

HARDIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 20, 2019  
WEDNESDAY - 2:00 P.M.  
COURTHOUSE LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

Chair Reneé McClellan called the meeting to order. Also present were Supervisors Lance Granzow and BJ Hoffman; and Linn Adams, Lori Kadner, Aaron Budweg, Mark Buschkamp, Justin Ites, Jessica Lara, JD Holmes, Don Knoell, Doug Morse, Megan Mollenbeck, Taylor Roll, Dave Dunn, Tina Schlemme, Micah Cutler, Machel Eichmeier, Julie Duhn, Dave Mitchell, and Nancy Lauver.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Granzow moved, Hoffman seconded to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

No HVAC project update today.

Doug Morse and Megan Mollenbeck, Hansen Family Hospital, appeared before the Board to provide a Hospital update to the Board. No action was necessary; informational only.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to approve the minutes of February 13 & 14, 2019. Motion carried.

Granzow moved, Hoffman seconded to approve the February 20, 2019 claims for payment. Motion carried.

Utility Permits: None.

Secondary Roads Department:

Taylor Roll, County Engineer, provided an update on the Secondary Roads Department and policies related to snow removal. No action was necessary; informational only.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded that the following Resolution No. 2019-06, A Resolution Petitioning the Governor and Legislature of Iowa to Revise Iowa Code §53.17(2) Pertaining to Absentee Ballots. Roll Call Vote: “Ayes” Hoffman, Granzow, and McClellan. “Nays” None. Resolution No. 2019-06 is hereby adopted as follows:

HARDIN COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-06

A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE OF IOWA  
TO REVISE IOWA CODE §53.17(2) PERTAINING TO ABSENTEE BALLOTS

WHEREAS, county commissioners of elections receive absentee ballots after polls close on Election Day; and

WHEREAS, to be counted, said absentee ballots must be “clearly postmarked by an officially authorized postal service or bear an intelligent mail barcode traceable to a date of entry into the federal mail system not later than the day before the election and received by the commissioner not later than noon on the Monday following the election” (Iowa Code §53.17(2)); and

WHEREAS, the federal mail system is outside jurisdiction of Iowa law and cannot guarantee either prescribed method of authentication as basis for qualifying such absentee ballots for counting (acknowledged in Iowa Administrative Code 721-21.303(53)); and

WHEREAS, absent prescribed evidence of registration in the federal mail system, said absentee ballots are disqualified from lawful counting; and

WHEREAS, disqualified and uncounted absentee ballots in close races cast doubt among voters as to legitimacy of election results; and

WHEREAS, such disqualified and uncounted absentee ballots have been cause to contest election results in district court and the Iowa House of Representatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HARDIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

The Hardin County Board of Supervisors do hereby petition the Governor and Legislature of Iowa to simplify the standard for counting absentee ballots by revising Iowa Code §53.17(2) as follows:

In order for the ballot to be counted, the return envelope must be received in the commissioner's office before the polls close on election day.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

/s/ Reneé McClellan  
Reneé McClellan, Chair  
Hardin Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

/s/ Jessica Lara  
Jessica Lara  
Hardin County Auditor and Commissioner of Elections

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to acknowledge receipt of the County Conservation Annual Report, 1/1/2018-12/31/2018, as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the budget request of \$227,161.64 submitted by Greenbelt Home Care, and the following action was taken: Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to table discussion on Greenbelt Home Care budget request. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on employee accrued sick leave benefits, and the following action was taken: Hoffman moved to instruct Mike Galloway to change the Handbook and bring a newly revised handbook to revert back to old system and allow Jessica Lara to go back to back-up system and getting everyone back where they need to be. Motion died for lack of a second.

Granzow then moved, Hoffman seconded to direct Reneé McClellan to contact the HR firm to address additional hours accrued beyond the 90-day cap, so those employees don't lose what they had. Motion carried.

Public comments: None.

Other Business: None.

Hoffman moved, Granzow seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Reneé McClellan, Chair  
Board of Supervisors

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Jessica Lara  
Hardin County Auditor