

The Adams County Board of Commissioners met May 26, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Adams County Service Complex. Present were Commissioners: Doug Bauman, Kim Fruechte, and Rex Moore; County Attorney, Mark Burry; and County Auditor, Mary Beery.

IN RE: MINUTES

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the Adams County Board of Commissioners' Minutes for May 19, 2020.

IN RE: AUDITOR REPORT

**Payroll Claims**

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of the payroll claims totaling \$302,706.75 for the pay period ending May 15, 2020. Motion carried.

**Claims**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of the claims totaling \$378,255.53 to be paid 5/27/2020. Motion carried.

**Health Insurance**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, for approval of payment for the Health Insurance Allied Benefits Administrative Service and claims for June 2020. The breakdown of the claim is as follows: medical premium \$48,932.13; PPO fees \$1,002.00; admin fees \$2,496.64; April RC ID fee \$15.00; for a premium total of \$52,445.77. Motion carried.

There is currently a combined total of \$2,337,794.36 in the checking and reserve accounts.

**Clerk of Circuit Court Monthly Report**

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to accept into the record the April 2020 report from the Clerk of the Adams County Circuit Court. Motion carried.

IN RE: COUNTY ENGINEER REPORT

**Cumulative Bridge**

County Engineer, Tim Barkey, was not in attendance.

IN RE: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

**Annual Report**

Highway Superintendent, Brad Yoder, and Highway Bookkeeper, Becky Cochran, answered questions on the annual report of the Highway Department. They are expecting to receive approximately 40% less in MVH monies for 2020. MVH funds are restricted and controlled on what it can be expended on. The different categories are based on the job that can be done.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the submitted Annual Operational Highway Report for 2019

**Department**

The department is mowing the side ditches but will hold off on patching. Brad spoke with Rob Johnson, Workforce Manager for Town of Geneva concerning Rainbow Road in Geneva. The town is going to have the road wedged and leveled and Adams County is responsible for 935 feet. Brooks Construction will do the work and Adams County's portion is \$16,227.00. The area is located after you pull off the road at Ceylon and go up to the road at Rainbow Lake.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, for approval of paying the unbudgeted amount of \$16,277.00 for the portion that is the responsibility of Adams County. Motion carried.

IN RE: BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Building and Grounds Supervisor, Rick Burkhalter, reported the elevator has been inspected. The exercise room and weight room opened up last Friday but not the gym.

Mr. Burkhalter commended Yolanda for her work in helping pull weeds around the Courthouse.

The flag at the Courthouse was tattered and he did not have the correct size to put up. Rick put out a smaller size because he could not find the right size in time. He felt there should be a flag out that was not tattered due to Memorial Day. He has ordered two flags of the right size.

The bookcases from Superior Court have been moved to the Public Defender's Office.

IN RE: ADAMS CO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION/UNITED WAY

Coni Mayer, Director of Adams County Community Foundation; Colton Bickel, Director of Economic Development; Andrew Briggs, Board member with the ACCF and the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC); and Jessica Thieme, director United Way of Adams County, met with the board to report that ACCF/United Way will seek individuals/businesses to apply for help if COVID-19 had affected them.

Coni Mayer informed the board that mid-March The ACCF and United Way director put together an application opportunity for Adams County residents that were financially affected from COVID-19. These opportunities allow local

citizens to apply for and get assistance for their living expenses, utilities, rent, food, medical supplies, etc. Money from the ACCF disaster relief fund supplemented funds with the United Way to make this financial assistance possible. There is a rise in domestic disputes and more are living in hotels. These residents had no money to pay for their housing as they had not planned on separating. The committee looks over the cases. They have individual donors that want money to go to COVID. The applications are submitted to the ACCF, organized, and distributed to the committee.

Members of this committee to review applications are:

- **Coni Mayer** (Adams County Community Foundation + original disaster relief committee, 2003),
- **Jessica Thieme** (United Way),
- **Larry Isch** (original disaster-relief committee member, 2003),
- **Claudia Karges** (LOVE INC),
- **Pastor Donald Sauls** (Project Share, Berne food pantry),
- **Susan Sefton** (Adams Memorial Hospital) +

Applicants can qualify for up to \$300 in grants. Since April 13th, the COVID 19 distributions for individuals are: 7 review cycles, 26 applications (with 10 denials due to lack of eligibility). To date, \$4,450 has been used to help these Adams County residents. Applicants can qualify for up to \$300 in grants.

Jessica Thieme shared that United Way managed the fund distributions. United Way has received 150 calls from individuals, and 90% of those were working before COVID. These people make ends meet from what they earn and do. They do not ask for public assistance and they are embarrassed to ask for money now. COVID-19 is something that no one could plan for. The Lilly Foundation has approved \$200,000 for nonprofit organizations serving Adams County residents and AEP gave \$20,000.

