

**MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD ON JANUARY 18, 2022.**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman Rusty Eddy with members Tom Heidenwirth and Greg Barnett present. Moved by Barnett, second by Heidenwirth to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Motioned by Heidenwirth, second by Barnett to approve the minutes as read. All ayes. Motion carried.

During Public Comment, Fern Feldman asked via Zoom if the county was getting an objection letter out to address the pipeline. Barnett explained that a letter is being drawn up. Eddy also mentioned that the board concluded last week to have an objection letter written up and sent off.

Treasurer Roxie Nicolaus's Semi-Annual report was presented with no additional comments. Barnett moved to place it on file, second by Heidenwirth.

A date and time for a public hearing designating EMS as an essential service was scheduled for March 30, at 9:00 A.M. It was decided to change the weekly Board of Supervisors meeting from March 29 to March 30, to coincide with the public hearing.

County Auditor reviewed deadlines for the FY23 budget.

Julie Folken, along with fellow librarians in Butler County, represented the Butler County Librarians to present a funding request. Information was presented illustrating the difference in funding received by libraries in surrounding counties. It has been more challenging for the libraries to be sustainable with the amount of resources they currently have. More technological purchases have taken place within the last three years since the last funding request. After explaining a "hot spot" and how it works, a 6% increase was suggested. Barnett mentioned that he would like to find out how the other surrounding counties are going about it. A comment from Jill Norton, New Hartford, highlighted that the loss of restaurants and other businesses has resulted in the library being the only hub in the community. Recorder Jacobs was in attendance and also commented on how important the libraries are to these communities in Butler County.

Mike Stirling was in attendance for the Butler County Fair funding request. Stirling stated that the fair really appreciated the assistance and noted that they will not be requesting any additional funds over what they have been receiving. It was acknowledged by the board that they will plan to keep the funding amount the same for the Butler County Fair.

Barnett made a motion to go into a closed session at 9:40 A.M. to discuss a proposal to modify the current bargaining agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 234, second by Heidenwirth. Barnett motioned at 10:08 A.M. to go back into opened session, second by Heidenwirth.

**FY23 Budget Workshop:**

Mike Miner, Conservation Director, presented the conservation FY 2023 budget which indicated that the general fund changes were only associated with the cost of living changes.

Jason Johnson, Sheriff, presented the Sheriff Department's budget and acknowledged a recent staffing change that may require more part-time help. Johnson did mention, in regards to the budget, that cameras would be useful in the future, especially at the courthouse and within communities.

Roxie Nicolaus, Treasurer, presented the Treasury department budget which contained very few changes.

Janice Jacobs, Recorder, presented the Recorders budget with no major changes or purchases.

Tom Heckman, Veteran Affairs Director presented his budget which only contained minor changes.

Misty Day, Planning and Zoning/Environmental Health Administrator presented her budget. The only significant changes include upcoming staffing and salary changes.

Sara Trepp, IT Director, presented the IT budget. Although the budget went down over the past year, there are new projects coming up that will be factored into the budget.

John Riherd, County Engineer, presented his budget and indicated that they will be over budget in FY22. Riherd explained that this stemmed from moving projects forward due to the good weather in the Fall of 2021. A short discussion was had over the fuel price fluctuations and the cost to keep the trucks fueled. Riherd also commented that the overall budget increased with an uptick in local projects and the industrial park area. The Engineers budget will be reviewed further at the next meeting.

Jennifer Becker was not available and the Public Health's FY23 budget will be reviewed at a later date.

Dave Kuehner, County Attorney, presented his budget and noted that he is attempting to gradually reduce expenditures in a number of areas. No major changes were presented.

Leslie Groen, Auditor, presented the Auditor's budget, which contained an increase due to staffing two elections employees before the retirement of Mary Brouwer.

Motioned by Barnett, second by Heidenwirth to approve claims. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motioned by Barnett, second by Eddy to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:58 A.M. to January 25, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. All ayes. Motion carried.

The above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes and proceedings of a regular adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Iowa on January 18, 2022.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Butler County Auditor

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Chairman of the Board of Supervisors