



Hayes County Board Minutes



Hayes County Commissioners
May 7, 2020

A meeting of the Hayes County Board of Commissioners was scheduled for May 7, 2020 at 8:30 A.M. in the Courthouse in Hayes Center, Nebraska. Advanced notice of the meeting, time and place was given to each Commissioner, was published in the *Times Republican* on April 30, 2020, and posted in accordance with law. Chairman Unger called the meeting to order at 8:37 A.M. The Open Meetings Act was available for review and Chair indicated location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held. Those present were Wayne Christner, Barry Richards, Jeffrey Unger, Rita Erickson and Susan Messersmith. Present by video conferencing were D. Eugene Garner, Alysia Messersmith, John Webster and Eric Kamler.

Christner moved, second by Richards to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Unger, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

There were no comments from the public.

Richards moved, second by Christner to approve the consent agenda consisting of financial reports of the Clerk, Clerk of the District Court, Imprest Account, and the minutes of the April 14, 2020 meeting. Roll call vote: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Unger, yes. Motion carried.

John Webster, with Murphy Tractor, joined the meeting by video-conferencing. Discussion was held regarding the parts portal and services offered by Murphy Tractor.

Eric Kamler, Community Liaison/Ag Specialist for Representative Adrian Smith, joined the meeting by video conferencing. Mr. Kamler updated the Commissioners on current ag related bills and COVID-19 legislation.

The Commissioners reviewed COVID-19 transitional considerations for re-opening the Hayes County Courthouse.

Unger moved, second by Christner to adopt the following guidelines for courthouse re-opening. Roll call vote: Christner, yes; Unger, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2020-7

WHEREAS, the County of Hayes, State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY", is a duly organized political subdivision, existing pursuant to the laws of the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, further in recognition of the fact that the Health Department has suggested precautionary steps to mitigate the spread of the illness, including avoiding crowds, "social distancing" and refraining from physical contact; and

WHEREAS, further in recognition of the fact that many people have chronic medical conditions like diabetes or HIV which make them exceptionally vulnerable to the severe consequence of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, further in recognition of the fact that all efforts should be utilized to mitigate the exposure and spreading of the illness; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, Hayes County Board of Commissioners suspended public access to the Hayes County Courthouse until further notice effective 4:00 P.M. C.T., March 31, 2020, with the County offices remaining staffed to accept phone calls and to schedule appointments as deemed necessary in order to perform their duties and serve the public accordingly; and

WHEREAS, the Board deems it appropriate to now resume *limited* access to the Hayes County Courthouse during regular Courthouse hours in order to further provide face-to-face customer service to the citizens of Hayes County as necessary.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD that public access to the Hayes County Courthouse is resumed effective 8:00 A.M. C.T. on May 11, 2020 for regular Courthouse hours, and it is further suggested and encouraged that offices maintain a record documenting all face-to-face contacts specifically and including, name(s), date(s) and time(s) thereof.



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IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that, until further notice, driver's examiner services shall be limited to only Hayes County residents at such times as specifically scheduled by the State of Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to protect the health, safety and wellness of the public and of County employees, that the public is encouraged to conduct business over the phone or electronically in order to limit physical contact to the fullest extent that such services are available.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the public is requested to maintain social distancing and wear masks when interacting with county officials and employees within the Courthouse, and access will be controlled by social distance markings, queue lines, security personal, or staff monitoring in order to reduce the concentration of the number of people in the Courthouse at all times.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the public is respectfully requested to follow public health guidance and regulations from local health districts, DHMs, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") including without limitation: (1) if you have any symptoms of the flu or respiratory illness which includes a sore throat, fever, cough, or shortness of breath; (2) have been diagnosed with or have had close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19; (3) have traveled outside of the health district within the last 14 days; (4) reside or have had close contact with anyone who has traveled outside of the health district in the last 14 days; or (5) have been directed to quarantine, isolate, or self-monitor at home for COVID-19 by any doctor, hospital, or health agency, to not enter the Courthouse, but rather conduct your County business by contacting the appropriate County office by telephone or email.

Christner moved, second by Unger to approve claims, excluding claim 2005043, in the amount of \$41,045.45. Roll call vote: Unger, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Unger moved, second by Christner to approve claim 2005043 in the amount of \$9,103.50. Roll call vote: Richards, abstain; Christner, yes; Unger, yes. Motion carried.

Unger moved, second by Richards to approve payroll for \$77,867.66. Roll call vote: Christner, yes; Unger, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Unger moved, second by Richards to adopt Resolution 2020-8, authority to invest monies. Roll call vote: Unger, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Unger move, second by Richards to approve the Treasurers Report. Roll call vote: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Unger, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Unger adjourned the meeting at 11:50 A.M.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.

Hayes County Clerk

Board Chairman