

**MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD ON February 9, 2021.**

With limited public access to the courthouse due to COVID-19, this meeting was held telephonically with the public able to participate on a limited basis. 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 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Greg Barnett with members Rusty Eddy and Tom Heidenwirth present. Barnett announced the electronic, Zoom meeting option was currently unavailable due to circumstances beyond our control with Zoom and that the public, in-person meeting will continue as normal.

Moved by Heidenwirth, second by Eddy to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

The electronic Zoom meeting option was available after the minutes were read and Barnett apologized to those who may be trying to attend electronically. No public comment received.

Public Health Director Jennifer Becker shared there were 18 cases, 12 recovered, 0 deaths, 0 hospitalizations, 5% positivity as of February 8, 2021. Becker shared they administered 500 first doses through 3 separate clinics at the EMA Building in Allison. She felt those clinics went well and received positive feedback. Public Health was notified they would receive 300 does every week through February and have scheduled 3 additional clinics for February 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> for those in primary group 1B and will administer 150 doses at each clinic. The remaining doses will go to physicians’ offices and school staff in Butler County. They have scheduled North Butler, Clarksville, Shell Rock building of W-SR schools this week. They are providing our portion of doses for the New Hartford building staff to the pharmacy doing the Dike-New Hartford district and Aplington-Parkersburg schools will be scheduled for next week. Becker mentioned they will start getting boost doses beginning February 10, 2021, and they will be scheduling those clinics. Becker explained people can sign-up for clinics through the Facebook page, the county website page, or can call their office to be put on the scheduling list. Becker also clarified they have worked out equal scheduling between online signup and calling in for signup. Heidenwirth asked about people getting callbacks and Becker clarified they callback individuals when vaccine is available and they can be scheduled.

Salary discussions began with Sheriff Jason Johnson referring back to the compensation board recommendations which follow Iowa Code and that board is comprised of finance professionals in the county. Johnson stated county employees do not barter wages, do not receive bonuses, worked hard throughout the pandemic and they do not feel past budget issues were generated from their actions. Johnson finished up with reminding the county of the \$183,000 CARES Act reimbursement. Barnett shared that a 3% increase would equate to approximately \$160,000 in wages and add to that a \$60,000 increase in insurance equals a total of \$220,000 of a 24-million-dollar budget. Barnett shared appreciation to all employees that worked hard through the pandemic. Deputy Mike Lammers shared his concern with our ability to hire quality deputies based on current salaries. Lammers explained what recruitment looks like today vs. when he became a deputy his concerns regarding how we are going to lure in new, quality employees when they can look at surrounding counties and get paid more for arguably less responsibility. Lammers explained they discuss this with the compensation board and also expressed appreciation for county employee dedication during the pandemic and past election. Eddy explained his prior motion for a salary freeze was due to citizen reactions from last year’s budget. Eddy wants to make the budget manageable, treat employees good and keep the levy down and mentioned he spoke with most department heads regarding his position on salaries. Eddy shared that he spoke with realtors who say our county taxes are impacting home sales.

Heidenwirth agrees with what the Compensation Board and made a motion to approve the Compensation Board recommendations which equates to a 3% wage increase for elected officials and deputies. Motion failed without a second. Barnett motioned to approve 3% as recommended by the Compensation Board with the exception of no increase to the Supervisors salary. Motion failed for lack of a second. Heidenwirth motioned to approve a 3% as recommended by the Compensation Board with the exception of Supervisors getting a \$190 annual increase in salary. Motion also died for lack of a second. Eddy motioned for a 2% raise across the board with no increase to Supervisors. Motion failed for lack of a second. Barnett reintroduced a motion to approve the Compensation Board recommendations of a 3% increase with a zero increase to Supervisors, second by Heidenwirth. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #858**

WHEREAS, the Butler County Compensation Board meets annually to recommend a compensation schedule for elected officials for the fiscal year immediately following, in accordance with Iowa Code Chapters 331.905 and 331.907, and

