

Supervisors Room, Courthouse
Pocahontas, Iowa
April 21, 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 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 in the Board of Supervisors meeting held on April 21, 2020 by electronic means posted at the top of the Agenda.

Members present: Vice-Chairman, Clarence Siepker; Supervisors, Louis Stauter, and Brent Aden; and Auditor, Kelly Jepsen. Electronically: Chairman Jeffrey Ives; Supervisor Ed Dewey; Dan Feistner, County Attorney; Orene Cressler, VA/GA Director; Russ Jergens, EMA Coordinator; and Reporter, Erin Sommers.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve two sets of minutes dated April 14, 2020, as presented. Ayes all, motion carried.

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

At 10:00 a.m., a teleconference was held with the Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors for Jt. DD 63 Br. F. Members present in Palo Alto County: Chairman, Roger Faulstick, Supervisors, Ron Graettinger, Linus Solberg, Keith Wirtz, and Craig Merrill; and Auditor, Carmen Moser. Members present in Pocahontas County: Chairman, Jeffrey Ives; Supervisors, Clarence Siepker, Brent Aden, Louis Stauter, and Ed Dewey; Auditor, Kelly Jepsen; and Reporter, Erin Sommers.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Solberg, to appoint Clarence Siepker as Chairman and Kelly Jepsen as Secretary for the Jt. DD 63 Br. F conference call. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Wirtz, to approve the clean out of Jt. DD 63 Br. F up to \$40,000.00. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Dewey, to adjourn Jt. DD 63 Br. F conference call. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Aden, to set a formal hearing on the repairs for DD 59 Main Open Ditch for Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Courthouse. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Ives, to authorize the repairs on DD 44 Main Open Ditch and hire Bolton & Menk to do the report on Right-of-Way and Reclassification. Ayes all, motion carried.

The Board discussed the proposed repairs to Jt. DD 9-13 that was tabled last week. Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve the proposed repairs located in NW SE, Section 6, Sherman Township, Calhoun County for \$5,800 and the proposed repairs located in the SW SE Section 24 and the NW NE Section 23 both in Sherman Township, Calhoun County for \$30,700.00. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Dewey, to approve the proposed repairs to Jt. DD 1-54 totaling \$2,200.00, located in the SE SE Section 5, Butler Township, Calhoun County. Ayes all, motion carried.

Motion by Ives, seconded by Aden, to approve DD 168 Change Order #1 from Progressive Structures, LLC, \$110,050. Ayes all, motion carried. The change order was to include a lower bid for the Road Right-of-Way. It was deleted from the award, as the bid was too high.

The Board discussed landowner, Fred Cook's two damage claims on DD 31; \$755.28 for reseeding the buffer and \$482.35 to re-seed established seeding destroyed by late rock installation. Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to deny both claims as Cook did not turn in proof of reseeding by the set date, March 31, 2020. Ayes all, motion carried. Auditor Jepsen will draft a letter to the landowner.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to approve DD 31 Pay Request #4 for \$61,032.14 & Change Order #4 for \$597.60 from McCarty Custom Inc. Ayes all, motion carried. The Change Order is for minor correction to a pipe quantity in a road crossing. Pay Request #4 is the final payment, which includes \$2,605.16 in retainage.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Ives, to approve the hire of Kelly Metzger, RN, as a full time nurse for Public Health. Ayes all, motion carried. Metzger's start date will be April 24, 2020 at an hourly rate of \$22.00/hour, with a \$0.50/hr. increase after her probationary period.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Aden, to approve the 2019 applications for business property tax credit that was already approved by the Assessor's Office. The credit will be reflected on property taxes due September 30, 2020 and March 31, 2021. Ayes all, motion carried.

The Board reviewed two quotes received to replace the sidewalk on the West side of the Courthouse. Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to table until the next Board Meeting. Ayes all, motion carried.

The Iowa DNR has made a preliminary determination that Moline Turkey Farms, LLC has met the legal criteria to be issued a construction permit. Motion by Aden, seconded by Stauter, to sign the waiver letter and adopt the following resolution. The Vice-Chairman called the question with the following recorded vote: Ayes – Siepker,

Aden, Ives, Stauter, Dewey; Nays-none. Whereby the Vice-Chairman declared the resolution duly adopted to-wit:

RESOLUTION 2020-4 #16
Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors

APPROVAL OF WAIVER OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY'S RIGHT TO APPEAL ISSUANCE OF FINAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION BY THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors as follows:

