

MINUTES OF SIOUX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 19, 2021

- 1) The Board of Supervisors of Sioux County, Iowa, met pursuant to adjournment at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Jerry Muilenburg presiding. Members present were Jerry Muilenburg, Al Bloemendaal, Mark Sybesma, John Degen, and Carl Vande Weerd.
- 2) Minutes of the meeting held on January 12, 2021 were submitted and the Chairman declared them approved.
- 3) Micah Van Maanen, Sioux County IT Director, reported that an equipment auction is taking place beginning at noon on Tuesday, January 19 and running through 8:00 PM on Wednesday, February 3. Van Maanen also proposed a change to the IT staff schedule to 4 ten-hour days. There would still be coverage for all 5 days of the work week as the staff would take different days off. The purpose for the change would allow time to complete technology updates, rather working extra hours to complete those tasks. Van Maanen stated that the positions are already supporting county employees 24/7 and will continue to do that. Motion by Vande Weerd to modify the IT schedule to 4 ten-hour days with staff coverage for all 5 days, supported by Degen. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) Dan Altena, Sioux County Sheriff,
 - Distributed the Sheriff Quarterly Report for October through December 2020. The Board received the report for information.
 - Reviewed the proposed Sheriff FY22 budget and noted the funding request for communications in FY22.
 - Reported that some Sheriff staff are getting the COVID-19 vaccine.
- 5) Dan Zomermaand, Sioux County Treasurer, reviewed the proposed Treasurer FY22 budget.
- 6) Supervisor Bloemendaal began the discussion around animal bounties for beavers as a land owner recently contacted him about this issue. Land erosion is the main issue with beavers and the dams they create. Research is being done with Sioux County Conservation Director, Rob Klocke as well as the Iowa DNR to find out what the County can or cannot do in addressing the situation.
- 7) Jessica Kooiker, Sioux County Recorder, reviewed the proposed Recorder FY22 budget and submitted the Recorder Quarterly report for October through December 2020 for Board information.
- 8) Abby Rook, Sioux County Human Resources Director, discussed the 2021 Wellness program. Rook stated that there are no major changes to the program from 2020. The Iowa State Association of Counties has implemented a new accidental death and dismemberment policy which reimburses employees \$75 for getting a physical. The program also includes \$25 for employees who complete an online health assessment, and \$25 per wellness pillars the employee completes, up to 4 pillars. In all, employees can be reimbursed up to \$200 for their participation. The Wellness Committee requested 8 hours paid time off for employees who complete both the physical and online assessment, assuming employee participation in the wellness program earns the County a 5% reduction in health insurance premiums. In order to obtain the 5% reduction in premiums, 80% participation in the physical is needed, and 60%

participation for completing the online health assessment is needed. Motion by Sybesma and supported by Vande Weerd to approve the 8 hours paid time off for employees who complete both the physical and online health assessment and will be awarded to employees after the County obtains the 5% health insurance premium reduction. If the 5% is not obtained, employees will not be granted the 8 hours paid time off. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9) Supervisor Bloemendaal began discussion around the Sioux County Youth Fair funding request of \$1,250,000. Bloemendaal spoke with Fair Board President, Craig De Haan and questioned why the Fair would pay the \$1,200,000 expense for land preparation as Dordt needs the groundwork done for their project as well. Board members had questions around the Saddle Club participation in the project as well since that group needs a new place as well.

The Board believes 4-H and FFA programs are good for kids to grow up in, but the \$1,250,000 funding request is too much.

Other questions were raised surrounding the potential agreements with Dordt University and the provisions for the facility use on non-fair weeks as well as the permanence of the Fair long-term on Dordt property. Supervisor Sybesma agreed to do some further research on the questions raised by the Board, before any decisions can be made at the County.

10) Committee Reports:

- **Degen**– 1) Reported on the recent E911 meeting. The tower replacement project is ongoing and the budget for the agency is looking good. Currently there are 7 full-time dispatchers and 3 part-time dispatchers. 2) Reported on the EMS meeting. Training continues to be important item to address and also reported that the ambulance funding program from the County continues to be very beneficial for the cities in funding their needs.
- **Vande Weerd** – Reported on the YES Board meeting. The agency is averaging between 8 and 11 clients. The transportation service is being heavily used which has been a big benefit to the agency. Research is being done to add another vehicle.
- **Bloemendaal** – Attended a NACo VA committee meeting virtually.
- **Sybesma** – Reported on the Housing Trust meeting. The agency continues to work on the details of the down payment assistance program. Left over monies from 2018 were distributed to some local agencies.

- 11) Joel Sikkema, Assistant to the County Engineer, reviewed the proposed FY22 Secondary Roads budget.

12) Doug Julius, Sioux County Engineer,

- Submitted a permit agreement from Lumen (CenturyLink) to place a telecommunications cable in section 36 of Grant Township (Sheldon). Motion by Sybesma and supported by Vande Weerd to approve the permit agreement. Motion carried unanimously.
- Distributed a map for a biogas pipeline route from Pinnacle Engineering. This biogas pipeline is proposed to be in the NW part of the county and will be in private easements for the most part.
- Updated the Board on secondary road activities which include snow removal, equipment inspection and gravel stockpiling.

- Discussed some future equipment purchases which include a loader, motor grader, and truck.
- Updated the Board on the bridge project at Hospers and reported that there was no activity at the bridge project near Fairview.

13) Motion by Degen and supported by Bloemendaal to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m. until Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

Jerry Muilenburg, Chairman
Sioux County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
Ryan Dokter
Sioux County Auditor