

April 23, 2021

Board members present for a special session at 8:15 a.m. were: Shelley, Hoadley, and Twombly. Walker and Wedemeyer joined via conference call. Also present: Mandy Berg, Ric Hansen-KJAN, Jayne Stephen, Karen Seley, Andrea Beane, Joanie Finck, County Attorney Melissa Larson, KSOM, and Matt Ott-MidAmerican joined via conference.

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.

SOLAR PANEL ORDINANCE: Auditor Berg distributed three documents that were received in her office regarding solar panels: Draft 3 of the Solar Ordinance, a letter from Matt Ott-MidAmerican, and a letter from Jordan Oster-Iowa Environmental Council. Caleb Nelson, Adair County Free Press, joined via conference call at 8:17 a.m. County Attorney Larson stated that Draft 3 of the Solar Ordinance contained all the changes that the Board voted on at Wednesday's board meeting and Larson also added a definition for "Agreements" as there were some questions regarding what this included. Supervisor Hoadley stated that she believes that fencing should be included in the setbacks with project development being contained inside the fencing and that it should be put back into the Ordinance. Supervisor Wedemeyer agreed and that he thought there was a little confusion in the discussion on Wednesday and believes including fences in the setback measurements would make it more black-and-white. Supervisor Walker agreed saying he had received several calls concerning this and that those with special circumstances could go through the appeal process to try and get the setback waived. Larson stated that this would be an easy change to the Ordinance if that was what the Board wanted. Moved by Hoadley and seconded by Walker to include fencing in the setback measurements with project development going inside of the fencing. Roll Call Vote: Shelley, nay; Twombly, aye; Hoadley, aye; Wedemeyer, aye; and Walker, aye. Approved. Supervisor Hoadley wanted to clarify that the 400-acre cap would include all developed solar and that contracted acres that were not originally developed could not then be developed after the cap had been met. Attorney Larson stated that that was her understanding and that someone could not come back and develop more acres after the cap had been met without going through the appeal process first. The Board discussed when the public hearing could be held. Moved by Wedemeyer and seconded by Hoadley to publish the notice for the first reading of the ordinance in the two official newspapers on April 28th and 29th, 2021 and to hold the public hearing on May 5th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Approved. Moved by Shelley and seconded by Wedemeyer to allow individuals to speak for a duration of 3 minutes by signing up prior to the commencement of the meeting and allowing individuals to also submit written comments. Approved. The conference phone will still be available to those who cannot attend in person. In-person public attendance will be limited to 21 people in the courtroom at one time. Auditor Berg will include this information in the notice.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Walker and seconded by Hoadley to adjourn at 8:33 a.m. Approved.

ADAIR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: _____ Steve Shelley, Chairman

ATTEST: _____ Mandy Berg, Auditor