determine the final cost.

Supervisor Knobbe said the Board would like to know the final prices.

Supervisor Beck asked if Illowa understood the scope of the work and asked if the vendors were bonded.

Burgstrum said Illowa understood the scope of work, and for work like this, vendors are not typically bonded but have liability insurance. He said with major construction bonding is required. He said Illowa is well known and well respected and have been in business a long time and he does not expect any problems.

Croken said the resolution should be edited to say plus or minus 10 percent to not interrupt work if the price goes over.

Burstrum said maybe the Board should approve the unit prices to lock those in and the final amount is based on the unit prices.

Croken asked how effective the filling is when the crack widens and becomes a hole.

Burgstrum answered that filling is the first line of defense for pavement preservation when the road starts to crack. He said fillings usually hold pretty well, but pavements continue to move and flex, and cracks may stay sealed in some places and open up in others and grow and become longer. He said this type of material holds very well.

Burgstrum reviewed a resolution for consulting services. He said several vendors were interviewed, out of this group two vendors were selected, and that this is the third time his Department has gone out for design of bridges or culverts.

Angela Kersten, Assistant County Engineer, said that the three projects are for a pending federal bridge grant. She said the projects are in the five-year program and will be reconstructed regardless of the funding, so they are proceeding on the designs. She said they believe that IIW submitted a very technical and thorough proposal, at a slightly lower cost than Calhoun-Burns.

Supervisor Maxwell thanked Kersten for coming to the last Board meeting and explaining issues with gravel roads. He said one of the questions he gets and that he would like an answer to is the annual amount of gravel that goes on roads.

Burgstrum said he gets the same complaints, but that he has never seen the issue as widespread as this year. He said the roads have had frost boils before, but some of the people were not residing on those roads in the past, and that the misconception is that the soft and muddy roads are due to lack of maintenance or improper maintenance. He said it is a geotechnical issue that has to do with frost under the road. He said the Department has not cut the budget on rock, but actually increased it over the last 10 years. He said delivery of rock to the roads is weather based and the seasonal nature of being able to get the rock on the roads. He said he asked to amend the budget to increase the amount of rock for the year.

Burgstrum also reviewed a bridge replacement project and said County staff will do the work and use precast Portland cement concrete beams.

Kersten said the project is in the FY19 bridge program and that Oden Enterprises and Forterra Concrete Products bid on the project with Oden being the low bid at \$65,617.04. She said this product has been used on previous projects and that it performs very well.

Croken asked if this is a replacement, rather than laying new over the current bridge.

Kersten answered that existing bridge and timber pilings will be demolished.

Croken asked what adjustments need to be made for the new bridge, in light of the General Assembly's decision to raise weight limits for both agriculture and logging.

Kersten said they are still analyzing that and the bridge itself will be designed to current load rating standards and they will have to determine whether bridges will need to be posted for the new limits.

Burgstrum said the bridges may have to be reevaluated. He said consultants have expensive software which can evaluate any truck and load configuration and the type of bridge to determine whether the bridge will sustain that load. He said he has used them

before to run an analysis on a case-by-case basis, depending on the route and when a certain specific load is going to cross a specific bridge. Burgstrum said it is difficult and expensive to build a bridge to a possible extra heavy load in a certain configuration.

Tim Huey, Planning and Development Director, reviewed the second and final reading of an ordinance to rezone 1.46 acres in Pleasant Valley Township.

Huey also reviewed the second of three readings of an ordinance for the City of Davenport's request to amend Chapter 36 of the Scott County Code.

Huey then reviewed the acknowledgement and approval of the addition of the Valley View Farms Subdivision to the geographical boundaries of the Park View Water & Sanitary District. He said this was a condition approved by the Planning Commission and the Board at both the preliminary and the final plat stages.

Chris Still, F&SS Maintenance Coordinator, reviewed a design services recommendation. He said looking at the condition of the outside of the Administrative Center, they believe it is necessary to move forward with the project as quickly as possible to replace windows and repair the building exterior prior to severe winter weather. He explained the breakdown of the proposal: 7,600 square feet of windows is at \$77 per square foot for an estimated cost of \$585,200; 13,870 square feet wall insulation and cladding system at \$40 per square foot for an estimated cost of \$554,800; and 6,530 square feet of brick tuck pointing at \$9 per square foot for an estimated cost of \$58,700. He said the total estimated cost is \$1,198,770, with a ten percent contingency of \$119,877, 7.25 percent architectural fees of \$91,255 and reimbursable expenses estimated at \$4,500. He also said that the costs for roof coping is not included in the quote.

