

Lincoln County Board of Supervisors
Meeting: April 21, 2020

The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors met at the Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N Sales Street, Room 257, Merrill, WI in session assembled pursuant to law. Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was called with the following present: Allen, Ashbeck, Bialecki, Breitenmoser, Callahan, Friske, Gilk, Gorski, Hafeman, Heller, Koth, Lee, Loka, McCrank, Peterson, Panfil, Ratliff, Rusch, Simon, Voermans, Weaver and Wendt. (22)

3. Clerk Marlowe administered the Oath of Office.
4. Reading & Approval of the Board Minutes – February 18, 2020 and April 3, 2020 M/S Heller/Bialecki to approve the February 18, 2020 and April 3, 2020 minutes as presented.
5. Reports of Standing & Special Committees:
 - A. Board of Health: Public Health Officer’s COVID-19 Update – Health Officer (Shelley Hersil) Ms. Hersil gave an update on COVID-19 in Lincoln County. As of 4/20/20 there are no reported cases in Lincoln County. Ms. Hersil then answered questions.
 - B. Administrative & Legislative Committee: Administrative Coordinator’s COVID-19 Situation Report (county operations impacts) - (Jason Hake) Mr. Hake gave an overview of the Administrative & Legislative Committee’s actions regarding the county’s staffing and work from home options.
6. Resolutions and Ordinances

A. 1) Resolution 2020-04-13

County Board Organization During Public Health Emergency and Safer-at-Home Order

WHEREAS, in March, 2020, Gov. Evers declared a public health emergency (Ex Order #72) and WI-DHS Secretary Palm issued a Safer-at-Home Order (Em Order #12) in an attempt to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, on 4/3/20, the County Board ratified the Lincoln County Declaration of Public Health Emergency (Chair Lee, 3/21/20) authorizing “whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within Lincoln County in the emergency”; and

WHEREAS, the stay-at-home order, while exempting essential activities including government functions, has limited citizens’ ability to participate in person in public meetings; and

WHEREAS, many County Board supervisors are self-quarantining under the stay-at-home recommendations contained in the order; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative & Legislative Committee weighed the health risks and the limits on public participation associated with holding an in-person County Board Organizational Meeting and concludes that doing so would not be prudent under the current physical distancing recommendations by public health officials and the Safer at Home Order; and

WHEREAS, the terms of the twenty-two elected Supervisors serving on the Lincoln County Board will begin on 4/21/20; however, *until such time as an in-person Organizational Meeting can prudently be held*, the Administrative & Legislative Committee recommends as follows:

- That on an interim basis, that Robert Lee and Robert Weaver continue to serve as Chair and Vice-chair (respectively); and
- That on an interim basis, that all members continue to serve on the same committees as they held during the 2018-2020 term; and
- That on an interim basis, that newly-elected members serve on the same committees as their predecessors held during the 2018-2020 term;
- That the adjourned Organizational Meeting shall be convened at the call of the Chair as soon as practicable after Safer-at-Home Orders are lifted and a meeting can be scheduled.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the recommendations of the Administrative & Legislative Committee.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2020.

Introduced by: Administrative & Legislative Committee Passed 7 – 0 on 4/6/20 Fiscal Impact: none

M/S Heller/Bialecki to adopt Resolution 2020-04-13. Discussion followed. Motion carried by a voice vote.

