Approved Emmet County Board of Supervisor Minutes
August 5, 2025, at 08:25 a.m.
Regular Meeting
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: Lisa Hansen, Chair; John Pluth, Jeff Quastad, Tim Schumacher (in at 8:30), Todd Glasnapp

Media: Amy Peterson, Ed Funston

Emmet County Employees present: Casee Ross, Melanie Summers Bauler, Travis Sheridan

Chairman Hansen, called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Glasnapp, second by Quastad to approve the board meeting minutes on July 29, 2025, also approving them for publication. Motion to approve meeting agenda by Quastad, second by Pluth. All Ayes, motion carried.

DRAINAGE: the supervisors joined via conference call with the Palo Alto County Supervisors' meeting to discuss EPA 17 Swan Lake Project and Iowa DNR settlement agreement. All five Palo Alto Supervisors are present on the conference call. Supervisor Quastad brought the Palo Alto supervisors up to date on the project.

DNR employees present: Mike Hawkins and Andrew Carlson presented findings and settlement agreement terms. There are 310 yards of sediment present after the draining of Swan Lake according to the survey. DNR is offering to clean out from the lake to the road now. DNR is offering $5 per yard of sediment to be paid to EPA 17 for future clean out.

Mike Hawkins agreed that nothing needs to be done right now other than the DNR paid clean out from the lake to the road. The settlement money would be for the drainage district clean out in the future. Hawkins shared that there are more survey results for the lower end that were not in the original report.
Motion by Keith Wirtz (Palo Alto) to accept what Emmet County decides on for the DNR settlement, second by Linus Solberg (Palo Alto). All ayes of Palo Alto board. Motion carried.
Joint session closed at 8:50 a.m.

Hawkins suggested a $3000 settlement after approval from Iowa DNR appropriations.
Motion by Pluth to accept the $3000 settlement, second by Schumacher. All ayes. Motion carried.

Committee updates: Schumacher-Sioux Rivers Mental Health Region has closed down, any additional monies leftover will be divided and paid to the counties. Schumacher has invited Beth Will to attend the August 19th meeting to discuss mental health liaison for Emmet County. Quastad-housing trust meeting was cancelled.

Public forum: EMA Director Travis Sheridan discussed a $20,000 grant received from Palo Alto Gaming Commission to purchase a side by side. Sheridan is getting bids for government pricing. Additional discussion about alternate vehicles. Warning siren projects for the City of Estherville, Dolliver and Ringsted.

Consideration of the appointment of Lincoln Township Clerk. Tabled until next week. Motion by Pluth to add Jeff Quastad to the Lincoln Township checking account, second by Glasnapp. Vote: Schumacher, Glasnapp, Pluth, Hansen-ayes. Abstain: Quastad. Motion carried.

Consideration of the appointment to the Board of Adjustment. Tabled.

Casee Ross, Emmet County General Assistance Director, reviewed rules and guidance to receive general assistance from the county. General assistance funeral guidelines may need to be redesigned to stop misuse of indigent funeral funds. Ross will review policy changes with Summers Bauler.

Walter Davis-Oeth, County Engineer, presented updates from secondary roads. Federal grant application for Weir bridge replacement has been submitted. Preconstruction meeting for shoulder widening next week. Building update checklists for plumbing, electric, building structure. Will need to meet with IT to get phone and internet services for the building. Davis Oeth has submitted letters to both Christensen Construction and Mueske Electric about the unexpected duration of the project and damages being caused by not being able to occupy the building.

Motion by Quastad, second by Pluth to enter closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) j. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Quastad, second by Schumacher to leave closed session. Roll call vote: Schumacher-aye, Glasnapp-aye, Pluth-aye, Quastad-aye, Hansen-aye. Motion carried. No decisions made in closed session.

Discussion on the West Administrative Buildings remodel. Rosburg, Towell, Minion, Duckett and Goebel went over the latest layout for the West Admin that the four went over last week. Presented designed space. Discussion with supervisors about the building.

Motion by Quastad that no county offices move to the West Admin Building, second by Pluth. Roll call vote: Schuamcher-nay, Glasnapp-nay, Pluth-aye, Quastad-aye, Hansen-nay. Motion did not pass.

Motion by Glasnapp to proceed with the move to the west admin building and the floor plan presented today, second by Schumacher. Schumacher-aye, Glasnapp-aye, Pluth-nay, Quastad-nay, Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

Information Technology Director, Trevor Duckett, will move to the west admin building for an office effective now due the court services needing his third-floor office.

DRAINAGE:
Joint drainage claim
Motion by Pluth to approve the claim for Beck Engineering ECD 61 $1133.75, second by Schumacher. All ayes (Pluth, Schumacher, Hansen). Motion carried.

Manure Management Plans reviewed by the board.

Site Name	Owner	Site
Oleson Tanner Site	Tanner Oleson	#57875
LB Pork IA Lake Tunnel IL5	LBH Partners, LLP	#64087
Wegener Cole	Cole Wegener	#57872

Motion by Pluth , second by Quastad to adjourn at 11:36 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Heidi Goebel, Auditor Lisa Hansen, Chairman