The committee is making sure people are not double dipping. The donation for individual's is written to the vendor not the applicant. They will continue to receive applications as long as needed as no date has been determined.

Andrew Briggs shared examples of small business that wanted to apply for the CARES act grant, but missed the opportunity. The ACCF and the Adams County Economic Director put together the application opportunity for Adams County small businesses that were financially affected with the COVID 19. These opportunities allow local small businesses to apply for and get assistance for their utilities, rent, medical supplies, etc. Money from the ACCF unrestricted fund provided support for the collaboration with the ACEDC to make this financial assistance possible.

Members of this committee to review application are:

**Coni Mayer** (Adams County Community Foundation+ original disaster relief committee, 2003),  
**Colton Bickel**, Adams County Economic Director  
**Andrew Briggs**, Farmers & Merchants Bank+ ACEDC Board member  
**Dean Fuelling**, First Merchants Bank+ ACEDC Board member  
**Kent Liechty**, Bank of Berne+ ACEDC Board member

The applications are submitted to the ACCF, organized, and distributed to the committee. May 26<sup>th</sup> will be the first time the committee will review these applications.

Some examples of the small business owners that have applied for this first cycle are: Operators and owners of hair salons, fitness center, photography studios, florists, and massage therapist.

Colton Bickel shared information about the ACCF / ACEDC application process and the committee members. We have the structure in place under the revolving loan fund. They can loan out monies to smaller entities. The ACCF with the ACEDC will work differently. Applicants could qualify for up to \$1000 in a grant and up to \$4,000 in a low interest loan. As of this presentation there were 6 applications submitted for review. There is a 1% interest rate on the grant. Once the money is paid back it will be put back into the pot at the EDC.

Coni Mayer reported after the applications are approved the committee meets, discusses them, then the EDC will give out the money disbursed. Coni is the point of contact and she organizes the app on the type it is then forwards to either Jessica or Colton. The requests must be COVID related or the applicant will receive a denial. All applicants must have receipts to show the expenses; 1% goes back to the EDC and they will write all of the checks.

IN RE:

BUILDING & PLANNING

**Subdivision**

Mark Wynn, Building & Plan Commission Director, presented the following subdivision for approval:

Four lot subdivision known as the Ervin S. Christner Subdivision, located north of Hwy 218 on CR 400 E and Salem Rd and in Section 32 of Blue Creek Township.

Upon a motion by Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, the Ervin S. Christner Subdivision was approved. Motion carried.

**Monthly Report**

Mr. Wynn presented the monthly report for March and April 2020 showing that there had been:

March 2020

TYPE OF PERMIT	NUMBER OF PERMITS	DOLLAR VALUE OF PERMITS
Single Family Residence	3	\$832,459
Residential Additions	3	\$53,000
Unattached Buildings	11	\$268,500
Addition to Unattached Buildings	4	\$149,800
Agricultural Buildings	2	\$127,000
Electrical Upgrade	2	\$300
<b>Total Permits</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Total dollar value \$1,431,059</b>

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the monthly report for March 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

April 2020

TYPE OF PERMIT	NUMBER OF PERMITS	DOLLAR VALUE OF PERMITS
Single Family Residence	1	\$156,600
Residential Additions	4	\$135,200
Unattached Buildings	13	\$362,000
Addition to Unattached Buildings	5	\$115,000
Agricultural Buildings	2	\$6,500
Pools	1	\$15,000
Decks	3	\$29,190
Commercial Construction	1	\$400,000
Electrical Upgrade	1	\$6,000
Remodels	2	\$58,000
Ponds	2	\$31,000
<b>Total Permits</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Total dollar value \$1,314,490</b>

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to approve the monthly report for April 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

IN RE: COMMISSIONER REPORT

Rex Moore mentioned the invoices from last week's meeting for the IT department on work that had been completed. There are two invoices from Lakeland Electronics for hardware purchases; \$17,154.64 and \$26,743.05. We had the software but needed verification that the hardware was installed. The board agreed to table the decision until next week.

IN RE: COUNTY ATTORNEY

IT  
County Attorney, Mark Burry, had nothing to report.

RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion Kim Fruechte, seconded by Rex Moore, the meeting for May 26, 2020 was adjourned. Motion carried.

ATTEST: Mary B. Beery  
Mary B. Beery, Adams County Auditor

Kim A. Fruechte  
Kim A. Fruechte, Commissioner

Rex Moore  
Rex Moore, Commissioner

Douglas L. Bauman  
Douglas L. Bauman, Chairman