Chair Lance Granzow called the meeting to order. Also present were Supervisors BJ Hoffman and Renée McClellan; and Josh Odom, Paul Williams, Dave McDaniel, Mark Buschkamp, Donna Juber, Matt Jones, Michael Pearce, Curt Groen, Chris Wieting, Emily Light, Mariah Lynne, Darrell Meyer, Angela De La Riva, Taylor Roll, Bette Dossman, Jody Anderson, Justin Ites, and Angela Silvey.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Hoffman moved, McClellan seconded to approve the minutes of February 26, 2020. Motion carried.

There were no March 4, 2020 claims for payment.

Utility Permits:
Hoffman moved, McClellan seconded to approve Hardin County Utility Permit Applications 2020-005 and 2020-006 as presented. Motion carried. Both permits are on file in the Engineer’s Office.

Secondary Roads Department:
County Engineer Taylor Roll advised his crew had to close County Highway D35 west of Steamboat Rock that morning due to work on a drainage district. A temporary detour is in effect.

McClellan moved, Hoffman seconded to approve an amendment to the Secondary Roads Early Retirement Incentive changing the application acceptance start date from May 1 to March 1, 2020. Roll Call Vote: “Ayes” McClellan, Hoffman, and Granzow. “Nays” None. Motion carried.

Chris Wieting, Chair of the River’s Edge Trail Commission, f/k/a Iowa River Trail Commission, reviewed trail projects eligible to receive Region 6 grant funding and the timeline for completion. McClellan moved, Hoffman seconded that the following Resolution No. 2020-10, A Resolution to Approve the Iowa River Trail Region 6 Transportation Alternative Program Grants, be adopted. Roll Call Vote: “Ayes” McClellan, Hoffman, and Granzow. “Nays” None. Resolution No. 2020-10 is hereby adopted as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-10
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IOWA RIVER TRAIL
REGION 6 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM GRANTS

Whereas the Region 6 Resource Partners has available Transportation Alternative Program grant funding from the IDOT for Trail and other eligible projects, and

Whereas the Iowa River Trail project is a priority application for regional TAP funds.

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

Section 1: Approve using $247,000 Region 6 TAP funds to rehabilitate bridges #19-25. The $61,750 match for this will be from the Hardin County Trails account. This funding has been awarded but for a slightly different set of bridges. The total cost of this phase is $617,500. There is $308,750 of other grant and local funding also.
Section 2: Approved using $145,000 Region 6 TAP funds to help pave the approximately 4.4 miles from Steamboat Rock to near Highway 175 in Eldora. This will supplement the other IDOT funding grants totaling $800,000. The match for this project will be $185,000 which will come from the Hardin County Trails account. This will be new funding for the project. The total cost of this phase is estimated at $1.13 million.

Section 3: Hardin County will adequately maintain the completed project for its intended public use for a minimum of 20 years following project completion.

Approved this 4th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Lance Granzow
Lance Granzow, Board of Supervisors

Attest:
/s/ Jessica Lara
Jessica Lara, County Auditor

Hoffman moved, McClellan seconded to approve the Sheriff’s Monthly Report for February 2020. Motion carried.

Josh Odom with RWE Renewables spoke about the wind project development process and where the Hardin County project stands in the typical development timeline. Odom also addressed questions that have arisen while speaking to community members and during board meetings. A handout Odom provided will be posted on the County’s website.

Public Comments:
Jody Anderson, Iowa Falls City Manager, commended the Supervisors for taking time to ensure wind turbines are sited correctly, but noted wind turbines already exist in Hardin County, and no adverse effects have been reported.

Granzow asked Odom if the time being taken on a revised ordinance concerned RWE Renewables, to which Odom replied that enough time remains before his company plans on applying for a permit.

Mark Buschkamp, IFADC Executive Director, stated he spoke to an O’Brien County dairy farmer whose operation is surrounded by wind turbines and who has seen no adverse effects on his cattle.

Odom advised that the latest copy of the County’s ordinance, which contains a 2 X total height setback requirement, would make the wind project not viable. The 2 X setback recommendation was based on a study that has been retracted by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Curt Groen raised concerns about claims of human and livestock health effects he discovered.

Other Business:
Granzow reminded attendees that RWE Renewables representatives would be available for questions after adjournment.

McClellan moved, Hoffman seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

/s/ Lance Granzow
Lance Granzow, Chair
Board of Supervisors

/s/ Jessica Lara
Jessica Lara
Hardin County Auditor