

The Board of Supervisors of Humboldt County, Iowa met at 8:30 a.m. on the 18th day of December 2017 with the following members present: Reimers, Mattes, Lee, Underberg and Pedersen. Absent: None.

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Moved by Mattes and seconded by Lee to approve the amended agenda for the December 18, 2017 Board meeting. All voting aye.

Moved by Underberg and seconded by Reimers to approve the minutes for the December 11, 2017 Board meeting. All voting aye.

Chairman Pedersen opened the meeting up for public concerns. Phil Naeve was present to discuss whether the county should maintain a tile in the ditch within the right of way. No official Board action was taken.

Alissa O'Connor, Humboldt County Development Director was present to give the Board an update and to request funding for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. No official Board action was taken.

Moved by Lee and seconded by Reimers to recess as the Board of Supervisors and convene as the Board of Trustees for DD#6 Main Tile & Branch B and DD#125. All voting aye.

Moved by Reimers and seconded by Lee to adjourn as the Board of Trustees for Drainage and reconvene as the Board of Supervisors. All voting aye.

Moved by Underberg and seconded by Mattes to cancel the Board meeting for the week of December 25, 2017 because of the Christmas Holiday, to email the claim list to the Board of Supervisors for that week and that the Clerk note a verbal count of approval/disapproval from the Board on such claims. All voting aye.

Moved by Mattes and seconded by Reimers to approve Resolution #2017-15, a Resolution regarding the Opioid Epidemic as follows:

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RESOLUTION #2017-15**

WHEREAS, Humboldt County is concerned with the recent rapid rise in troubles among Humboldt County citizens, residents, and visitors in relation to problems arising out of the use, abuse and overuse of opioid medications, which according to certain studies, impacts millions of people across the country; and

WHEREAS, issues and concerns surrounding opioid use, abuse and overuse by citizens, residents and visitors are not unique to Humboldt County and are, in fact, issues and concerns shared by all other counties in Iowa and, for that matter, states and counties across the country, as has been well documented through various reports and publications, and is commonly referred to as the Opioid Epidemic ("Opioid Epidemic"); and

WHEREAS, the societal costs associated with the Opioid Epidemic are staggering and, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, amount to over \$75 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute for Health has identified the manufacturers of certain of the opioid medications as being directly responsible for the rapid rise of the Opioid Epidemic by virtue of their aggressive and, according to some, unlawful and unethical marketing practices; and

WHEREAS, certain of the opioid manufacturers have faced civil and criminal liability for their actions that relate directly to the rise of the Opioid Epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County has spent money in unexpected and unbudgeted time and resources in its programs and services related to the Opioid Epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County is responsible for a multitude of programs and services, all of which require Humboldt County to expend resources generated through state and federal aid, property tax levy, fees and other permissible revenue sources; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County's provision of programs and services becomes more and more difficult every year because the costs associated with providing the Opioid Epidemic programs and services continue to rise, yet Humboldt County's ability to generate revenue is limited by strict levy limit caps and stagnant or declining state and federal aid to Humboldt County; and

WHEREAS, all sums that Humboldt County expends in addressing, combatting and otherwise dealing with the Opioid Epidemic are sums that cannot be used for other critical programs and services that Humboldt County provides to Humboldt County citizens, residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County has been informed that numerous counties and states across the country have filed or intend to file lawsuits against certain of the opioid manufacturers in an effort to force the persons and entities responsible for the Opioid Epidemic to assume financial responsibility for the costs associated with addressing, combatting and otherwise dealing with the Opioid Epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County has engaged in discussions with representatives of the law firms of Crueger Dickinson LLC, Simmons Hanly Conroy LLC, and von Briesen & Roper, S.C., (the "Law Firms") related to the potential for Humboldt County to pursue certain legal claims against certain opioid manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County has been informed that the Law Firms have the requisite skill, experience and wherewithal to prosecute legal claims against certain of the opioid manufacturers on behalf of public entities seeking to hold them responsible for the Opioid Epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firms have proposed that Humboldt County engage the Law Firms to prosecute the aforementioned claims on a contingent fee basis whereby the Law Firms would not be compensated unless

Humboldt County receives a financial benefit as a result of the proposed claims and the Law Firms would advance all claim-related costs and expenses associated with the claims; and

WHEREAS, all of the costs and expenses associated with the claims against certain of the opioid manufacturers would be borne by the Law Firms; and

WHEREAS, the Law Firms have prepared an engagement letter, which is submitted as part of this Resolution ("Engagement Letter") specifying the terms and conditions under which the Law Firms would provide legal services to Humboldt County and otherwise consistent with the terms of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County is informed that the Iowa State Association of Counties has engaged in extensive discussions with the Law Firms and has expressed a desire to assist the Law Firms, Humboldt County and other counties in the prosecution of claims against certain of the opioid manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County would participate in the prosecution of the claim(s) contemplated in this Resolution and the Engagement Letter by providing information and materials to the Law Firms and, as appropriate, the Iowa State Association of Counties as needed; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County believes it to be in the best interest of Humboldt County, its citizens, residents, visitors and taxpayers to join with other counties in and outside Iowa in pursuit of claims against certain of the opioid manufacturers, all upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Engagement Letter; and

WHEREAS, by pursuing the claims against certain of the opioid manufacturers, Humboldt County is attempting to hold those persons and entities that had a significant role in the creation of the Opioid Epidemic responsible for the financial costs assumed by Humboldt County and other public agencies across the country in dealing with the Opioid Epidemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Humboldt County authorizes, and agrees to be bound by, the Engagement Letter and hereby directs the appropriate officer of Humboldt County to execute the Engagement Letter on behalf of Humboldt County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Humboldt County shall endeavor to faithfully perform all actions required of Humboldt County in relation to the claims contemplated herein and in the Engagement Letter and hereby directs all Humboldt County personnel to cooperate with and assist the Law Firms in relation thereto.

The County Auditor shall forward a copy of this Resolution, together with the signed Engagement Letter, to the Law Firms at Erin Dickinson, Crueger Dickinson LLC, 4532 N. Oakland Ave., Whitefish Bay, WI 53211.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of December, 2017.

/s/Rick Pedersen
Rick Pedersen, Chairman
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

/s/Peggy J. Rice
Peggy J. Rice
Humboldt County Auditor

All voting aye.

Moved by Reimers and seconded by Lee to authorize the Chairman to sign an Engagement Letter with Simmons Hanly Conroy LLC, Crueger Dickinson LLC and von Briesen & Roper, s.c. for representation on the Opioid Epidemic. All voting aye.

The Board held a public comment period on wind energy towers in Humboldt County, there were 24 people present and 7 spoke either for, against or neutral on having wind energy towers. No official Board action was taken.

Ben Loots, Interim County Engineer spoke with the Board concerning some Secondary Road matters that need to be considered when the Board puts an Ordinance together for wind energy towers. No official Board action was taken.

Committee Reports:

Reimers	12/15	Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center, Eldora
Pedersen, Mattes	12/14	Humboldt County Housing
Mattes	12/15	Second Judicial District, Webster City
Lee	12/13	Workforce Development, Fort Dodge
Underberg, Pedersen	12/11	Public Safety Meeting
Pedersen	12/12	Motorola Company, LEC Equipment
	12/13	Humboldt County Development

Moved by Reimers and seconded by Lee to adjourn at 11:11 a.m. All voting aye.

Peggy J. Rice
Auditor

Rick Pedersen
Chairman