



**Planning & Development
Scott County, Iowa**

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Administrative Center
600 West Fourth Street
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To: Mahesh Sharma, County Administrator

From: Chris Mathias, Planning Director

Date: November 23, 2021

Re: Annual Re-Adoption of Master Matrix for review of Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO)

Nineteen years ago the Board of Supervisors first adopted the Master Matrix to allow Scott County's participation and input in the application process for new or expanded animal confinement feeding operations. Such operations which exceed certain capacity thresholds in Scott County are reviewed by the County to ensure that they meet state requirements for approval of a state construction permit. The IDNR rules require that a county annually adopt a construction evaluation resolution and submit it in the month of January to the State DNR to ensure continued participation. In order to be able to evaluate proposed sites for large confinement facilities submitted in 2022, counties must adopt these rules by resolution and notify the DNR by January 31, 2022.

As of now, the Board did not review any CAFO permits in 2021. The Board reviewed one CAFO permit in 2020 for Terry and Zach Ralfs for the expansion of their existing confined animal feeding operation, just south of Maysville. The Board reviewed one CAFO permit in 2019 for JT Cleona Pork and one in 2018 for JT Allens Grove Pork. Both were for new buildings for Grandview Farms feeder pig operation. The Board reviewed two CAFO permit applications each in 2017, 2016 and 2015. In 2017, the two applications were for expansions of the existing operations of Paustian Enterprises and Grandview Farms both in Hickory Grove Township. In 2015 and 2016 two different expansions of Grandview Farm's sow farm were reviewed and the other application reviewed in 2015 was for a hog finishing building on Jeff Paulsen's farm. The Board did not review any CAFO permit applications in 2014.

In 2013, the Board reviewed a CAFO expansion submitted by Dennis Kirby for his existing operation in Lincoln Township. In 2012 the Board reviewed two CAFO expansion applications for compliance with the Master Matrix, one for Grandview Farms in Sheridan Township and one for Paustian Farms in Cleona Township. In 2012, the Board also reviewed and recommended approval of a third application which was not an expansion and therefore did not have to be reviewed using the matrix criteria for the replacement of a nursery building on the Paustian farm.

The Board did not receive any proposed permits to evaluate in 2011. The year before that, 2010, the Board reviewed two applications, one submitted by Bryan Sievers for a Confined Cattle Feeding Operation on his family farm in Liberty Township. The other was submitted by Grandview Farms for an expansion of its existing hog confinement operation. The Board did not review any applications the year before in 2009. Previously there was one application in 2008 and 2007, and two applications for expanded CAFOs in Scott County in both 2006 and 2005 that were



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reviewed using the Master Matrix. Scott County also received two other applications in 2005 for expansions that were not large enough to trigger review under the Master Matrix criteria.

New or expanded confined animal feeding operations that reach IDNR established capacity thresholds in counties with adopted Master Matrix review must meet higher standards than other permitted sites. They must earn points on the master matrix by choosing a site and using practices that reduce impacts on the environment and the community. Participating counties must evaluate and make a recommendation on all construction permit applications submitted to the DNR or they forfeit the right to evaluate sites until the next sign-up period.

The Iowa DNR website <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Animal-Feeding-Operations> also has detailed information on the Master Matrix.

THE COUNTY AUDITOR'S SIGNATURE CERTIFIES THAT
THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON _____
DATE _____

SCOTT COUNTY AUDITOR

RESOLUTION

SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

December 9, 2021

APPROVAL OF THE ADOPTION OF A CONSTRUCTION EVALUATION

RESOLUTION AS PROVIDED BY IOWA CODE CHAPTER 459

BE IT RESOLVED by the Scott County Board of Supervisors as follows:

Section 1. Iowa Code section 459.304(3) sets out the procedure for a county board of supervisors to adopt a “construction evaluation resolution” relating to the construction of a confinement feeding operation structure.

Section 2. Only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution can submit to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) a recommendation to approve or disapprove a construction permit application for a confinement feeding operation structure.

Section 3. Only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution and submitted a recommendation will be notified by the DNR of the DNR’s decision on the permit application.

Section 4. Only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution and submitted a recommendation may appeal the DNR’s decision regarding a specific application

Section 5. By adopting a construction evaluation resolution the Board of Supervisors agrees to evaluate every construction permit application for a proposed confinement feeding operation structure received by the Board of Supervisors between February 1, 2022 and January 31, 2023 and submit a recommendation regarding that application to the DNR

Section 6. By adopting a construction evaluation resolution the Board of Supervisors shall conduct an evaluation of every construction permit application using the master matrix as provided in Iowa Code Section 459.305. However, the board’s recommendation to the DNR may be based on the final score on the master matrix or on other reasons as determined by the board of supervisors.

Section 7. The Scott County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts this Construction Evaluation Resolution in accordance with Iowa Code section 459.304(3) and designates the Scott County Planning and Development Department to receive such applications on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

Section 8. This resolution shall take effect immediately.