

April 21, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the board met via conference call with the call originating out of the Page County IT office. Present were John Herzberg, Alan Armstrong, and Chuck Morris. On a motion by Herzberg, seconded by Armstrong, the board moved to approve the agenda, amending to remove the closed session. Present from the public were Kory Kline, Darin Sunderman, Beth Steeve, Brenda Esaias, Angie Dow, Jess Erdman, Renee Riedel, Lisa Hull, Gary McClarnon, John Van Nostrand, Ryan Matheny, and JD King.

The board started the meeting with a COVID-19 update. Jess Erdman, Public Health Director, gave an update regarding the pandemic and stated Iowa has not hit its peak yet. Brenda Esaias, Recorder, stated she has been providing the abstractors and surveyors with the information they need. Esaias stated providing these searches is putting the county at risk. Esaias would like to allow the abstractors and surveyors to enter the office one at a time, by appointment only. She would like this effective as soon as possible, if not even today. Morris stated the Code of Iowa did not take into account a pandemic. Morris asked Esaias what is different with a forty-year search. Morris would like a policy in place before this is considered. Morris questioned if abstractors are allowed to come in, if full staff is needed in the recorder's office daily. Esaias stated safety procedures can be followed, and she can work with public health to set up specific procedures. Morris again questioned if office staff should be adjusted since the work load is lightened by allowing abstractors in the office. On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to create a policy to allow abstractors and others to enter on an appointment only basis. Herzberg, aye, Morris, aye, Armstrong, aye. Motion carried 3 to 0. The board would like Erdman, Esaias, and Wellhausen to work on a policy. Morris asked McClarnon what the City of Clarinda is doing; he stated the city is operating by appointment only.

King gave a roads update. Blades are out in multiple districts, and rock is being hauled. The cold patch crew is out. The shouldering machine is being taken back to Mills County. Morris stated there is a road north of Coin that needs rock today. On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve to sign title sheets FM-CO73(138)-55-73 base stabilization and seal coat on M44 and J55, L-CO73(EWP19-S1)-73-73 Weir Repair Site 1, L-CO73(EWP19-S2)—73-73 Weir Repair Site 2, and L-CO73(EWP19-S12)—73-73 Weir Repair Site 12. Mitch and Michelle Holmes joined the meeting. 250th Street was discussed. Herzberg stated two other roads were ground up around the same time, and those individuals feel they should have the option to have their road chip sealed as well. Morris stated the number of active residents on the road makes it unique. Morris stated it would be approximately \$1,000 a year for 10 years for each landowner if a cost share was required. Herzberg stated he does not feel the county should resurface the road because it creates a precedence, and there are other roads in the county that individuals wish would be hard surfaced as well. Armstrong agreed with Herzberg. Mark Driscoll stated it was not the individuals that live on the road that tore it up. Holmes questioned how it is decided which roads are hard surfaced and which are not. He also questioned how it is decided who pays for their road and who does not. Herzberg stated rock petitions used to be paid at a 50/50 cost share; the county now requires citizens to pay 100%.

Kelly Campbell, with the US Census Bureau, provided a census update. He stated the census response is going on right now. He stated the reports want to count everyone once and only once. He encouraged everyone to fill out their census information.

On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve the purchase of the drop box. Gene Behrens will help with the installation of the box. It will be installed in the southeast corner of the courthouse lawn.

The board next discussed the wellness holiday extension. Herzberg thinks it should be left with the June 30th usage date. Erdman stated it will be hard for her department to use their wellness day by that date. On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve the extension of the wellness holiday, at department head discretion, through December 30, 2020. Herzberg, nay, Armstrong, aye, Morris, aye. Motion carried 2 to 1.

On a motion by Armstrong, seconded by Herzberg, the board moved to approve the minutes from Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

Armstrong discussed with the board the Iowa West Foundation grant for local governments directly impacted by COVID-19, and he feels that it would be better for each community to work on their own grant because it is grant specific.

On a motion by Herzberg, seconded by Armstrong, with no further business, the board adjourned at 10:10 am and will meet again Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

Chuck Morris, Chairman

Page County Board of Supervisors

Melissa Wellhausen

Page County Auditor