

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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March 1, 2021

The Jefferson County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday March 1, 2021. Present were Commissioners Lynn Luck, Richard Malm, David Christy, County Clerk Linda M Buttron and Ryan Kriegshauser Assistant County Counselor.

Vouchers were reviewed and approved by the Assistant Counselor and the Board. Lynn moved that the minutes of February 22 be approved as presented. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Kelly Woodward, Community Development Director met with the Board. She asked to take an online grant writing class from K-State Extension. The cost is \$60. The Board agreed to the request by consensus.

Crystal VanHoutan, Health Department Administrator updated the Board on COVID numbers. The number of cases in the county continue to have a downward trend in cases and the number of tests for Jefferson County is also declining. She stated that she would have more confidence in the amount of community transmission if the testing number remained higher and the number of positives continued to decline. She discussed information from the White House briefing that she listened to today. They encouraged states to not relax public health measures yet because they are seeing a lull in the decline of cases. There has been a 2% increase (nationwide) in the number of deaths over the last 7 days. Jefferson County has had 1,618 total cases, (an increase of 13 cases since last Monday) 65 hospitalizations, 32 deaths and 5,360 total negative tests. Crystal recommended that we continue the mask mandate for two more weeks which would allow more of the vulnerable population in Jefferson County to be vaccinated. It would also give us a little time after spring break to see if the numbers are going to continue to go down. She reported that we have given 2,179 doses of the Moderna vaccine to date consisting of 1,680 primary doses and 499 secondary doses. She also reported that the FDA has approved the emergency use of a Johnson and Johnson vaccine. She informed the Board that the department is eagerly waiting to hear the State Health Department plan for that vaccine. Lynn moved that the mask mandate be continued until March 15. Richard seconded. Discussion was held. David "appealed the decision of the chair" by objecting to the Chair's decision to second a motion before David had a chance to make a motion. Richard withdrew his second. David moved that we go back to the voluntary system for wearing masks including County buildings and we highly recommend social distancing and hand washing excluding the schools however he would encourage the schools to also abandon the mask mandate. The motion died for lack of a second. Richard seconded. Lynn's motion. The chair asked for discussion. No discussion was heard. Richard voted in favor of Lynn's motion. Lynn voted in favor of her motion. David voted against Lynn's motion.

Ben Domann, Public Works Director met with the Board. With regard to the bids opened last week, Ben recommended that the oil bid of Vance Brothers be accepted. Lynn moved that the bid of Vance Brothers be accepted. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Ben asked the Board to sign Resolution 2021-006 directing county staff and contractors to proceed with a petition in the District Court to acquire the necessary right of way temporary construction easements and drainage easements that are not acquired after the financial offers made by Jefferson County for the aforementioned improvements

located at the intersection of 142<sup>nd</sup> street and Wellman road, proceeding south approximately 1 mile. Richard moved that Resolution 2021-006 be approved as presented. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. He reported that there are five parties involved in the project. He thinks that everyone is “on board” for putting 6-foot shoulders on Wellman road. He discussed other work on the right of way process. Richard moved that the following amounts be offered for the acquisition; Permanent easements - \$10,000/acre for land that is needed for required permanent easements; Drainage Easements-\$7,000 per acres for required drainage easements; Temporary Construction Easements-\$5,000/acre for temporary construction easements; Fencing-\$10/foot for the improvement. At the time of construction, if the fence has not been removed, it will be removed by the contractor. The cost of replacement of that fence is the responsibility of the owner after the roadway construction is complete. Temporary fencing is also the responsibility of the owner during construction. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Ben asked for a motion to appoint Counsel for reviewing the title work on the project. David recused himself from the decision. Lynn moved that the Board approve Adra Burks as the attorney for the title work review. Richard seconded. Lynn voted in favor. Richard voted in favor.

Janet Allen, Appraiser met with the Board. Janet informed the Board that real estate valuation notices are being mailed today. She discussed time frames for appeals of the valuation.

County Counselor Josh Ney joined the meeting at 1:33 p.m.

Dwayne Hardiman, Colorado (Jefferson County property owner) met with the Board. He requested that a road easement off 35<sup>th</sup> and Wallace road be vacated. He purchased property a couple months ago and had a survey done. The survey identified an old road easement on the property. There is currently no road where the easement exists. Also present was the real estate agent that handled the sale of the property. Josh will publish the application for easement and road vacation for public hearing.

Rodge Moore, representing Steve Adrian met with the Board. On behalf of Steve Adrian, Rodge asked that the Board allow the option of a lagoon on Mr. Adrian’s property no matter what the recommendation from the Sanitarian is. When Saddlehorn Fields Subdivision was approved there was a condition attached to the plat approval that a lagoon would be “permissible as a wastewater treatment system on a lot, if the Jefferson County Sanitarian determines that a lagoon is the only viable system for the particular soil type and topography of the lot. Josh discussed the intent of the condition. The Board asked that a drawing of the location of the lagoon be provided to the Commission.

Crystal asked for an executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel regarding employee recruitment and retention. Richard moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel regarding recruitment and retention until 2:10 p.m. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 1:58 p.m. Present during the session were Crystal and the Board. The Board reconvened at 2:10 p.m. The chair announced no binding action was taken during executive session.

There being no further business to come before the Board they adjourned to meet in regular session on March 8, 2021.