

Approved Minutes Emmet County Board of Supervisors
September 18, 2018, 9:00 a.m.
Regular Meeting
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: Bev Juhl, Chair
John Pluth, Vice-Chair
Jeff Quastad
Roger Hash
Tim Schumacher

Absent:

Juhl, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members present. Motion was made by Quastad, seconded by Hash, to approve the minutes from last week's meeting with a correction, also approving them for publication. All ayes, motion carried.

During public forum, Quastad stated that he had attended an IDDA (Iowa Drainage District Association) meeting. At the meeting, they were asked about pursuing legislation action for making it easier for drainage districts to get insurance. Quastad stated at the meeting they discussed that the Code addresses this already. He stated the Code is clear that we are not liable. He stated that he cannot see drainage districts being assessed for something they are already immune from. The Board discussed, that as Trustees of the drainage districts, their belief is they are protected under a blanket insurance policy.

At 9:10 a.m., it was moved by Schumacher, seconded by Hash, to go into closed session, pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 21.5.(1)(c). Roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Schumacher, Hash, Quastad, Pluth & Juhl, Nays: None. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting moved into closed session. It was moved by Quastad, seconded by Pluth, to move out of closed session. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting moved out of closed session. A motion was made by Quastad, seconded by Hash, that the Board directs the Zoning Administrator and County Attorney to file an enforcement pursuant to Article 22 of the Emmet County Zoning Ordinance. Roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Schumacher, Hash, Quastad, Pluth & Juhl. Nays: none. All ayes, motion carried. County Attorney, Doug Hansen stated that it would be next week before we can get this enforcement on file. Hansen also stated that the County is going to, at this point; proceed with a civil penalty against Central Bi-Products.

At 10:05 a.m., the Emmet County Fair Board, represented by Cami Paulson, Betty Fiddler & Britney Rosburg, Emmet County Extension Director, gave a post fair report. Paulson stated we had a good fair and a good turnout this year. Pluth passed on a comment he has heard from individuals that it was a very good fair and the fairboard has done an excellent job. Paulson presented each Board member with the entertainment costs at the fair for 2018, asking the Board if they would be interested in helping the fair out for their entertainment for next year's fair. Chair Juhl stated that we would wait until budget time to see if the Board can again help out on the fair's entertainment expenses. Paulson stated that this year they were selected as a Blue Ribbon Fair from the NW IA Region for County Fairs. Paulson stated that they would be back at budget time to re-visit with the Board about helping with costs for the entertainment for the fair in 2019.

Britney Rosburg, Extension Director for Emmet County, took the floor updating the Board on a proposed new fair building. She stated that the extension office is continuing to talk to the fairboard. They did get the blueprints and ideas from Worth County, who recently built a new building for their Extension, Fair, meeting rooms, etc. She will keep the Board informed on cost estimates when they are available.

It was moved by Pluth, seconded by Hash, to approve the Business Property Tax Credit (BPTC) applications for 2018 and also to approve the disallowed/retired BPTC's. All ayes, motion carried.

Emmet County Public Health presented their 2018 Wellness Clinic to the Board for their approval. It was moved by Schumacher, seconded by Quastad, to approve the Wellness Clinic for 2018 for Emmet County Employees as presented by Emmet County Public Health. All ayes, motion carried. The Wellness Clinic will be held on October 23, 2018. The County will cover the expenses of the blood panel and flu shot for any county employee and dependents covered by the county insurance.

Discussion of sirens at the campgrounds and shelters were next discussed. Present were Travis Sheridan, Emmet County's Emergency Management Director and Eric Anderson, Conservation Director. Recently Gregg Johnson approached Schumacher about sirens and emergency shelters at the campground. There is a shelter at both Tuttle Lake and Wolden Park. The Wolden Park's shelter could use some updating, including a new door. Anderson stated that there are no specifications that he is aware that have to be met for a shelter, because of a liability issue. He stated that shelter at Tuttle was built to the specifications of a bank vault back in the 80's. Anderson stated that the shelter at Wolden is not perfect, but it beats standing out in the wide open or staying in your camper.

