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MAQUOKETA SENTINEL-PRESS

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IN THIS ISSUE

Freshman Softball team 20-0



Page 16

Local	Pages 2-3
Editorial	Pages 4-5
Family	Pages 6-7
Sports	Pages 14-16
Obituaries	Page 19
Classifieds	Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee

SUPPLEMENTS

- Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee
- Menard's

Due to a varying numbers of supplements purchased by our advertising customers for insertion in *The Maquoketa Sentinel-Press*, subscribers in some areas may not receive all the supplements listed.

PUBLIC NOTICES

- JC Sheriff Sale
 - Countrywide Home Loans vs. William J. Schmitz et al
- Maquoketa School Board
 - June 8, 2009 joint meeting
 - June 8, 2009 meeting
- Maquoketa City Council
 - June 15, 2009 meeting
- Andrew School Board
 - June 8, 2009 meeting
- MMEU
 - May 12, 2009 meeting

Pages 17, 18 & 20



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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

- Jackson County
- City of Maquoketa
- City of Andrew
- City of Baldwin
- City of Monmouth
- City of Delmar
- Delwood School District
- Maquoketa School District

District and college to share services

By KELLY GERLACH

The Maquoketa Community School District will provide janitorial, grounds maintenance and emergency technology services for its new neighbor this fall.

School board members approved a 28-E agreement to provide support services for the Clinton Community College Maquoketa Campus during the 2009-10 school year.

Under the terms of the one-year agreement, school district personnel would clean the restrooms, classrooms, lounge and hallways of the college building. Offices would be cleaned and garbage would be removed.

The agreement provides this janitorial service an average of 15 hours per week at a cost of \$12,300 for the year.

The resulting increase in needed janitorial services proved a bonus for district custodian Doug Bock. Bock's contract was increased from 20 hours per week to 30.

The district grounds crew will be responsible for mowing the college's lawn on the same schedule as it mows the high school lawn. This task will cost \$1,000 per season but came with some reservations from Jerry Nelson, director of support services for the school district.

"I'm just real concerned that the mowing and trimming will be very labor intensive and a lot of hand-work, a lot of weed eating, a lot of push mowing," Nelson explained. "Snow removal shouldn't be a problem."

"If, before we get through the year, if mowing takes more time than we anticipate, we'll just ask (CCC) to adjust the fee," said District Superintendent Kim Huckstadt, adding that college representatives have been cooperative in past negotiations.

The agreement includes snow removal from the college's parking lots and sidewalks. Snow will be removed and sand and salt spread on the same schedule as the high school. The school district will be paid \$100 per snow removal plus the actual cost for sand and salt.

The Maquoketa school district will also provide emergency information technology (IT) services as needed in the new CCC building. This \$50-per-hour service would be utilized in such instances as computers not working at class time, situations in which CCC would not have time to send and IT person from Clinton to Maquoketa to fix the problem.

"My concern is that this not be a daily thing," cautioned school board member Anne Hawks.

The school district will bill the college four times per year for any expenses that are incurred.

The agreement runs from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Representatives from both educational institutions will meet each year to review and evaluate services and costs before renewing the agreement.

Board tours CCC building

The CCC Maquoketa Campus is scheduled to open this fall.

Because of the 28-E agreement and the budding partnership between the college and the Maquoketa Community School District, members of the school board had opportunity to tour the facility at the end of May.

The physical structure is completed. Furnishings and electronics were yet to be added and installed into the slate blue and cream interior.

"We've been told we blend in well with the new look of the high school," said CCC President Karen Vickers, who led the tour with Dean of Students Ron Serpliss. "Our goal was to blend in with the high school but not look exactly the same."

Walk through one of the side doors on the north or south side of the building and find the front desk on the west side of the building. CCC offices and a student/teacher

■ SERVICES,
Please turn to page 3



MSP photo by Kelly Gerlach

Maquoketa Community School Board members got their first opportunity to tour the inside of the new Clinton Community College Maquoketa Campus. The building is scheduled to open in time for classes to begin this August. District Superintendent Kim Huckstadt, board member Bill Schwenker and Director of Support Services Jerry Nelson are shown standing by the front desk, which will be the hub of operations in the building. Behind them is the hallway, which breaks off to the classrooms and computer labs.

It's official: Sups vote 3-0

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors this week made official what it has been planning the last several months—the revamping of its economic development efforts.

The supervisors on Tuesday, June 16, unanimously approved a resolution to lease the county's welcome center near Sabula to the Jackson County Tourism Association for \$1 a year.

And the supervisors entered into an agreement with the Maquoketa Area Chamber of Commerce to provide economic development services.

No comments were received at separate public hearings preceding the two votes.

The supervisors' actions will dissolve the Jackson County Economic Development Commission on June 30.

In its place, Stacy Driscoll, executive director of the chamber, will become the county's economic development director on July 1. She holds the same title for the City of Maquoketa.

Under the purchase-of-services agreement, the supervisors reached with the chamber board, the county will pay the chamber \$22,000 during the one-year duration of the contract.

In return, the chamber will provide at least 40 hours per month of economic development duties.

Services will include contacting prospective industries, assisting existing industries with job creation and retention and coordinating efforts with state and federal officials.

She is to report on her activities to the supervisors monthly.

The supervisors earlier expressed dissatisfaction with the direction on economic development has taken in the county and wanted to change its focus.

Supervisors felt that the economic development commission over-emphasized tourism and didn't put enough efforts into developing industries and other sectors with greater job creation.

The supervisors plan to form a new economic development board that will work with Driscoll.

Ellen Frantzen of Maquoketa, a member of the tourism association, said the economic development commission members should be thanked for their volunteer work over the past years.

In addition to leasing the welcome center, the supervisors this year allocated \$20,000 to the tourism association to help operate the center and another \$10,000 to help staff the center on a reduced-hours basis.

The center will be open only on weekends. Driscoll said the new hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

The supervisors also allocated \$5,000 each to the cities of Maquoketa and Bellevue to help support economic development.

The supervisors said Driscoll's services will be available to the smaller communities in the county as needed.

Driscoll, meanwhile, noted that she showed representatives of a prospective industry the county-

owned former S&H Fabricating building in Maquoketa this week.

In other business Tuesday, the supervisors approved a one-year lease agreement for continued use of a portion of 396th Street, which leads into Spruce Creek Park north of Bellevue.

The county will pay the estate of Catherine and Howard Droessler \$400 for public use of the 1,295-foot stretch of gravel road.

The road extends from the junction of 395th and 396th avenues north to the entrance of the county-owned park.

A 25-year lease between the Droessler estate and the Jackson County Conservation Board that was renewed in the 1980s expired on May 31 this year.

The supervisors previously discussed with Daryl Parker, executive director of the conservation board, the possibility of the county purchasing the right-of-way from the estate.

Parker said the heirs to the estate have expressed interest in selling the property, which supervisors said would have to be surveyed and appraised. No proposed purchase price has been set.

Board members noted that the road provides access not only to the park, which includes a boat ramp, dock facilities, a campground and picnicking facilities, but also to the Spruce Harbor Inn restaurant and to permanent and seasonal homes in the area.

Parker told the board Tuesday that he hopes the county can complete the purchase of the road in the next year.