

April 10, 2020 4:00 p.m.

The Jones County Board of Supervisors met in special session to address matters related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Present Chairman Manternach, Supervisors Oswald, Rohwedder, and Zirkelbach. Supervisor Eaken was absent.

*Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and to abide by health safety and social distancing guidelines, remote participation to this meeting was provided by electronic video and audio streaming via remote meeting software, with audio only access also available by telephone. Said remote participation electronic meeting access is permitted via a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued by Governor Kim Reynolds on March 19, 2020. Physical in-person access to the public was not permitted at this meeting. Full instructions for access via remote participation were included on the meeting agenda which was posted on the east, west, and north exterior doors of the Courthouse, the County web-site, and was emailed to the list of fifty-seven individuals who are typically emailed the agenda for Board of Supervisors' meetings. A statement was read at the beginning of the meeting noting that if it became apparent that the electronic meeting was being maliciously hacked or compromised the electronic access would be promptly terminated and the Board would proceed to adjourn the meeting.*

The Emergency Management Coordinator and Community Health Specialist met with the Board to provide an update on emergency preparedness activities to address the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Emergency Management Coordinator reported that the shipment of personal protective equipment scheduled for April 11, 2020 from the Iowa National Guard will likely be the last shipment for a while due to lack of necessary supplies, other than hand sanitizer, and noted that persons using masks may need to re-use them until they are no longer useable, and that she has home-made masks coming, with more ordered. She reported concerns for the safety of the inventory of personal protective equipment she has on hand. The Community Health Specialist reported that Jones County now has eight confirmed cases of COVID-19, and that the Jones County Public Health Department has started a public information campaign with local businesses to help get the social distancing message to more people.

The Auditor presented a comprehensive infectious disease action plan/leave policy to address employment matters related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, noting that she was using the policy template provided by the County's labor relations consultant and had modified it to include the various measures the Board had already adopted. She reported that she had been in consultation with the County Attorney, Sheriff, Emergency Management Coordinator, Public Health Coordinator, and her payroll deputy during the development of the policy. The draft policy had been provided to all department heads earlier in the day.

The Board Chairman and Auditor addressed questions from department heads during the meeting, with the Board providing the remaining details pertaining to effective dates for some of the provisions in the policy.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Rohwedder to adopt, and place on file, an Infectious Disease Action Plan to address employment matters related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, incorporating the provisions of the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act and other County specific benefits and restrictions, with various provisions of the policy having differing effective dates, and noting that the policy will be in effect until further notice. All aye. Motion carried. [2020-035]

The Emergency Management Coordinator reported that the County has been awarded an emergency food distribution grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

Moved by Oswald seconded by Zirkelbach to adjourn at 5:01 p.m. All aye. Motion carried.

Attest: Janine Sulzner, Auditor

Wayne Manternach, Chairman

