

Scott County Board of Supervisors  
February 18, 2020 8:00 a.m.

The Board of Supervisors met as a committee of the whole and pursuant to adjournment with Maxwell, Beck, Croken and Kinzer present. Vice Chairman Beck presided. Chairman Knobbe participated via telephone.

Angela Kersten, County Engineer, reviewed the purchase of roadside sprayer equipment. She said the Secondary Roads Department is seeking permission to purchase a truck bed mounted injection type roadside sprayer. She said the department was awarded a grant from the Iowa Living Roadway Trust Fund for up to \$15,000 toward the purchase of the sprayer. She said Brian Burkholder, the Roadside Vegetation Specialist, will be using the equipment. She said bids were solicited on the Scott County website public purchase portal, two bids were received and Spray-Land USA of Marion, Iowa was the low bid at \$19,575. She said the department will be reimbursed by the Iowa Living Roadway Trust Fund for \$15,000 and the remaining \$4,575 is in the FY20 road clearing budget.

Supervisor Croken asked if this spraying kills vegetation.

Burkholder said yes, that mainly they spray the gravel shoulders once a year on the paved roads. He said they also use it for spot spraying.

Supervisor Maxwell said certain products would kill certain vegetation, such as broadleaf weeds, and not kill the grass.

Croken asked Burkholder how we would know that the spray is not getting into the water and killing something unintended.

Burkholder answered that it would all depend on the products that are used. He said the products he uses do not run or move and that they used the products last year and had great results.

Supervisor Kinzer asked if the County could buy directly from Hardi as a local manufacturer.

Burkholder said notices were sent to many vendors, and he thought Hardi works directly with farmers.

Maxwell said Hardi makes farm pull behind sprayers, not truck bed models.

Barb Pardie, Fleet Manager, reviewed purchase of a brush chipper for Secondary Roads, as the current chipper is past its life expectancy. She said that Vermeer and Morbark are the only two firms producing the type of chipper needed. She said the department had demonstrations of the diesel and the gas models, and the diesel engines cost \$20,000 more than the gas ones. She said the low bid and best

performing model came from Vermeer Iowa & Northern Missouri located in Tipton, Iowa. She said the bid included a \$22,000 trade-in allowance. She said the unit price minus the trade-in allowance came to a total purchase price of \$37,340.

Pardie reviewed the purchase of two, 20 foot, tilt deck trailers for Secondary Roads. She said three trailers in the fleet are way beyond their life expectancy, and one replacement trailer was purchased in 2018. She said bids went out for two trailers and there was a 13 percent increase from the trailer purchased in 2018. She said the low bid came from Rexco Equipment for a total purchase price of \$16,775. She said that Rexco was the company which provided the trailer bought in 2018.

Croken asked what becomes of the three obsolete pieces of equipment.

Pardie said they will go to auction for public surplus which is open to the public.

Croken said he thought the County should have a more assertive communication relationship with the public rather than just notices published in official newspapers. He suggested a county newsletter which could be mailed or sent by email.

Supervisor Knobbe said that the County allows anyone to sign up for various notifications on the County website, such as for vehicle auctions.

Beck said that letting individuals sign up for notifications made sense and was less intrusive than sending emails to everyone, even those with no interest.

Kinzer said that maybe a special communication could be made to the smaller communities which might not be able to afford new equipment and may want to bid on used equipment.

Pardie reviewed purchase of a transit van with installed prisoner compartments for the Sheriff's Office. She said another transit van had the prisoner compartments not professionally installed, and that the installation rattled and created so much noise that no one wanted to use it. She said there were three acceptable bids, and the low bid came from Courtesy Ford of Davenport, Iowa for \$55,326.75. She said cost of the installation will be paid from the Sheriff's Department auxiliary equipment fund. She said it will take 16 weeks for delivery and another month before being put into service.

Croken asked why delivery would take so long.

Pardie said that this vehicle would be built from specifications and charged at a lower cost government rate which create the longer delivery time.

Supervisor Beck said the vehicle fleet seems very focused on the Ford and asked how many of these are in the fleet.

Pardie said there is one and one is being replaced. She said the other transit vans are Grand Caravans. She said this new one is a lot bigger, holding 12 prisoners, and has three different compartments to separate different classifications of prisoners. She said she writes the specs to include other models.

Mahesh Sharma, County Administrator, reviewed a tax suspension request.

Richard Bauer, Elections Supervisor, reviewed 2019 School Boards and Municipalities election assessments. He said the resolution is for reimbursement of the election costs. He said this was the first time Scott County had combined school and city elections, and most of the districts saw some cost savings. He noted that the City of Davenport bore the whole cost of the Primary Election.

Supervisor Knobbe asked how are the costs allocated when there is a combined election, and are the costs based on population.

Bauer answered that costs are allocated based on percentage of registration totals for each district. He said that state law requires setting voter registration totals on May 1st.

Maxwell asked how it worked out for poll workers dealing with the variety of ballot types.

Bauer said that the poll workers did very well. He said the Pleasant Valley School District actually saw an increase in costs due to having multiple supervisor districts in Bettendorf.

David Farmer, Budget and Administrative Services Director, reviewed a memo regarding the public hearing on Thursday that sets the maximum proposed tax levy. He said notice of the hearing was published in the papers on February 5th and was posted on the County website. He said the Board will approve that maximum tax levy on Thursday. He said that two other resolutions on the agenda are setting public hearings for March 19, 2020 for the FY21 budget and an FY20 budget amendment. He said what is published in the papers for the public hearing will be higher than what has been discussed during budget sessions for the past month.

Farmer said he does not have the detail on the budget amendment public hearing yet and said he will work that out in two weeks with a corresponding memo.

Croken asked when would the public hearing be during the meeting.

Farmer said it would be at the beginning of the Board 5:00 p.m. meeting.

Beck asked if the Board would be considering one more budget amendment for FY20 after the amendment in March.

Farmer said correct, and that for FY20 this will be the second amendment due to having one amendment in August when issuing bonds.

Sharma reviewed a resolution recognizing February as Black History Month and reviewed routine Board appointments.

Beck said he and Supervisor Knobbe recently were in Des Moines meeting with legislators where they discussed Mental Health funding and zoning issues.

Moved by Maxwell, seconded by Kinzer at 8:37 a.m. a motion to adjourn. All Ayes.

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

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ATTEST: Roxanna Moritz  
Scott County Auditor