Maxwell asked Farmer to explain funding for the project.

Farmer said the funding for the project will come out of two funds. He said the general fund risk management account is paying \$150,000 for the work being done now for removal of the current cladding which presents a possible tort liability. He said \$450,000 had been set aside in FY21/22 capital budget for the windows project that will be moved up to this year. He said that the County never plans projects to take the capital projects fund to zero. He said the plan is to move \$500,000 of future funding and current fund balance forward two fiscal years in order to make this work.

Still said they will have to coordinate with the Departments during the construction and that the railroad has certain requirements that the County will have to take into account. Still also said the new windows will be much more energy efficient.

Mary Thee, Human Resources Director, reviewed the hiring of William Trich for the position of part-time Custodial Worker in Facility & Support Services at the entry level rate, the hiring of Ann Martin for the position of Building Inspector in the Planning & Development Department at the entry level rate, the hiring of Kershanna Harris for the

position of Public Health Nurse in the Health Department at the entry level rate, the hiring of Karlee Schliesman for the position of Corrections Officer in the Sheriff's Office at the entry level rate and the hiring of Robert Jackson for the position of Bailiffs Sergeant in the Sheriff's Office at mid-point.

Kinzer asked if this is the same scenario as the previous employee requesting to go part-time.

Thee said no, that Jackson retired from the Sheriff's Office in September and, for IPERS purpose, he has to stay out of employment for four months before he comes back so he does not mess up his pension. Thee said he is coming back at a different position.

Shawn Roth, Chief Deputy, reviewed the purchase of rifles for the Sheriff's Office. He said the Sheriff received 13 bids for replacement rifles ranging from \$60,000 to \$147,000 and that a team of deputies who are firearms instructors reviewed the bids. He said there was a wide variety in the quality of the rifles but they narrowed the list to two bids that met the specifications. He said the team got demonstrations with some shooting. Roth said that ultimately they decided to recommend LMT Machine and Tool Company out of Milan, Illinois. He said the firm is relocating to Eldridge. He said LMT would send five of the instructors to armorer school locally and if the County has issues with the guns that customer service is local. Roth also said the bid is for just over \$80,000 and with an original budget of \$86,000.

Beck asked if this would replace all of the rifles.

Roth said it would replace most of them, but that some of the rifles are from a military program and would be returned back to the military. He said that if the County does not offer an employee buyback, then the weapons will be exchanged with the dealer.

Croken asked if every deputy has a semi-automatic rifle.

Roth said that currently no.

Croken asked if everyone will have one available to them with this purchase.

Roth said yes.

Croken asked how often they actually need that level of firepower.

Roth answered that he would love to say never but that he does not have that answer. He said he would hate for the Sheriff's Office to need them and not have them.

Croken said he would be delighted if all of the current guns would be destroyed.

Roth described the bid tabulation sheet from the purchasing division.

Knobbe asked what the rationale was for selecting LMT and not the low bid.

Roth said it was the quality of the product. He said that some of the companies did not manufacture the weapons but were a third-party vendor, and that some of the weapons were a Frankenstein gun, a combination of multiple different companies putting parts together. He said the team was not comfortable with that warranty wise, and in long-term this is a 15 to 20 year investment in the rifle and the team did not want 16 different manufacturers. He said the team preferred just one rifle from just one company.

Croken said he is delighted they chose an in-county provider.

David Farmer, Budget and Administrative Services Director, reviewed a FY19 Budget Amendment. He said the notice of the public hearing will be in tomorrow's editions of the Quad City Times and the North Scott Press. He said Public Safety and Legal Services increased \$665,692, mostly from an increase in JDC and the Sheriff's Office. He said they an influx in Jail and Juvenile Detention services, extradition of prisoners and placing individuals out of County, adult females and juveniles remanded over to adult jail and higher grocery costs. He also noted that \$39,280 for the Attorney's Office is related to the change in venue for the Liggins trial.

He said Physical Health and Social Services increased \$30,079 mostly relating to an over-hire for the Veterans Affairs Director position for about six weeks.

He said Environment and Education decreased about \$4,000 due to a benefits review and a correction of the February amendment for the Library.

He said Roads and Transportation increased \$384,447, but that this is in operating services and not including capital. He said when the decrease of \$445,000 in capital is included it is actually a net decrease of about \$60,000.

He said Government Services to Residents increased \$41,477, which includes a correction for elections equipment maintenance, poll worker salaries for special elections and the reallocating of a contingency set aside.

He said Administration increased \$349,747 relating to inter-program funds which serves Administration, Attorney, IT, FSS, Human Resources, Supervisors and Treasurer.

He said Capital Projects increased \$3,339,141, with the bulk of that money relating to the SECC radio infrastructure project and the windows and cladding project.

He said Debt Services increased \$6.6 million, which is partly the issuance of debt and partly the calling and defeasance of the 2009 bonds.

Farmer noted that revenues increased about \$400,000.

He said he expects the unassigned fund balance of the General fund to decrease by about \$847,000 which if all funds are expended results in a 16.2 percent fund balance. He said he anticipated that not all funds will be expended and that the balance will be closer to 18 or 19 percent.

Farmer also reviewed 2019 Slough Bills for properties located in the Cities of Davenport and Bettendorf.

Mahesh Sharma reviewed a beer/liquor license renewal for Argo General Store.

Croken reviewed a resolution he drafted that staff revised regarding the creation of an ad hoc task force on commercial development. He said he is requesting the creation of a task force similar to the GDRC and be a group that decides what it might take, who the players are, how we might proceed and where we go from here with the development of commercial property in the County.

Maxwell asked how this is different than Quad Cities First or Chamber of Commerce.

Croken said they are not interested in commercial development and that it is not their focus right now.

Beck said he does not agree with what Croken said regarding how they interpreted the rezoning and wanting it to remain commercial. He said the resolution forming an ad hoc committee is putting the County in a real estate marketing position, which, over the years, has been given to Quad Cities First to do. Beck also said they previously spent a lot of time on updating the future land use map.

Croken said nothing in the resolution limits it to a specific property.

Knobbe asked about discussions Croken has had with the County Planning and Development Director.

Croken said he has not had any discussions with Mr. Huey on this topic.

Knobbe asked why not.

Croken said it was appropriate to bring it here first and if the Board is not interested, there is no purpose.

Maxwell said development follows sewer and that developments are going to places that have sewer systems available.

Kinzer said to protect the farm land, he did not support the rezoning, and that the County pays a fee to the GDRC and the Quad Cities Chamber to promote the County. He also said this task force would compete with the Chamber, would add staff and would burden current staff.

Croken said fiscal responsibility is more than saying no and that the County needs to broaden its tax base.

The Board heard from Sergeant Bill Hyde and Sergeant Shaun McDonough appearing on behalf of the fourteen jail sergeants currently employed by Scott County. Hyde said they came to the Board on February 14th to address issues in response to the PCSC salary study. Hyde gave a timeline of requests and meetings and responses from Mary Thee and Administration. He said in the response they were given there were major areas they were looking at correcting, and in the Sergeant's eyes, major issues with the salary study that were not being addressed. He said those issues included the disparity in step increases for sergeants versus the officers they supervise and paid time off (PTO) vacation hours.

He said on the new pay plan the officers are going to be a ten step process with four percent increases for each step plus a cost of living increase as compared to a 14 step process for the Sergeants. He said that a brand new officer coming in on the PTO system versus the vacation system is getting 48 hours more off per year than he will, and he has been at the County for 13 years.

He said the County is trying to address wage compression for future officers being promoted but that makes no difference to the fourteen sergeants he and McDonough are speaking for. He said the PTO versus vacation steps were deemed unfair by the County and the sergeants were told that maybe down the road it would be an option but it would be unfair to give it just to the sergeants instead of to the entire County.