WHEREAS, the Butler County Compensation Board met on November 4, 2020 and made the following salary recommendations for the following elected officials for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021:

<u>Elected Official</u>	<u>Current Salary</u>	<u>Proposed Increase</u>	<u>Recommended Salary</u>
Auditor	\$ 62538.00	% 3.083	\$ 64438.00
County Attorney	\$ 70402.00	% 2.837	\$ 72502.00
Recorder	\$ 62538.00	% 3.083	\$ 64438.00
Sheriff	\$ 83242.00	% 3.003	\$ 85742.00
Supervisors	\$ 31810.00	% 2.980	\$ 32760.00
Treasurer	\$ 62538.00	% 3.083	\$ 64438.00

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Butler County Board of Supervisors approves the following salary adjustments for the following elected officials for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021:

<u>Elected Official</u>	<u>Approved Salary</u>	<u>Approved Increase</u>
Auditor	\$ 64438.00	% 3.083
County Attorney	\$ 72502.00	% 2.837
Recorder	\$ 64438.00	% 3.083
Sheriff	\$ 85742.00	% 3.003
Supervisors	\$ 31810.00	% 0.000
Treasurer	\$ 64438.00	% 3.083

The roll was called and the vote thereon was: AYES: Tom Heidenwirth  
Greg Barnett  
NAYS: Rusty Eddy

Approved this 9th day of February, 2021.

Greg Barnett  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
Leslie Groen, County Auditor

John Riherd addressed the board concerning the Urban Renewal Area due to the soy processing coming on board in the next few years bringing that area into the Urban Renewal plan and identify additional projects to improve the road network. Riherd explained Farm to Market funds can then be used for projects outside of the Urban Renewal Area. Riherd explained they are developing plans for Sinclair Ave to continue shouldering to Hwy 3. They are also looking at the west 3 miles of Butler Center Rd; however due to increased costs, there would be a need for another bond issuance. Riherd explained he realizes it may not be the best time for bond issuance which would mean they would delay that project. Bonding would be looking at three years' worth of projects for a 4-million-dollar bond issuance. Discussions were held regarding TIF revenue, debt service, debt levy and existing bond schedules. Barnett requested to setup a discussion regarding bond issuance options and stated he felt all the projects discussed are justified projects. Barnett doesn't want to slow progress and is willing to hear bonding options before knowing if it is the best time to move forward with that. Riherd confirmed they will move forward with the projects already funded and that he is working with Jeff Kolb regarding the soy processing plant details. Eddy confirmed Kolb is also working on an Economic Impact Statement which will be good information for citizens.

Barnett presented the Shell Rock Watershed Coalition 28E Agreement and mentioned County Attorney Dave Kuehner has reviewed the document. Conservation Director Mike Miner explained the 28E Agreement and the entities that can be included in the agreement. Miner feels this is good thing to get a coalition together so when water quality funds become available we will be ready. Projects they would look at would include recreational opportunities and flooding issues. Miner feels it is worth being a part of, especially when it is getting started to be at the table right away and be a voice. Barnett clarified there is no fiscal obligation for the county to fund anything because funding is optional. Heidenwirth mentioned he is on the Upper Cedar Management Authority for a small NE corner of Butler County and shared what happens on that board and confirmed he is in-favor of joining. Cody Smith from Center for Rural Affairs in Nevada IA was available via Zoom and provided insight on why they feel watershed management authority is a good opportunity for local control. Smith shared that getting a voluntary watershed management plan together provides grant opportunities to get some ground work underway. Barnett mentioned Mike Miner has interest in being appointed and Heidenwirth agreed. Barnett motioned, Eddy second to table the decision to enter into the 28E Agreement and appoint Mike Miner to the following week's meeting.

Moved by Eddy, second by Heidenwirth to approve claims. All ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Eddy, second by Barnett to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 A.M. to Tuesday, February 16, 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 February 9, 2021.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Butler County Auditor  
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors