

Approved Emmet County Board of Supervisor Minutes
March 25, 2025, at 08:30 a.m.
Regular Meeting
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: Lisa Hansen, Chair; John Pluth, Jeff Quastad, Todd Glasnapp, Tim Schumacher

Media: Ed Funston, Mike Tidemann

Emmet County Employees present: Heidi Goebel, Melanie Summers Bauler, Roxanne Budach, Michelle Howing, Tom Egeland, Allison Fisher

Chairman Hansen, called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Quastad, second by Glasnapp to approve the minutes of the last meeting 3.18.2025 also approving them for publication. Motion to approve the agenda by Schumacher, second by Pluth. All Ayes, motion carried.

Committee updates: Hansen-Early Childhood Development; Schumacher-Sioux Rivers mental health has begun the close-up process by the end of the fiscal year. Farm Bureau meeting on Monday, March 31, all of the Board is invited to attend.

Hog confinement site visit for K and T Olson #4 is set for March 25th at 1 p.m. Quastad and Glasnapp will attend.

Public forum: Chris Fuhrman, owner of Estherville Ambulance Service, thanked the Board of Supervisors for the continued support of the new ambulance agreement. Board expressed their thanks to Fuhrman for keeping the ambulance service going.

Mike Tidemann shared RSVP meeting and housing trust this week. County safety planning to meet tomorrow.

Roxanne Budach, Auditor’s Office, joined the meeting to continue discussion on the courthouse postal machine. Motion by Pluth, second by Schumacher to enter in a contract with Mantronics for a five-year contract. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chairman Hansen opened the public hearing at 9:06 for FY 25 Budget Amendment #2. No public comments received in the Auditor’s Office. Motion to close public hearing by Quastad, second by Schumacher. Roll call vote: Schumacher-aye, Glasnapp-aye, Pluth-aye, Quastad-aye, Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

Motion to adopt Resolution 25-09 Budget Amendment #2 increasing total expenditures by \$15,400 by Schumacher, second by Pluth. Roll call vote: Schumacher-aye, Glasnapp-aye, Pluth-aye, Quastad-aye, Hansen-aye. Motion carried. A copy of Resolution 25-09 is available on website emmetcountytia.gov or available in the Emmet County Auditor’s Office.

Michelle Howing, owner of Tiny Treasures Community Daycare, joined the meeting to discuss countywide daycare concerns and shortages in Emmet County. State grant funds have become non-existent. Also joining the meeting, Chelsea and Derek Smith, owners of Little Wranglers Daycare, which is licensed to 140 children. They have around 100 children attending. The Smiths are ready to sell the daycare center. Tiny Treasures’ non-profit group would like two Board of Supervisors members to join a committee with City of Estherville officials to evaluate local daycare needs and the financial feasibility of purchasing Little Wranglers to keep the center open operating under Tiny Treasure’s non-profit. Pluth and Hansen will serve. Schumacher will serve as an alternate.

Schumacher left the meeting at 9:43 a.m.

Following the March 18th wind energy ordinance work session, the Board commented on several points of the ordinance.

Matt Peltz submitted a letter to the Board through email and also joined the meeting via Zoom to point out some FAA regulations. Peltz is the airport manager of a grass runway that is a public airport in Emmet County. Ordinance section 16.4 subsection 16 Airports and Airspace deals with the distance of a wind turbine to an airport. Specifically, line B addresses a public airport and the distance of a wind turbine to such an airport. Current draft states 4 miles, Peltz states 2 ½ miles is a minimum. Consensus of the Board to amend their comment to suggest a change from four miles to three miles from a public airport in line B.

Via Zoom, Tyler from Steelhead Americas (Vestas) Wind Energy offered comments about Steelhead’s requirements to comply with FAA regulations in the planning, permitting and building of wind turbines.

Motion by Quastad, second by Glasnapp to send the draft wind energy ordinance with comments back to planning and zoning. All ayes. Motion carried. The draft wind energy ordinance document with comments will be available on emmetcountytia.gov website or at the Auditor’s Office.

Auditor Goebel will send the draft wind energy ordinance with comments to Steve Hallgren as county zoning director.

County engineer, Walter Davis-Oeth, utility permit for Iowa Great Lakes Regional Water 445th Avenue and 180th Street. Motion to approve by Pluth, second by Glasnapp. All ayes. Motion carried.

Damage from mailboxes caused by snowplows. Discussion on creating a policy to replace the mailbox without involving an insurance claim.

Emmet County Safety Action Plan Workshop scheduled for March 26th at 2 p.m.

Board reviewed Manure Management Plans:

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Facility Name</u>	<u>Site #</u>
Jeff Anderson	J.A.N.S. Farms Inc #2	57870
Howard Hogs LLC	Bates Sites	58134
Paul Clausen	Paul Clausen	57871

Motion by Pluth, second by Quastad to adjourn at 10:46 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Heidi Goebel, Emmet County Auditor

Lisa Hansen, Chairman