

MINUTES OF SIOUX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD ON JUNE 23, 2020

- 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 John Degen, Jerry Muilenburg, Carl Vande Weerd, Al Bloemendaal and Mark Sybesma.
- 2) Minutes of the meetings held on June 9, 2020 were submitted and the Chairman declared them approved.
- 3) Motion by Degen and supported by Vande Weerd to approve the claims as submitted by the County Auditor for June 23, 2020. Motion carried, one member absent.
- 4) Tom Kunstle, Sioux County Attorney,
 - Reported that depositions have begun in the courtroom to allow for social distancing and are discussing how to conduct jury interviews for jury trials in September.
 - Reported that due to pending legislation, the County may need to revisit the dangerous weapon policy for the courthouse.
 - Reported that bench trials will resume July 13, but that emergency matters are still being held and pre-trial matters are held by video conferencing.
 - Discussed that the county jail is not accepting non-violent offenders due to COVID-19 but that policy may change in the near future.
- 5) Dan Zomermaand, Sioux County Treasurer, requested Board approval for two new employees, Mary Suntken and Kim Heusinkveld. Motion by Sybesma and supported by Degen to approve the two new employees. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6) Chairman Muilenburg began discussion on the County Buildings Restrictions During the COVID-19 Pandemic policy. Ryan Dokter, Sioux County Auditor, reported that glass barriers for the Recorder's office have been installed and the Auditor's office and Zoning office are waiting on theirs yet. Further discussion involved the court system resuming bench trials July 13 and how other restrictions have been lifted will make it more difficult to remain closed to the public. The Auditor's office is in the process of creating signs for the courthouse and Treasurer's offices and plans are in place for contract tracing and for situations involving exposure or confirmed cases of COVID-19 within county departments. Motion by Vande Weerd and supported by Bloemendaal to move into phase 2 of the County Buildings Restrictions During the COVID-19 Pandemic policy and to modify the hours open to the public to be 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) Supervisor Vande Weerd initiated discussion on the county ATV ordinance. Vande Weerd has been asked by citizens why ATVs can be used on gravel roads, but not on County blacktops. Attorney Kunstle reported that when the ordinance was being formed, safety concerns were noted as justification for not allowing ATVs on hard surface roads, unless the operator is taking the shortest route to their residence. Farmers are exempt from the ordinance.
- 8) Ryan Dokter, Sioux County Auditor, presented a 3-year contract from Cost Advisory Services, Inc., in the amount of \$4,125/year. The pricing is the same as the previous contract. Cost Advisory Services computes the amount of state reimbursement the County receives from the State of Iowa for the amount of space used by State agencies. Motion by Sybesma and

supported by Vande Weerd to approve the 3-year contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9) Motion by Sybesma and supported by Degen to approve the liquor license renewal for The Triple Box, located at 4758 Ironwood Ave, Orange City. Motion carried unanimously.

10) Committee Reports:

- **Sybesma** – 1) Reported on the Third Judicial meeting. The agency is struggling financially and also reported that more people are being let out of jail, which is causing the halfway homes to be full. 2) Reported that the County may be asking for additional funding for the youth fair, but the Fair Board would make a formal request once more planning has been done.
- **Bloemendaal** – 1) Reported on the Northwest Iowa Planning meeting in Spencer from June 18. DOT projects are getting pushed back due to a decrease in gas tax revenue, leaving a shortfall of \$100 million. 2) Reported on the RIDES meeting from June 18. Operations will resume similar to a taxi service.
- **Vande Weerd** – Reported on the YES Board meeting held via Zoom. The agency is averaging 9.3 clients/day and is getting the overflow of people from Polk County. Sioux County's usage for May was around \$5,000. The agency ordered COVID-19 blood tests which will give results within 5 minutes, so each person is tested before being allowed to stay at the facility. Reported that a federal law will go into effect in 2021 which requires all juveniles to go to a detention center versus jail, which was always the practice in Iowa. Transport numbers have decreased as well due to COVID-19.
- **Muilenburg** – 1) Reported on a Landfill meeting. The agency approved engineering costs for a lagoon expansion, as well as ordered aerators for the lagoon. 2) Reported on the department head meeting from June 15, which was to discuss COVID-19 planning.
- **Degen** – Reported that the courthouse roof project is complete, but sidewalk was damaged and the approximate cost to repair it is \$1,800. Walker Brothers deducted \$1,000 from their final payment for the damage.
- **Bloemendaal & Muilenburg** – Reported on the June 15 Airport Board meeting. The agency approved a new hangar to be constructed in 2021. The hangar will be 120' X 120' and will hold nine planes. It will be constructed on the south side of the airport. The agency is working on a 5-year engineering contract and has hired Mark's Lawn Service to work on the dirt settling issue along the runway.

