

Scott County Board of Supervisors  
January 7, 2020 8:00 a.m.

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

Barbara Pardie, Fleet Manager, reviewed approval of the purchase of a used car for the Sheriff's Office. She said this would be for the insurance replacement of an unmarked 2016 Dodge Charger that was involved in an accident that totaled the vehicle. She said since the value of the replacement was \$21,000, she needed to go with a used replacement. She said she found a 2017 Chrysler Pacifica van at Brad Deery Motors in Maquoketa, Iowa for \$20,626 with 13,733 miles on it. She said it was a manufacturer's buy-back and has a new transmission. She said she put down a \$500 deposit.

Angela Kersten, County Engineer, reviewed the construction contract for Bridge Replacement Project No. L-223--73-82 on 305<sup>th</sup> Street, over McDonald Creek, which would be a 100' x 30' continuous concrete slab bridge replacement approximately one mile east of Scott Park Road. She said the low bid was received from Jim Schroeder Construction of Bellevue, Iowa in the amount of \$480,437.42. She noted that the firm had built several bridges for Scott County over the years and that it is an exceptional company that builds quality and equitable bridges.

Supervisor Kinzer asked if there were only three bidders.

Kersten answered yes and said she sent out plans and specs to 10 to 15 companies.

Supervisor Croken asked if the bridge would be built somewhere else and then moved.

Kersten said no, it would be built on site and would consist of one poured solid concrete slab.

Kersten also reviewed a memo regarding appointment of an Assistant County Engineer, and her request to add the appointment to the Board agenda. She said due to the timing of interviews around the holidays and allowing the selected candidate time to consider the offer, she requested to add the item to the agenda to expedite the hiring process. She said she recommends appointing Elliot Pennock as Assistant County Engineer at the midpoint salary range of \$93,932.80 and also recommends that he accrue an annual vacation leave credit of 160 hours. She reviewed Pennock's education and work qualifications and said he would be able to commence work as Assistant County Engineer immediately upon hire with minimal training and would be an asset to the department.

Kinzer asked if the position was posted and were several applicants interviewed.

Kersten said there were five applicants for the position and it was posted for three weeks. She said interviews were offered to all five applicants and three responded.

Croken asked if there were any internal applicants.

Kersten said no, and that no one on staff was qualified due to the requirement of a four-year Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering.

Supervisor Beck noted that Pennock does not have his P.E. license.

Kersten said correct, that he has sat for it and has to work underneath a professional engineer for four years after obtaining a degree. She said Scott County requires the license within five years of employment. She said she discussed the requirement with Pennock and that obtaining the license would be one of his goals.

Supervisor Knobbe said he presumes, since Pennock has worked with Clinton County for the past nine years, Kersten and former Engineer Jon Burgstrum had conversations with him regarding his experience.

Kersten said she has personally worked with him on joint projects and also worked together as needed for project inspection when either county was short staffed.

Kinzer said that he thought five years to obtain licensing was quite long and that the Board may want to review the time frame for possibly shortening it.

Kersten said the five year requirement was designed to allow recent engineering graduates time to obtain the license. She said that he could possibly earn the license in less than five years.

Mary Thee, Human Resources Director, said this would be added to the Board agenda for Thursday, January 9, 2020.

Croken asked if new staff hired to significant positions, such as assistant county engineer, could be invited to appear before the Board prior to the Board approving the employment.

Thee said that some people would need to travel long distances to appear before the Board.

Mahesh Sharma, County Administrator, said that the item came to the Board in this manner due to the recommendation to hire at the midpoint range and extra vacation time.

Beck said that he agreed with the idea of new hire visiting with the Board so long as it is clear that such an appearance is not a final interview.

Thee reviewed the hiring of Doug Sell for the position of part-time Custodian in the Facility & Support Services Department at the entry level rate.

Sharma reviewed routine items recognizing Vern Harvey for his years of service on the Beautification Foundation, recognizing January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, recognizing January as Mentoring Month - Big Brothers - Big Sisters and the beer/liquor license renewal for Big 10 Mart #29.

Moved by Croken, seconded by Beck at 8:17 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