

Approved Emmet County Board of Supervisor Minutes
April 8, 2025, at 08:30 a.m.
Regular Meeting
Board Room, Courthouse

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

Media: Mike Tidemann, Ed Funston

Emmet County Employees present: Melanie Summers Bauler, Heidi Goebel, Justin Schultes, Roxanne Budach, Kari Batman, Trevor Duckett, Travis Sheridan, Kari Batman, Michelle Howing.

Chairman Hansen, called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Schumacher, second by Quastad to approve the minutes of the public hearing meeting on 4.1.2025 also approving them for publication. Motion by Quastad, second by Schumacher to approve the regular board meeting minutes on 4.1.2025, also approving them for publication. Motion to approve the agenda by Quastad, second by Pluth. All Ayes, motion carried.

Committee updates: Quastad attended the Estherville City Council meeting as the exterior coverings of the addition appeared on the City of Estherville agenda for approval. The city did approve the exterior materials presented in the county’s building permit.

Public forum: Pluth was contacted by the City of Gruver regarding a road closure for fireworks during the summer 125th anniversary.

Roxanne Budach, Auditor’s Office, presented the Board with the Elks Lodge’s Iowa Alcoholic Beverage License for consideration. Dram shop insurance was included. Motion to approve by Schumacher, second by Quastad. All ayes. Motion carried.

Emmet County Board of Supervisors declared April Child Abuse Prevention Month. Jessie Hansen joined the meeting on behalf of Upper Des Moines. Hansen presented the Board with county statistics on child abuse and abuse prevention programs in Emmet County. Motion by Pluth, second by Schumacher to sign the proclamation. All ayes. Motion carried.

IDALS discussion from email received from Sara Smith from IDALS involving a wetland project. IDALS have two questions of Emmet County: Is permission needed form the drainage district and is there a county flood plain permit required? Board would like IDALS to present the project in a future meeting.

Public Health Director, Kari Batman, presented the resignation of Dr. Keith Probst from the Board of Health and then offered Tracy Ross as a replacement as medical director. Motion to accept the resignation of Dr. Probst and appoint Tracy Ross to the Board of Health Medical Director by Pluth, second by Quastad. All ayes. Motion carried.

Thomas Olson joined the meeting. John with Pinnacle joined the meeting via Zoom for the Master Matix of K and T Olson Swine #4. Glasnapp and Quastad went to the hog confinement site visit. New buildings for the Master Matrix belong to Thomas Olson. The existing buildings belong to Andrew Olson on the site. Quastad says the site meets the Master Matrix. Motion by Quastad to approve the Matrix, second by Pluth. All ayes. Motion carried.

IT Director, Trevor Duckett, discussed with the Board the past phone service decision to switch to Premier Communications. Duckett would like the Board to rescind that decision and replace service with Midwest Technology. Pluth made the motion to rescind previous motion of Premier Communications as phone service provider and accept the quote with Midwest Technology, second by Schumacher. Schumacher, Pluth, Hansen-ayes. Quastad-nay. Motion carried.

LOSST fund request for boring cable to the new administration building. Supervisor Glasnapp met with City of Estherville Administrator, Penny Clayton. City offered to share the cost of the boring and cable due to the new location of their Police Department. City of Estherville would like to pay for the cost share in FY 2026 when they take possession of their new Police Department building. Motion by Schumacher, second by Pluth to use LOSST funds for the boring and cable \$13,192.70 full amount with future cost share coming back from the City of Estherville. Schumacher, Hansen, Pluth-ayes. Quastad-nays. Motion carried.

County daycare discussion involving Kristin Buum, Little Mustangs (Armstrong Child Care Center); Derek and Chelsea Smith, Little Wranglers owners; Michelle Howing of Tiny Treasures (both Estherville Child Care Centers). Several members of the public joined the board meeting. Summers Bauler discussed the insurance liability of the behalf of the county if the county was to own a building that was leased to a daycare facility. Discussion on the need for a capital campaign. Community members present are asking for county supervisors financial support to kick off the capital campaign and grant writing endeavors.

Schumacher left the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Howing asked Chairperson Hansen if she would author a letter of support to the capital campaign on behalf of the Emmet County Board of Supervisors. Hansen and Pluth committed verbal support of a capital campaign to those present.

Courthouse addition discussion with Sheriff Schultes about the law enforcement center’s emergency exit. Courthouse brick samples for addition. Colors of samples were discussed. Quastad will stop at Christensen Construction for brick consultation. Courthouse sewer lining discussed in relationship to adding the line for the new addition.

Motion by Pluth, second by Quastad to adjourn at 10:38 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Heidi Goebel, Auditor

Lisa Hansen, Chairman