11) Chip Shultz, Managing Director, Public Finance with Northland Securities joined the meeting via telephone to discuss two refunding scenarios for the County 2012 general obligation bond. Shultz reported that the Aa2 scenario would show a net savings in interest costs of approximately \$76,700 and the non-rated scenario would show a net savings of approximately \$60,500. The reason to choose the non-rated scenario would be to lock in interest rates sooner but reported that the market has stabilized and the proposed rates should last. Motion by Bloemendaal and supported by Sybesma to pursue the Aa2 scenario to save potentially \$76,700. Motion carried unanimously.

12) Supervisor Sybesma initiated discussion in regards to the 2020 county wellness program. The County Wellness Committee was present for this discussion. Sybesma questioned why a program was approved that requires employees to do more wellness activities than is required to get the 5% discount on insurance premiums, as well as why the Board did not approve the wellness program in detail.

Joy Poppema, Sioux County Wellness Coordinator, reported that the vision of the wellness committee is to get employees healthy, not necessarily to get the 5% discount on insurance premiums. The county had a reduction in insurance premiums for FY2021 which in part is due to the success of the wellness program. Poppema distributed Board minutes indicating the approval of the ISAC Wellness program for calendar year 2020, as well as requirements from ISAC for the formation of the wellness committee.

Motion by Sybesma that if employees participate in the wellness program, that employees participate in the two required activities to meet the 90% employee participation and will get a 30% insurance premium discount, supported by Degen. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bloemendaal and supported by Vande Weerd that if the county achieves 90% employee participation in the wellness program to grant 8 hours paid time off to employees who participated in the wellness program. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Vande Weerd expressed his appreciation for the Wellness Committee.

13) Ross Simmelink, Sioux County Assessor, requested Board approval of a denial letter for a homestead application for parcel 12-20-476-901 as it did not meet the requirements set forth in Iowa Code 425.11(1). Motion by Vande Weerd and supported by Bloemendaal to approve the denial letter as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

14) Doug Julius, Sioux County Engineer,

- Requested the Chairman's signature on the contract for project L-1-2020—73-84. This contract was previously approved pending a review from the County Engineer.
- Requested Board approval of the following resolution. Motion by Sybesma and supported by Degen to approve the resolution as presented. Roll call on vote: Sybesma, Yes; Degen, Yes; Bloemendaal, Yes; Vande Weerd, Yes; Muilenburg, Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ROAD CLOSURE RESOLUTION 2020-29
CONSTRUCTION**

We hereby authorize the following roads to be closed for Construction during the 2020-2021 season. The actual date of closure to be determined by the County Engineer and shall be so noted in his office copy of the Resolution.

<u>Road</u>	<u>Date Closed</u>	<u>County Engineer's Signature</u>
<u>Date: 6/23/2019</u>		

/s/Jerry Muilenburg
Chairperson, Sioux County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: /s/Ryan Dokter
Sioux County Auditor

- Requested Board approval and signatures for the Title Sheets on projects BRS-CHBP(160)—GB-84 and BROSCHBP-C084(165)—NC-84. Motion by Sybesma and supported by Bloemendaal to approve the Title Sheets. Motion carried unanimously.
- Updated the Board on secondary road activities.
- Reported that stockpiling will take place from the Hallet Pit to ground being rented from a local COOP in Ritter.
- Distributed a 5-year construction map as well as the current year construction map.

- Reviewed the status of construction projects around the county.

15) Sioux County Auditor, Ryan Dokter reported that his office has begun planning for the November 3, 2020 General Election and is working with a company to send a countywide mailing of the absentee ballot request form to all registered voters. The mailing would contain the request form as well as an envelope to return the request form. Dokter stated that due to the unknown of how COVID-19 will continue, he will promote voting by mail to help reduce the potential spread of the virus at polling locations. The potential cost would be roughly \$13,500 to do the mailing, but stated that not all voters will return the form, so the postage costs would be lower.

16) Motion by Vande Weerd and supported by Degen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. until Tuesday, June 30, 2020.

Jerry Muilenburg, Chairman
Sioux County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
Ryan Dokter
Sioux County Auditor