

## **April 29, 2020**

Board members present for regular session at 9:00 a.m. were: Twombly, Hoadley, Homan, Shelley and Wedemeyer joined via conference call.

Also present: Mandy Berg, KSOM News, Joanie Finck, and FNB Bank joined via conference call.

All motions were approved unanimously unless noted otherwise.

Due to heightened public health risk from the coronavirus outbreak, the Board Meeting was held via conference call pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8.

**MINUTES:** Moved by Shelley and seconded by Hoadley to approve the minutes from April 22, 2020. Approved.

**MANURE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATES:** Moved by Shelley and seconded by Homan to acknowledge receipt of the manure management plan updates from Bench S Site #2, Geidel Pork #66727, and Robert Slayton #65131. Approved.

**WIND TUBINE NOISE COMPLAINTS RESPONSE LETTER:** Supervisor Hoadley stated that she had heard back from Senator Grassley's office and was directed to talk with Senator Jack Chapman and Representative Ray Sorensen concerning what could be done by the Board for the noise caused by the wind turbines. Both Chapman and Sorensen referred to Iowa code 331.301 which states "A county may, except as expressly limited by the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and if not inconsistent with the laws of the general assembly, exercise any power and perform any function it deems appropriate to protect and preserve the rights, privileges, and property of the county or of its residents, and to preserve and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of its residents". Although Chapman and Sorensen did not have a legal reference and it has never been done before, Hoadley stated she was told that the County would be able to enforce a sound ordinance and that Chapman would be willing to work with the Supervisors and residents to put one in place. Supervisor Wedemeyer stated that he believes we should still respond to the residents with the noise complaints and add that the County will continue to reach out for expanded legal advice on the matter as we know this will continue to occur. Supervisor Hoadley stated that we need to get ordinances updated anyways. Moved by Wedemeyer and seconded by Hoadley to send the response letters with the amended language of continuing to seek legal advice on the matter. Shelley abstained from the vote. Approved.

**SICOG COVID-19 SURVEY:** The Board received a survey from SICOG regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the County. The Board discussed the answers to the survey. Moved by Hoadley and seconded by Shelley for Auditor Berg to submit the survey to SICOG. Approved.

**CONSERVATION:** Dominic Johnson, County Conservation Director, joined via teleconference at 9:20 a.m. Johnson gave an update to the Board on the following conservation items: Johnson has now completed the academy, parks remain open and have been seeing a lot of activity, they purchased the 60 acre property and Johnson will be applying for a grant to help pay for the property, AmeriCorps position has been filled and will be starting May 24<sup>th</sup>, seasonal employee, John Funke, has started this week, have been doing controlled burns, Lake Orient electric and water project is complete, will open up campgrounds when Governor Reynolds will allow, and with COVID-19 the bathrooms are supposed to be cleaned twice daily so Johnson is still looking for a solution for that. Johnson exited the discussion at 9:32 a.m.

**ORIENT CITY WIND TURBINE & TIF DISCUSSION:** Gary Metzger and Matt Swanson, City of Orient, joined via teleconference at 9:32 a.m. Swanson started the discussion by saying the City of Orient originally planned on TIFing 25-30 turbines. Swanson stated that he realizes the Board was told by MidAmerican that they believed there would only be 18 in the two-mile radius of the City, but would like the Board to consider giving Orient the entire 30 that have now been constructed in that two-mile radius. Supervisor Shelley stated that as of now, the Board hadn't given any to the City and that they are confused by how the process works. Supervisor Twombly explained that with the discussion with Stuart concerning their turbines, they limited Stuart to 18 turbines with capturing 80% of the value because they believed Orient was only going to have 18 and wanted it to be fair. Supervisor Wedemeyer stated we did cut Stuart's turbines because we didn't think Orient would have many, but thinks that it would still benefit the County to give Orient the entire amount in their two-mile radius. Stuart is different than Orient and it would drastically help the town. Supervisor Hoadley stated we only were thinking 18 turbines before because of MidAmerican, but would we have had a problem giving them the entire amount if we would have known they would have 30 in the beginning? Hoadley believes that Orient's circumstances are different than the City of Stuart and thinks it would benefit them much more. Supervisor Shelley stated that we need to think about the rural county residents as well and that by giving the entire amount to the City of 400, we are taking them away from entire rural County. Supervisor Hoadley stated that she disagrees and that money is not being lost by anyone and that it all comes out and that this would free up other money for the City that could help fund other things including the amount given to the County for the City's law enforcement. Metzger stated that the City could have voted on not putting any turbines within the City's two-mile radius and that the money would still stay in the County if the turbines were given to the City. Supervisor Shelley thinks we need to keep the additional turbines to help maintain the County's roads and bridges and that we need to think about the rest of the County. Supervisor Wedemeyer explained that because of TIF, the City of Massena has really expanded and thinks it is the best interest of the County to keep the City of Orient going and funded. Moved by Shelley and seconded by Twombly to allow the City of Orient to only TIF 18 turbines within their two-mile radius. Roll call vote: Twombly, aye; Shelley, aye; Wedemeyer, nay; Hoadley, nay; and Homan, nay. Motion denied. Moved by Wedemeyer and seconded by Hoadley to allow Orient to TIF the entire amount of 30 turbines within the two-mile radius. Roll call vote: Hoadley, aye; Wedemeyer, aye; Shelley, nay; Homan, aye; and Twombly, nay. Motion carried. Supervisor Shelley would also like to include the language that the City can only capture 80% of the value of the turbines. Moved by Shelley and seconded by Wedemeyer to only allow the City of Orient to capture 80% of the turbine's assessed value. Roll call vote: Shelley, aye; Hoadley, aye; Wedemeyer, aye; Homan, aye; and Twombly aye. Motion Carried. Swanson and Metzger thanked the Board and exited the discussion at 9:52 a.m.

**WEED COMMISSIONER:** Nathan Jensen, County Weed Commissioner, joined via teleconference at 9:52 a.m. Jensen presented the weed notices that were going to be published to the Board. Moved by Homan and seconded by Shelley to approve the weed notices and allow Jensen to publish. Approved. Jensen exited the discussion at 9:53 a.m.

**COVID-19 UPDATES & DISCUSSION:** Rich Wallace, Courthouse Maintenance, Brenda Wallace, Treasurer, and Janelle Schneider, Recorder entered at 9:53 a.m. Supervisor Homan stated that he would be attending the Zoom meeting tonight with Emergency Management. Supervisor Shelley asked if we need to do anything with reopening the Courthouse. Supervisor Twombly stated that he thinks it is our best interest to stay closed and that we will need time to work on the Dutch doors and plexiglass shields for the offices. Supervisor Hoadley stated that we need to spend what we need to in order to keep everyone protected.

**TELEWORK POLICY/AGREEMENT:** Auditor Berg stated that we should have some guidelines in place if we are allowing individuals to work from home and presented a telework agreement to the Board. Supervisor Twombly stated that we need to continue to prepare ways to allow employees to work from home. Moved by Hoadley and seconded by Shelley to approve departments to use the telework agreement as needed. Approved.

**ENGINEER: Maintenance and Activities** – The Board reviewed the maintenance and activities report submitted by Engineer Kauffman.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by Homan and seconded by Twombly to adjourn at 9:58 a.m.

**ADAIR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:** \_\_\_\_\_ John Twombly, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_ Mandy Berg, Auditor