

Supervisors Room, Courthouse
Pocahontas, Iowa
August 4, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of Pocahontas County, Iowa, met in regular session pursuant to adjournment.

Due to the spread of COVID-19, all County buildings are open to the public by appointment only, making holding public meetings impossible. Since public meetings are an essential part in keeping the County operational, Pocahontas County will hold all public meetings electronically. The public was able to participate in the Board of Supervisors meeting held on August 4, 2020 by electronic means posted at the top of the Agenda.

Members present: Chairman, Jeffrey Ives; Supervisors, Clarence Siepker, Brent Aden, and Louis Stauter; and Auditor, Kelly Jepsen. Electronically: Supervisor, Ed Dewey; and Reporter, Erin Sommers.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Stauter, to approve two sets of minutes, dated July 28, 2020, as presented. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Siepker, seconded by Aden, to approve the tentative agenda as presented. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Siepker, to acknowledge receipt of Manure Management Plan: (1) Wheatley Turkey Farm – ID# 66824, NW NE, Sec. 25 Grant Township, with Bruce Wheatley as owner & contact person. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Moved by Siepker, seconded by Stauter, to reschedule the hearing for Annexation and Report of Engineers on DD 41, for Wednesday, September 9, 2020 starting at 10:00 a.m., at the Expo Center in Pocahontas, IA. Ayes all, motion carried.

Moved by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to schedule Jt. DD 63 Branch Main Tile hearing on proposed tile improvements for September 1, 2020 at 1:30 p.m., at the Ayrshire Community Center, Ayrshire, IA. Ayes all. Motion carried. The meeting will be available in-person and electronically.

Moved by Stauter, seconded by Dewey, to schedule a public hearing on a FY21 budget amendment for September 15, 2020 at 10:30 a.m., in the Supervisors Room in the Courthouse. Ayes all. Motion carried. The meeting will be available in-person and electronically.

Kelly Jepsen, County Auditor, advised of a small parcel of land owned by the County but is no longer used. After discussion, the Board requested Jepsen contact the adjacent land owner to see if they are interested in purchasing the property.

Jack Moellering, County Engineer, call in and advised that the N-28 project started today. The Board, Moellering, and Jim Hudson, Drainage Attorney, discussed tile concerns.

Weekly meetings: Siepker-NW Iowa Care Connections; Aden-Solid Waste, Board of Health, and DD 47 Br. F meeting with the city of Palmer; Ives-Met with Rolfe Mayor, DD 47 Br. F meeting with the city of Palmer, and Solid Waste; Stauter- Road concerns; and Dewey-no meetings. All Supervisors participated in the Department Head meeting.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Stauter, to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(c). Ayes all, motion carried.

At 10:50 a.m., the Board voted to come out of closed session with no action taken.

Motion made by Aden, seconded by Stauter, to not reconsider the final decision made during the DD 47 Br. F Completion hearing held on July 14, 2020. Ayes all, motion carried.

The Board direction Jim Hudson to write a response letter to David King.

The Board discussed moving into Phase 2: Entrances Open; Mitigation Strategies Maintained, of the County Facilities Reopening Plan. This phase of the plan would have the doors open to the public, but a mask would be required and social distancing maintained. Department heads would identify the number of visitors that would be allowed in their office at a time, and due to the flow of traffic, certain offices may need to maintain appointments. The Board will discuss the final plan with Department Heads.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Stauter, to release 75% of the claim for DD 62 Br. D to Luft & Son, Inc. with the remaining 25% released after the completion is approved.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Jeffrey K. Ives, Chairman

Kelly Jepsen, Auditor

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At 11:30 a.m., the Board of Supervisors of Pocahontas County, Iowa, met with Department Heads to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the spread of COVID-19, all County buildings are closed to the public, making holding public meetings impossible. Since public meetings are an essential part in keeping the County operational, Pocahontas County will hold all public meetings electronically. The public was able to participate by electronic means, posted at the top of the Agenda.

Members present: Chairman, Jeffrey Ives; Supervisors, Clarence Siepker, Brent Aden, and Louis Stauter; and Auditor, Kelly Jepsen. Department Heads present: Dereck Hebert, and Amy Johnson. Telephonically: Supervisor, Ed Dewey, Reporter, Erin Sommers; Department Heads: Sherri Miller, Orene Cressler, Jill Conlin, and Sue Reigelsberger.

The Board and the Department Heads reviewed Phase 2: Entrances Open; Mitigation Strategies Maintained, of the County Facilities Reopening Plan. Department heads would identify the number of visitors that would be allowed in their office at a time and the Treasurer's office, would continue to run driver's license by appointment only. It was decided that all County's facilities would re-open to the public beginning Monday, August 10, 2020. Information on the re-open plan and requirements will be communicated by posting signs, social media and local newspapers.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Jeffrey K. Ives, Chairman

Kelly Jepsen, Auditor