

HARDIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES – JULY 1, 2021
THURSDAY - 8:33 A.M.
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

At 8:33 a.m. the Board held a Derecho After Action Report meeting. In attendance were Supervisors René McClellan and Lance Granzow; and Cathleen Atchison, Alexandra Leonard, Rocky Reents, Thomas Craighton, Dave McDaniel, JD Holmes, Thomas Bays, and Jolene Pieters. Supervisor BJ Hoffman was absent.

The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the State Emergency Operations Center's assistance in response to the August 10, 2020 derecho, discuss the challenges local communities experienced, and provide feedback to the State.

Questions were posed by Cathleen Atchison, Atchison Consulting Service. Emergency Management Coordinator Thomas Craighton and Union Mayor Thomas Bays provided responses.

The consensus was local governments need more education on damage assessment and debris management procedures, checklists to help them navigate through the disaster recovery process, and increased access to State-approved contractors and resources.

Craighton and Bays also offered up critiques of FEMA documentation requirements.

Having no more questions, Atchison and Alexandra Leonard left the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

A brief discussion ensued on whether the meeting should enter closed session.

At 9:32 a.m. Vice-chair McClellan called the meeting to order.

Granzow moved, McClellan seconded to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

No motion was made to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(k) to discuss information and records related to critical infrastructure and emergency preparedness.

Craighton, Sheriff Dave McDaniel, and Bays shared ideas on how to improve local disaster response efforts in the future. Craighton recommended using a specific camera app and taking time to organize before acting, while McDaniel proposed a sit-down with fire chiefs and staffs and providing them with a checklist of FEMA documentation requirements. Bays suggested opening a command center and appointing someone in charge, along with more frequent council meetings. Craighton also proposed hiring a monitor/documenter at the start, whose wages would be reimbursable through FEMA.

Other Business: None.

At 9:56 a.m. Granzow moved, McClellan seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

/s/ BJ Hoffman
BJ Hoffman, Chair
Board of Supervisors

/s/ Jolene Pieters
Jolene Pieters
Hardin County Auditor