

JULY 20, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of Clinton County, Iowa, met. Present were Supervisors Srp, Determann and Irwin. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

9:00 A.M. Review Correspondence and Claims      Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance  
9:15 A.M. Formal Action & Motions                      Claims Approved Unanimously

Coronavirus/COVID-19 update: County Community Health Manager Michelle Cullen reported Clinton County numbers continue to increase. She said there have been 172 positive cases in Clinton County including 79 active cases. She said that is an increase of 33 from last week. Cullen said three of the 79 are hospitalized at MercyOne in Clinton and around the region, 15 are hospitalized with Genesis. She said she has spoken with officials from two school districts since the Governor’s announcement last week. Supervisor Irwin asked if the Board was open to requiring masks in the County buildings’ common areas. County Auditor Eric Van Lancker said the County closed buildings with fewer active cases. He said he isn’t promoting closing the buildings, but maybe we should do more. Chairman Srp said the numbers are still tracking up and he is hopeful for good recovery rates, but we certainly have concerns about preserving our services and agrees the County should lead by example. Cullen said the CDC guidelines do not recommend shields, but do recommend if one is needed they should wear one that goes around the face and down to the chest.

MOTION by Supervisor Determann starting July 21, until further notice, to require the public older than 2-years-old to wear masks or face shields in County buildings and employees to wear masks or face shields in common areas in the building or if they cannot maintain six-feet apart.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes                      Motion carried.

Irwin said Human Resources will be posting new signs on the entrance doors encouraging those who are ill to not enter the building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions #2020-195 was approved on the Consent Agenda:

RESOLUTION #2020-195

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Sheriff is authorized to have a Sheriff’s Reserve Unit; and

WHEREAS, from time to time new members are added to this unit, and that said members are trained in the use of various weapons: and

WHEREAS, the following reserves have been locally trained by certified instructors in Firearms, Striking Instruments and Chemical Weapons: now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that after receiving training as prescribed by the Code of Iowa, Section 80D.3 and 501.IAC Chapter 10(3); Sheriff Rick Lincoln now seeks approval from the Clinton County Board of Supervisors for Reserve Deputy Scott Matthew to be authorized to carry weapons as required by Iowa Code Section 80D.7.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes.                      Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

DEPARTMENT HEADS, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

Van Lancker said absentee ballot request mailers hit mailboxes last week. He said his office already has more than 3,000 requests. He said he will be asking the Iowa Secretary of State to reimburse the County for the service and invited the Supervisors to sign that letter with him if they were interested. The Supervisors did express interest in signing the letter.

County Treasurer Dustin Johnson reported \$1.12 million is still outstanding in property tax. The courtesy notices that were sent out last week were helpful as they brought in more payments. Irwin said the State has pandemic money available and they don’t know how to distribute it to the Counties. He suggested it be based on unpaid taxes to address potential cash flow situations for government entities.

County Facilities Director Corey Johnson said he is meeting with the elevator contractor and wanted to know if they should demo both at the same time or continue leaving one in service. Johnson said he would prefer to leave an elevator open at all times and it was generally agreed to do so. He said three people have looked at the shuttle bus since the County had not received any bids.

Supervisor Determann thanked Bailiff Gene Moore for his service before he retires next week.

Srp noted that former Clinton County Supervisor Dennis Starling passed away last week and the Board memorialized Starling with a moment of silence.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

County farmland lease update: Van Lancker said the lease is coming up on the County farm and the County will need to decide to send a letter to end the lease with the tenant or allow the lease to roll over another year without any

action. Van Lancker reminded the Board it can also decide at the end of the lease to sell the land. Determann said the County currently has a good lease on that property, but the County has to pay taxes on it since it is leased. Srp said the Board has discussed it now and maybe that will create some suggestions from the public about how to proceed since there is time to make the decision. Irwin thinks it should be terminated. He said that should have been done previously and that's the correct way to proceed.

MOTION by Supervisor Determann to authorize the County Attorney to terminate the Clinton County farmland lease.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes.

Motion carried.

10:05 A.M. Iowa Drainage District Association (IDDA) Update

IDDA Executive Director John Torbert reported legislation was introduced to address publication requirements for a reclassification for a drainage district. He said another piece of legislation would increase the cost of a project before it would need an engineer's report. He said those made it through the House but the pandemic hit before the Senate was able to take up the proposals. Torbert said the bills will not be held over since this is an election year. He said US Fish and Wildlife Service has not been paying assessments in drainage districts. He said that transfers the cost to the other property owners in the district and he has been working with Senator Grassley's staff on this issue. He said it was found that it was a broader issue than just drainage districts where the government department was not paying assessments. Torbert said that has made it a national issue. He said this is another issue that has become a temporary victim of the pandemic. He said he is now starting over with Grassley's staff on this issue. Torbert said IDDA is promoting that improvements in drainage districts should also be looked at as an opportunity to improve with environmentally friendly design. He said there is now grant money available for some improvements through the IDDA.

The Board of Supervisors adjourned to meet on Monday, July 27, 2020.

Eric Van Lancker, County Auditor

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

-APPROVED-

---

County Auditor

---

Chairperson