

Unapproved Minutes Emmet County Board of Supervisor Minutes  
December 10, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.  
Regular Meeting  
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: John Pluth, Chair  
Jeff Quastad Vice-Chair  
Roger Hash  
Tim Schumacher  
Todd Glasnapp

Absent:

Pluth, Chair, called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. It was moved by Glasnapp, seconded by Hash, to approve two sets of minutes from last week, the Board meeting on December 3, 2019 and the Special meeting on Thursday, December 5, 2019, which was held to canvass the Run-off Election for the City of Estherville, also approving them for publication. All ayes, motion carried.

During public forum, the Board discussed the tile problem on Terry Feger's property. Pluth did go out and put in a new intake in that area last week in drainage district #164. Quastad stated that more work will have to be done, the ditch will need to be cleaned out, and it is filled with silt and sand. He also stated that at the other end of the ditch, they really do not know where it goes out; it is like a swamp in that area.

Hash and Schumacher informed the Board about the Supervisor District 2 meeting they attended last week. At the District meeting, discussion was held on wind turbines, the matrix and ambulance service in the Counties.

Pluth had a safety meeting yesterday, Mike Raner, Safety Director, is working on the Drug and Alcohol policy that will have to be implemented within the County's policy for Secondary Roads. Walter Davis-Oeth, Engineer, stated that these policies are governed by the State. Emmet County can implement their own enforcement policy too, in addition to the State's requirements.

Raner also suggested that we move Emmet County's handicapped parking down by the Sheriff's office, closer to the handicapped entrance. Pluth also spoke on the second door going into the handicapped entrance, which is not handicapped accessible and we may have to look into that. Emmet County is 21 days without loss of injury at this time. It was stated that if someone falls, we are to call an ambulance and not move the person or help him or her up for safety reasons and liability issues.

Pluth stated that Kathy Preston, Public Health Nurse, had visited with him and would like to put in a new restroom in the space of her building that Upper Des Moines is leaving. Preston would also like this area painted. After Upper Des Moines moves out of the facility, the Board will do a site visit.

Walter Davis-Oeth, Emmet County Engineer, informed the Board that the fuel pumps would be replaced today. He stated it would take a couple of days. Engineer had another conference call with J-Kraft; overall, he felt it was a good conference call. The call concerns the pups and trailers that were recently purchased that the Engineer's office are dissatisfied with. Additionally, they had a Henke representative come up to discuss the blades that the County had purchased for their equipment. Henke stated that we can go ahead and run the blades as long as we do not damage them and then order/replace with different ones in the coming months.

Kiley Miller, President and CEO of the Iowa Lakes Corridor, and other individuals came before the Board to give a report on the work they have done. Also present were Penny Clayton, City Administrator for Estherville, and Lyle Hevern, Emmet County Economic Development Director. Miller stated we have come to the end of our 4-year cycle plan and stated they are excited about our proposed plan of action for FY2021-2025. This plan promises; growth in manufacturing, technology, alternative energy and service jobs thanks to strengthened business retention and recruitment programs; an energetic entrepreneurial ecosystem, sustainment of key locally

owned business through the new Match-Learn-Launch succession initiative with Buena Vista University; and an investment to improve worker availability and encourage housing development.. Miller stated business succession is huge and they discussed the City of Ringsted. Emphasis was given on building new businesses and continuing to help established businesses. They are requesting that the County fund the Iowa Lakes Corridor \$30,000 for FY 2021. Last fiscal year their funding request was \$25,000.

Pluth commended Miller and his team for the great job that they have done over the years. Schumacher asked what the numbers look like for more housing. Miller stated that in Emmet County, housing has not reached its goal; the big growth was in Clay and Dickinson Counties in the past years.

It was moved by Schumacher, seconded by Glasnapp, to approve the claims as listed in the claims register. All ayes, motion carried.

It was moved by Quastad, seconded by Schumacher, to approve the drainage claims as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

The Board received a claim from Jacobson-Westergard & Associates for \$650.30 from control County, Dickinson for joint drainage district ECD#61. The bill was for November engineering services for joint drainage district #61 Main Cleanout for \$443.10 and November engineering services for joint drainage district #61 Branch and laterals Branch 362, Lateral 93 for \$207.20. It was moved by Quastad, seconded by Glasnapp, to approve the joint bill and have Board Chair, Pluth sign the claim form and return to Control County, Dickinson for payment. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Lincoln, County Social Services (CSS), presented in a public forum format, some highlights of what CSS has been doing. The biggest thing is transitioning to one employer. Schumacher asked the question of what was the reason for the shift. Lincoln stated to solve some problems, they were told that this would be the best direction to take and make CSS more flexible, stating CSS has the largest regional staff.

Another objective for CSS is to get approved so that CSS can bill Medicaid.

Lincoln stated that we had our first legislative forum in which we had an opportunity to educate our legislators about our concerns. Sixteen legislators were present. Lincoln went through the CSS annual report that was handed out to each Board Member. We are trying to get our levy in a sustainable state. Our fund balance will have to be reduced to 40 percent in the next couple of years. Around February 1, the new program, Mobile Crisis will be implemented. He spoke on the I-Start Program and how great that program is for individuals needing this service.

Pluth stated a little bit of our concern is our access in the northwest portion of the Region. Lincoln stated if you teach people where the help is, then individuals would be there to help these people. Lincoln is hoping the Mobile Crisis program will help in these situations.

A motion was made by Schumacher, seconded by Quastad, to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.

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Colleen Anderson  
Clerk to Board of Supervisors

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John Pluth,  
Chairman