

**Dickinson County Board of Supervisors
January 18, 2022**

9:00 A.M. Present are Supervisors Kim Wermersen, Steve Clark, Jeff Thee, Tim Fairchild Vice-Chairperson and Chairperson Bill Leupold.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited by those present.

Due to a scheduling conflict, there was no discussion regarding the county snow removal policy.

Moved by Wermersen, seconded by Thee, to approve the appointment of Camilla Wills to the Dickinson County Board of Adjustment Board effective immediately. Roll call vote: Wermersen-aye, Thee-aye, Clark-aye, Fairchild-aye, and Leupold-aye.

Moved by Clark, seconded by Fairchild, to approve the January 11, 2022 minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Clark-aye, Fairchild-aye, Wermersen-aye, Thee-aye, and Leupold-aye

Erin Reed, Dickinson County Trails Director present with an annual Trails update. 2021 saw the completion of numerous projects including but not limited to the 1.2 mile expansion of the Tatonka Ska Trace Rail Trail from Hwy 86 to Montgomery. The intention is to continue to develop the rail trail and connect up with the City of Lake Park. The trail addition on the west side of Hwy 71 extended this trail by a ½ mile to allow for additional access to businesses and safety measures. 2022-2023 projects anticipated are Tatonka Ska Trace Phase III (c) which will connect the existing rail trail to the West Okoboji Trail. Additionally a feasibility study for the East Okoboji Narrows Bridge will be initiated. Reed gave praise to the Dickinson County Conservation Board Maintenance Team and all the volunteers that make the trails so successful.

Barbara Clayton present to discuss real estate valuations, levies and property tax concerns. Clayton stated that as values go up, levies potentially can go down. She urged the board to be good stewards of county dollars and to consider decreasing the county budget if applicable or a levy if possible without jeopardizing services to the citizens of the county. Clayton went on to say that perhaps a tactic of a scheduled budget cut every few years could be considered.

Discussion ensued regarding the current Covid-19 policy/protocol and the recommendation of following the current CDC guidelines for quarantine and isolation. The Dickinson County Public health Department adopted these guidelines as well at a recent meeting. The county currently follows the 10-day guidelines. After much discussion. it was moved by Thee, seconded by Wermersen, to make the recommendation to county staff to follow the CDC guidelines for Covid-19 isolation and quarantine protocol. Roll call vote: Thee-aye, Wermersen-aye, Clark-aye, Fairchild-aye, and Leupold-aye.

Moved by Wermersen, seconded by Fairchild, to approve the hiring of Keri Peterson as a part time clerk in the Treasurer's Office effective January 24, 2022 at an hourly rate of \$17.40.. Roll call vote: Wermersen-aye, Fairchild-aye, Clark-aye, Thee-aye, and Leupold-aye.

Closed session tabled to an upcoming meeting.

The Board gave their board and committee reports and continued into general discussion. There being no further items presented to the board, moved by Fairchild, seconded by Wermersen, to adjourn. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned to the call of the Chairperson at 10:00a.m.

_____ William Leupold, Chairperson

_____ Lori Pedersen, Auditor