Pluth asked if FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) grant dollars could be used for storm shelters. Sheridan stated that there are mitigation dollars out there, but in 2013, it was a problem with what was written in the mitigation plan. He stated that the 2018 Mitigation Plan would include the county parks and then they could go for the grants after that plan is approved by the State and FEMA. Sheridan stated that sirens are a good idea for these two campgrounds. He stated if placed at Tuttle, it could hopefully, reach the City of Dolliver.

Schumacher stated to Sheridan that it sounds like you have it covered for the sirens and we cannot let this issue die. Juhl stated that we are responsible for the campgrounds in our County. Schumacher said to get 2018 Mitigation Plan filed and go for it from there, if we need to match funds or pay the whole amount, we will do what we have to do. Sheridan stated that law enforcement are risking their lives to warn people of bad weather. He stated that you get down by Wolden and it is like being in a forest, without being able to see the sky.

Schumacher stated to Anderson to please do what you can on the shelter at Wolden Park. He suggested getting an estimate for costs to update the shelter. Anderson stated that we could certainly look into that and get back to the Board with some information.

At 10:30 a.m. Walter Davis-Oeth, Engineer, presented utility permits for approval. The first permit is along Hwy 4 at one of our intersections, by crossing 200th St going into DOT right-of-way with Interstate Power & Light/Alliant Energy Company. It was moved by Schumacher, seconded by Pluth at the recommendation of the Engineer, to approve the utility permit. All ayes, motion carried.

The second utility permit in for a single overhead line to provide service to a hog building in Section 32 of Denmark Township, starting at the intersection of 260th St and 530th Ave., then going East 2850' with Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative. It was moved by Quastad, seconded by Hash at the recommendation of the Engineer, to approve the utility permit. All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion on the upgrade of Level B roads to Level A Roads was held. Juhl stated that on June 6, 2017, the Board had made a motion and a second that any new confinement operation as of June 6, 2017, will have to pay ½ of the entire costs for upgrading of roads. Schumacher took over the discussion asking Davis-Oeth, where are you budget wise to handle these upgrades on the confinement site roads. Pluth stated that we are responsible for access to our roads. Davis-Oeth stated that we have agreed to the upgrades of a 50-50 split, and he has always made the request to upgrade a full mile and having hog confinement owner/operators participate in the costs. He stated there are level B roads that no one drives on and level B roads that no one drives on because it is a bad road.

Engineer stated that the level B Denmark road is hard to maintain in the winter. The road is a level A road up to a residence and then turns into a level B road. The road goes up and down in a vertical profile and ditches are shallow. He stated that it is not that it cannot be upgraded to a level A road, but it will take some work.

Engineer stated that we do have a responsibility to maintain the roads for traffic out there, that is why we settled on the 50-50 split of costs. Schumacher stated that it seems like we are being passed along, siting responsibility on level B road updates. Maybe a question is how many confinements does Emmet County want to have?

Engineer stated we have to deal with it as a County, on Level B roads, there should not be many people living out there, but we may have to relook in the next few years, who lives on these level B roads. Chair Juhl asked the question about a person who wants to build a new home on a level B road. Davis-Oeth stated that in Dickinson County, they just go ahead and update the road for the request.

Davis-Oeth, Engineer, reported on the County's bridges and roads. The bridges are where you would expect them to be. As soon as we get the guardrail up, we will open up the south bridge for use on N52. The north bridge is still under work and going to be closed for a while. He stated that on Neppel Hill Bridge, they have finished the dirt work on the east side and now we wait for the timeline for the dirt to settle. They have been doing the decking forms for the bridge. They will pour the entire deck in one day.

The Board tabled the ICTS (IA Counties Technology Services) Business Associates Agreement from ISAC for CSS (County Social Services) due to not receiving the information and will move it to next week's Agenda.

A motion was made by Pluth, seconded by Hash, to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

Colleen Anderson, Assistant to the Auditor

Bev Juhl, Chair