

Approved Minutes Emmet County Board of Supervisors
March 24, 2020
Regular Meeting 9:00 a.m.
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: John Pluth, Chair
Jeff Quastad, Vice-Chair, Telephonically joined the meeting
Roger Hash, Telephonically joined the meeting
Tim Schumacher
Todd Glasnapp

Absent:

Chairperson, Pluth, called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Quastad, second by Schumacher, to approve the minutes from last week's meeting, also approving them for publication. All ayes, motion carried.

During public forum, Pluth informed the Board that he and Todd Glasnapp have daily meetings with local leaders on the COVID-19 situation. He reported that there are 105 confirmed cases in Iowa. First responders are in need of masks. ECCOG has closed to cash paying customers. Avera Hospital has went to a call in protocol for respiratory conditions. Avera will also be havin a drive thru screening area. Emergency Management is encouraging entities to apply for potential reimbursements due to expenses due to COVID-19. Deadline is 30 days from March 13, 2020. Auditor Amy M. Sathoff will be starting the process for Emmet County. All Officials need to encourage residents to follow the guidelines set out by the Trump Administration and the Iowa Department of Public Health.

Glasnapp reported that he attended NW IA Housing and everything is going well. Hash reported that he would be attending an Early Childhood meeting by Zoom. Hash also reported that the City of Estherville rejected bids last night for the pool. Schumacher reported that NW IA Planning met telephonically and nothing new. Schumacher also reported that RIDES is experiencing declining Medicare revenue.

Travis Fredericksen from Secondary Roads reported that Secondary Roads started putting gravel on the roads yesterday. They are busy fixing a tile broke on a road today and ditch cleaning will begin after it rains.

Walter Davis-Oeth reported that J-Craft has requested an extension on their deadline due to COVID-19. County Attorney Melanie Summers Bauler felt that a 2-week extension seemed reasonable. Fredericksen asked that the when Board finds issues out in the County that they utilize flags so that crews can easily find the area.

Davis-Oeth presented a Utility Permit Application from River Valley Telecommunications for a wide area around Wallingford. River Valley will be burying fiber optic cable 36" deep paralleling the road. All culvert crossings will be directional bored at a minimum depth of 60" below water line. Hand holes will be placed flush with the ground and warning signs placed along the row. Motion to approve the permit Schumacher, second by Glasnapp to approve the permit. All ayes, motion carried.

Davis-Oeth presented another Utility Permit application from Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative for a single overhead line installed along the north ROW line of 110th Street. The line will start at their existing underground line, approximately 3,770' west of 480th Avenue and continue east for approximately 3,100' to their existing line. Motion by Quastad, second by Hash to approve the permit. All ayes, motion carried.

At 9:30 a.m., Chair Pluth opened the public hearing for the FY2021 Emmet County Budget. Present was Auditor, Amy M. Sathoff, Emmet County Board members, Pluth, Quastad, Schumacher, Hash and Glasnapp. Media present were Ed Funston, Mike Tiedemann. There were no written comments received and no other members from the public were present for comments. The Board discussed why the Mental Health Levy decreased and it was due to County Social Services decreasing the Region's per capita rate. Motion by Glasnapp, second by Schumacher to close the public hearing. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Quastad, second by Glasnapp, to adopt Resolution 20-07A adopting the FY2021 Emmet County Budget as published. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Schumacher, Hash, Quastad, Glasnapp, Pluth. Nays: None. Full text of the Resolution is available in the Auditor's Office.

Emmet County Auditor Amy M. Sathoff presented a Temporary Change to the Emmet County Personnel Policy in order to comply with President Trump's Families First Coronavirus Response Act signed into law on 03/19/2020. The temporary change reads as follows:

Section 1. While Emmet County policy presently requires receipt of a excusal from work that is signed and dated by a medical care provider in the event of an absence that is three or more days in length, the Emmet County Board of Supervisors does hereby on this date temporarily suspend such policy on a case-by-case basis in order to decrease the burden on local health care providers and to prevent the further spreading of illness.

Section 2. In the case that an employee is under an order of quarantine from the Iowa Department of Public Health, or falls under the guidance to self-quarantine, and their supervisor approves, that employee will be placed on paid administrative leave.

Section 3. Non-essential employees that are sent home and are unable to work from home, with supervisor approval, will be placed on paid administrative leave.

Section 4. The Emmet County Board of Supervisors does hereby on this date approve these temporary changes to the Emmet County Policy Handbook until further notified.

Discussion was held regarding the change. Emmet County is following other counties by making this temporary change. Motion by Schumacher, second by Glasnapp, to approve the change. Quastad requested that the Supervisors receive a weekly update on who is receiving paid leave Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Schumacher, Hash, Quastad, Glasnapp, Pluth. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Emergency Management Director, Travis Sheridan presented Local Match Resolution 20-08 for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. This Resolution amends Emmet County's portion of the tornado siren project. It increases Emmet County's match requirement \$500 to a total of \$7,361.00. Motion by Glasnapp, second by Hash to adopt the resolution. Full text of the Resolution is available in the Auditor's Office. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Schumacher, Hash, Quastad, Glasnapp, Pluth. Nays: None.

Sheridan reported that keeping our essential services safe is critical and something we as county officials really need emphasize to residents is to stay at home if possible and practice social distancing.

Hash shared with the Board that the City of Estherville parks are open but the playground equipment is not.

The Board reviewed the following Manure Management Plans:

Owner	Facility Name	Facility ID#
Craig Nemmers	Nemmers Craig	57873
Jay Gunderson	J & R Inc.	62121
Thomas Olson	K&T Olson Swine Site 2	69213

Pluth adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Amy M. Sathoff, Emmet County Auditor &
Commissioner of Elections

John Pluth, Chairman