

IN RE: SPECIAL EMERGENCY JOINT MEETING

A special emergency joint meeting of the Adams County Commissioners and Adams County Council was held at 313 West Jefferson Decatur, on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., for consideration of a resolution for continuation of County Government operations in accord with Indiana Governor's Executive Order 20-08.

Present were Council Members, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Yvette Weiland, John Schultz, Steve Bailey, Dennis Bluhm, Cory Sprunger, and Rex Moore, were present via telephone conferencing; Commissioners; Kim Fruechte, and Doug Bauman; County Attorney, Mark Burry; County Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown; and County Auditor, Mary Beery. Department heads Sheriff, Dan Mawhor, Prosecuting Attorney, Jeremy Brown, and Community Corrections Director, Ian Gilbert, were also present.

County Attorney, Mark Burry, went through the Governor Order 20-08 regarding staying home and maintaining social distancing. He highlighted the provisions that are specific to the County. This order explains what business(s) should be contracted otherwise stay home. Cease all activities except minimum operations. All essential business and operations are to remain open. Governor Order 20-08 is effective at 11:59 p.m. tonight, March 24, 2020 and remains in effect until April 6, 2020.

Paragraph 12 - Essential governmental functions is described as follows;

12. Essential Governmental Functions

For purposes of this Executive Order, all first responders, law enforcement, emergency dispatchers and management personnel, legislators, judges, court personnel, jurors and grand jurors, corrections personnel, hazardous materials responders, child protection and child welfare personnel, housing and shelter personnel, military, and other governmental employees working for, or to support, Essential Businesses and Operations, are hereby categorically exempt from this Executive Order.

The phrase "Essential Governmental Functions" means all services provided by the State of Indiana or any municipality, township, county, political subdivision, board, commission or agency of government and needed to ensure the continuing operation of government agencies or to provide for or support the health, safety and welfare of the public, and including contractors performing Essential Governmental Functions. Each governmental body shall determine its Essential Governmental Functions and identify employees and/or contractors necessary to the performance of those functions.

This Executive Order does not apply to the United States government.

Mr. Burry stated as a county government entity, we need to lead the way, downsize, and limit staff to prevent people coming to do business. If it is not absolutely necessary, don't do it. We have tried to put together a resolution per the order. We are charged with the responsibility to establish what the essential functions are. We still have to do so in context with the order itself and everything that is going on around us. Anything that affects economics and affects pay requires the decision of County Council.

Resolution 2020-4

Mr. Burry presented Resolution 2020-4 (on file in the Auditor's Office) and read it aloud. The resolution described essential governmental functions for all offices of Adams County. All Department Heads and Elected Officials need to downsize their staff how they deem necessary. Paid leave for temporary staff through April 6, 2020. Federal fund reimbursement depends when or if the Federal Government authorizes. Employees should travel to and from work only except for essential functions such as grocery, pharmacy, etc. Department Heads and Elected Officials shall keep track of all time and hours that employees are working or absent from work due to down staffing until further order of determination by the Adams County Board of Commissioners. Governor Order 20-08 regarding State Government states, do everything that can be done remotely at home. Mr. Burry stated, everybody that needs to stay home can but we need to provide the essential functions that are required. If an employee is showing symptoms, they must be paid due to the pandemic order.

Commissioner Bauman stated department heads will have to show leadership and creativity on maintaining their individual office.

Governor Order 20-08 goes into effect March 24, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. and will remain in effect until April 6, 2020. Or at such time Executive Order 20-08 terminates subject to further Executive Orders by the Governor of the State of Indiana. Or extensions to the duration of Executive Order 20-08 or Federal orders of similar kind that supersede Executive Order 20-08.

Motion by Kim Fruechte, to accept resolution 2020-4, seconded by Rex Moore. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Tony Mellencamp, to adopt Resolution 2020-4, seconded by Yvette Weiland. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Burry and Julie Marie Brown agreed to hold a department head meeting on March 25, 2020. The meeting will inform employees of how Adams County is handling the pandemic per Resolution 2020-4. The meetings will be

held at the Service Complex, Commissioners/Council room, March 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for adjournment of the March 24, 2020 special emergency joint meeting of the Adams County Commissioners and Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Mary B Beery

Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor

Stan Stoppenhagen

Stan Stoppenhagen, Council Chairman

Kim A. Fruechte, Commissioner

Rex Moore, Commissioner

Douglas L. Bauman

Douglas L. Bauman, Chairman