Hyde said that the study shows line corrections officers are considered public safety but the study does not identify the sergeants as public safety. He said they understand it is not fiscally responsible to the Scott County taxpayer to increase their paychecks by 31 percent, but that they want the same benefits that line officers have. He said they want to know why line staff is being treated differently when they all work in the same facility, wear the same uniform but the sergeants have increased responsibilities.

He said that in the future, they want to pull up the best candidates for promotion and want the best backup to the situations they have to go to. He said they are requesting this be put on as an agenda item for the Board meeting.

Maxwell asked what the alternative options would be.

Hyde reviewed the three requests.

Maxwell said regarding the PTO versus vacation he struggles with this applying to all the County employees and that really opens up a can of worms. He said that part for him has not really changed much.

Mary Thee said that the vacation schedules will change July 1st for bargaining groups. She said the PTO program was to address absenteeism and short term call-ins.

McDonough said when you use sick time at the County it goes against you or counts as an incident against you on your annual evaluation.

Kinzer asked for an explanation.

Thee said that currently if an employee has so many absences, it affects the scoring on the performance evaluation.

Kinzer asked how many hours do the sergeants work.

Hyde said that for 12 of the 14 sergeants, they work 12 hours a day. Hyde said that if any of the Board has any questions or needs additional numbers or information to send him or McDonough an email.

Croken asked of the two issues, the 10 versus 14 progression and the PTO/vacation issue, which is more important to the sergeants.

McDonough said some are more passionate about time off and some are more passionate about if they max out at 10 years it will look great for their IPERS. He also said this is part of the issue when you have five officers out of sixty put in for promotion when they have several sergeants set to retire in the upcoming years. He said this is a way to make the job a little bit more appealing.

Sheriff Lane said deputies and corrections officers are on a ten year scale, deputy sergeants are on an eight year scale and corrections sergeants, lieutenants and captains are on a 14 step scale. He asked how long are they expected to work here, and that he does not believe this is what PCPS is recommending around the country. He said he asked for examples from PCPS and for an explanation of their results. He said the overall pay scale of the Sheriff's Office is a hindrance to leading the Office because he constantly promotes people to pay cuts and that he wants the issue resolved.

Croken asked if they can get a resolution reflecting these issues.

Thee said PCSP had two public safety salary scales, that she has to look at all 500 employees and that the sergeants are being treated the same as all of the other non-represented employees. She said she does not recommend the Board deviate from the PCSP recommendations in any way.

Kinzer said that the salary study is a template and can be amended and that we should get away from 12 hour work shifts and have more correctional officers.

Croken requested a resolution that addresses the ten step scale issue for the corrections sergeants.

Knobbe said he would like the step and the PTO/vacation issues on separate resolutions.

The Board discussed recording Board meetings. Beck said there are three camps, those that say they need videotaping of the meetings, those that do not and a bunch in the middle that say it does not matter if they do or do not tape. He said he has not heard a single person come up to him to say they want videotaping of the meetings. Beck also said with the pending items coming up financially, he cannot see where they are spending this kind of money for the return of what they anticipate they are going to get and that he is going to vote no on the taping.

Croken said he wanted to remind his colleagues that earlier in this meeting they talked about how great it would be if everybody could hear how the County distributes gravel and repairs roads. He said he would also like to point out that the dollar amount that the Board received includes a substantial amount of staff time that is not overtime and that those costs do not go away if they do not do this project. He said it is a responsibility of government and the legislative intent that is clearly printed on the top of Chapter 21 is our goal is to make the rationale and the reasoning behind our decisions easily accessible and he said they are not easily accessible today. Croken also said he thinks it is our obligation to meet the higher standards and join the counties of similar size and stature and the future of participation and engagement.

Kinzer said this is something that was brought up by previous Board members. He said he would change the transparent word with convenient. He said the County is transparent, but not convenient and that if they were to move the meetings to a time where people could come, people would have the choice. He said he doesn't think videotaping is necessary, but if it is a package that comes with it, they need to move forward with this.

Kinzer discussed strategic planning sessions for the Partners of Scott County Watersheds.

Moved by Kinzer, seconded by Beck at 11:14 a.m. a motion to adjourn. All Ayes.

Tony Knobbe, Chair of the Board
Scott County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: Roxanna Moritz
Scott County Auditor