- Section 1. The Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors has received notice from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that Moline Turkey Farms Site has been issued a draft permit for the construction of a confined animal feeding operation building at SW ¼ NW ¼, Sec. 6, Lincoln Township in Calhoun County and SW ¼ SW ¼ Sec. 31, Lizard Township in unincorporated Pocahontas County. Iowa
- Section 2. The Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors reviewed the construction permit application and the manure management plan and determined that both appeared to be in compliance with the requirements of the Master Matrix Code Section 459 and Iowa DNR rules and recommend approval of said application on March 24, 2020
- Section 3. The Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors hereby waives its right to appeal the issuance of the final permit within the fourteen (14) day limit from the time of receipt of notice of the issuance of the draft permit.
- Section 4. The Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors encourages the Iowa DNR to issue the Final Permit immediately upon notification of this waiver.
- Section 5. The Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Board Chairman to notify the Iowa DNR of this waiver.
- Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Aden, seconded by Dewey, to acknowledge receipt of Manure Management Plans: (1) Wadle Dennis & Gene – ID# 65822 located in the NW NW, Section 30, Cedar Township with Dennis Wadle & Gene Wadle as owners & contact persons; (2) Forest Finisher Farm – ID# 71071 located in the SW NW, Section 10, Cummins Township with Alpha Farms LLC as owner & Keith Kratchmer as contact person; and (3) Hardcastle Finisher Farm – ID# 71093 located in the NE SW, Section 19, Cummins Township with Clerk Farms LLC as owner & Keith Kratchmer as contact person. Ayes all, motion carried.

Dan Feistner, County Attorney, spoke with Imagine the Possibility about vacating the Annex prior to June 30th, they were in agreeance. Feistner sent a letter to them on behalf of Pocahontas County. Imagine the Possibility indicated that they will start moving the last week in April. Auditor Jepsen reported that everything at the Annex is going very well; the contractor had started working and the departments have already started moving rooms. Orene Cressler, VA/GA Director, who will be moving to the Courthouse, requested to view her new office space. Dan Feistner, County Attorney, thanked the Board for working it out so they could stay in the Annex. He was pleased with how fast his office was able to move and thanked Auditor Jepsen, Bob Harrison, and Dereck Hebert, IT Director, for making that possible.

Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign the underground utility permit application for Pocahontas Fiber Network and the Iowa DOT agreement for use of highway Right-of-Way. Ayes all, motion carried. The proposed work is located in Section 5, Lincoln Township on Highway 3, approximately 1 mile East from Highway 4 intersection in Pocahontas.

Jack Moellering, County Engineer, and the Board discussed the N-28 project. As of now, everything is on track.

The Board discussed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) information received from Paul Greufe, Pocahontas County's Human Resource Representative. Part of FFCRA allows employees to receive 2/3 paid leave in certain situations. Motion by Stauter, seconded by Aden, to allow employees to use 1/3 of their accrued leaves to make up the difference. Ayes-Ives, Stauter, Aden, Siepker. Nays-Dewey. Motion carried. Motion by Aden, seconded by Ives, to adopt the FFCRA forms for documentation of use of FFCRA leave. Ayes all, motion carried.

The Board and Russ Jergens, EMA Coordinator, discussed the opportunity to participate in a federal grant for funding to replace our stockpile of PPEs. The grant for Pocahontas County was estimated at \$4,000 with a 50% match.

Weekly meetings: Siepker-Upper Des Moines Finance meeting, North Raccoon Watershed concerns, and COVID-19 meeting with City of Laurens; Aden and Ives-drainage concerns; Stauter- YES Center, drainage and seeding concerns; and Dewey-COVID-19 concerns. All Supervisors participated in the DD 44 Main Open Ditch, DD 59 Main Open Ditch, Jt. DD 63 Br. F, and DD 14 informational meetings, and the Department Head meeting addressing COVID-19.

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

Clarence Siepker, Vice-Chairman

Kelly A. 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.

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Members present: Vice-Chairman, Clarence Siepker; Supervisors, Louis Stauter, and Brent Aden; and Auditor, Kelly Jepsen. Department Heads present: Diane Ferguson; Sue Reigelsberger; Amy Johnson; and Jack Moellering. Telephonically: Reporter, Erin Sommers; Chairman, Jeffrey Ives; Supervisor Ed Dewey; and Department Heads: Tom Grau, Russ Jergens, Jill Conlin, and Orene Cressler.

Tom Grau advised on the SBA and the Protection Pay Program. He has spoken to all the banks in the County and they ran out of dollars for these programs last week but when the federal bill is passed, it will re-open up a lot of funding for rural America, small businesses, and farmers. Orene Cressler explained that almost 1,000 guardsmen have been activated and we will see more with our guardsmen in Iowa. Cressler also stated that Pocahontas Congregate Meals is in need of a driver, so if anyone knows anyone willing to drive, to have them contact her or Dianna Fowley. Amy Johnson explained what her association has been discussing; it will be a new normal when everything opens back up. Kelly Jepsen explained that in-person voting will start May 4th. In-person voting will take place in the North entry of the Courthouse. Diane Ferguson advised that she had called on the local factories inquiring about the policy for allowing people into their facilities.

Clarence Siepker, Vice-Chairman

Kelly A. Jepsen, Auditor