

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 Monday, April 20, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., for Consideration of extension of a resolution for continuation of limited County government operations, building access and department staffing in response to COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

(This meeting is open to the press only and attendance will be limited; however the County will be streaming the video online for the benefit of the public and further instructions for viewing by the public will be available on the county website: <https://www.co.adams.in.us/>)

Present were Council Members, Tony Mellencamp, Stan Stoppenhagen, Steve Bailey, Yvette Weiland; Commissioner Doug Bauman; County Attorney, Mark Burry; County Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown; and Auditor, Mary Beery. Council Members, John Schultz, Dennis Bluhm, and Cory Sprunger; Commissioners, Kim Fruechte and Rex Moore, were present via telephone conferencing. The Auditor will type their signatures in and add an s after to represent signing.

IN RE: OPEN DISCUSSION

County Attorney, Mark Burry, began the meeting with an overview of past practices. The last meeting the boards extended the previous order and extended the counties resolution for essential government functions temporarily. Last Friday the Governor indicated the order was extended to May 1st. Resolution 2020-6 expires tonight and both boards need to make a decision today on whether to follow the order of the governor. If the boards decide to do something different, they will have to decide what to do and how to do it.

Council Attorney, Julie Marie Brown, told the boards they will need to make a decision with regards to payment of the employees. We do not have the right to not continue with the downsizing and social distancing. The State of Indiana is paying all of the employees at 100% through the end of April. Layoffs are an option but there is no indication how long this will go. Employees can take sick and vacation pay leave, then pay regular pay for people who go to work. Employees cannot be forced to use comp time because this falls under the FSLA compensation act. The problem with layoffs is it creates difficulties for the department head to decide who will come to work. Department heads are required to keep track of staffing which will help with any emergency preparation plans. The boards need to decide either 1. Keep paying employees 100% of their pay whether they are working or not; 2. Make employees use their sick and vacation days; or layoffs and allow employees to draw unemployment.

Mark Burry stated if they decide to extend the pay should be paid across the board. Are we going to stay down staffed and tell some employees to stay home? It is up to the employee to decide whether they use time earned. The department head has to decide who works and who stays home. Federal orders say if an individual has symptoms or signs they must report to their department head. If an employee does not have childcare the order states, the employer must continue to pay the employee. Does it make sense to try to manage for the next two weeks. Hopefully, the State of Indiana lightens things up on May 1st.

All members of both boards agreed to extend employees to be paid for next two weeks.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, to extend payment to the employees until May 1, 2020 or until the Governors order expires, seconded by Kim Fruechte. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, to continue paying employees through May 1, 2020, seconded by Yvette Weiland. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-9

A JOINT RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE CONTINUING OPERATION OF ADAMS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES DURING THE EFFECTIVE TERM OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS 20-08 AND 20-18 ISSUED BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF INDIANA ORDERING ALL INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY LIVING IN INDIANA TO STAY AT HOME OR THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE AND TO ESTABLISH AND DEFINE ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS FOR THE DURATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS 20-08 AND 20-18, was introduced.

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Yvette Weiland, to adopt Resolution 2020-9. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Rex Moore, seconded by Kim Fruechte, to adopt Resolution 2020-9. Motion Carried.

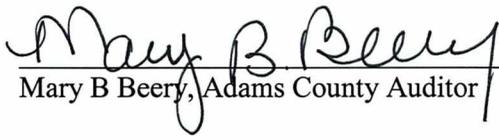
Minutes April 6, 2020

Upon a motion by Tony Mellencamp, seconded by Yvette Weiland, for approval of the minutes of the special emergency meeting of the Adams County Board of Commissioners' and Adams County Council Minutes on April 6, 2020. Motion carried.

IN RE: ADJOURN

Upon a motion by Steve Bailey, seconded by Tony Mellencamp, for adjournment of the April 20, 2020 special emergency joint meeting of the Adams County Commissioners and Adams County Council. Motion carried.

ATTEST:


Mary B Beery, Adams County Auditor


Stan Stoppenhagen, Council Chairman

Kim A. Fruechte/s
Kim A. Fruechte, Commissioner

Rex Moore/s
Rex Moore, Commissioner


Douglas L. Bauman, Chairman