

MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD ON May 18, 2021.

With social distancing guidelines being maintained at in-person meetings, an electronic participation option is made available. This complies with Iowa Code section 21.8 that outlines the guidelines to hold an electronic meeting when there are valid concerns that an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical".

Meeting called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman Greg Barnett with members Rusty Eddy and Tom Heidenwirth present. Moved by Heidenwirth, second by Eddy to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Motioned by Eddy, second by Heidenwirth to approve the minutes as read. All ayes. Motion carried.

No public comment received.

Public Health Director, Jennifer Becker, provided the following COVID-19 Updates: 6 new cases, 7 recoveries, no hospitalizations or deaths and a 2.1% positivity rate. Becker shared the Iowa Department of Public Health notified them last Friday they were no longer required to quarantine people who had been in contact with a positive case. Public Health will no longer contact schools to have children quarantined or doing contact tracing of daily cases of individuals to quarantine. Becker explained going forward she would only be contact tracing for outbreaks or positive cases in congregate settings. Becker shared that 41.7% of the eligible population of Butler County has been fully vaccinated. Public Health has a boost clinic today and a Johnson & Johnson vaccine clinic is scheduled for May 19th with walk-ins scheduled from 2-4 pm. Becker confirmed CDC guidelines on masks has been updated to being optionally if fully vaccinated, but there are certain limitations including public transportation, airplanes, and medical facilities. The Board decided weekly COVID-19 updates will be removed from the meeting agenda and Becker can provide an immediate concern at any time during public comment.

Julian West, Independence, was present in-person to discuss his employment agreement for investigative and collection services related to recovering outstanding court debt. West provided the board with some updated numbers, explained the history of this agreement and what he anticipates will happen in the future. Barnett explained County Attorney, Dave Kuehner, discussed this agreement during budgeting and Kuehner felt his office could do this work. Kuehner was present in-person and explained he feels all the alternative options he is pursuing are more favorable to the county. Eddy stated he is on-board with allowing the county to do this work without renewing the employment agreement. Heidenwirth mentioned he felt the same and based on the numbers provided it appears to be a wash. West shared insight regarding the processes and procedures involved and mentioned he would be available to train or work through the transition as he is completing a student loan forgiveness program. Kuehner explained this is a yearly employment agreement and no formal action is required and Barnett confirmed the county will not renew the employment agreement.

Motioned by Barnett, second by Eddy to authorize the Auditor to transfer \$200,000 from General Basic to Public Health. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motioned by Eddy, second by Heidenwirth to approve the utility permit for Butler County REC for new underground service to 27218 290th Street. All ayes. Motion carried.

Eddy commented he watched the hot-in-place recycle process in the past week and was impressed. County Engineer, John Riherd, explained the process and discussions were held regarding the differences and benefits when compared to the cold-in-place process. Riherd also shared additional construction has begun on T25 south of Aplington this week and will begin on T19 west of Aplington next week.

Motioned by Barnett, second by Eddy to approve claims. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motioned by Heidenwirth, second by Eddy to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:26 A.M. to May 25, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. Motion carried.

The above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes and proceedings of a regular adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Iowa on May 18, 2021.

Attest:

Butler County Auditor

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors