



# Gage County Board Minutes



The Gage County Board of Supervisors Emergency Meeting met on March 20, 2020, at 8:45 a.m. with Terry Jurgens, John Hill, Erich Tiemann, Eddie Dorn and Dennis Byars present, Matt Bauman and Gary Lytle absent.

Notice of said meeting was posted at the County Clerk’s Office and County Website.

Let the record show that all proceedings are electronically recorded.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Chairman Tiemann announced that a complete copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted at the back of the Board of Supervisors Room.

Chairman Erich Tiemann read a Gage County Emergency Proclamation regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

## **GAGE COUNTY EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION**

FOR ALL CITIZENS, BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, INCLUDING THE CITY OF BEATRICE, AND ALL OTHER CITIES AND VILLAGES IN GAGE COUNTY, PURSUANT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 81-829.36 to 81-829.75) AND OTHER NEBRASKA LAWS

WHEREAS, commencing on January 31, 2020 and continuing from that day forward, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak is recognized as a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency over the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Ricketts declared a state emergency over the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as Chairman of the Gage County Supervisors, does issue this proclamation and hereby finds, determines and declares in the interest of public health and safety that an epidemic sickness, disaster and emergency conditions prevail and exist within the boundaries of Gage County, Nebraska, defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-829.39 which is part of Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-829.36 to 81-829.75, known as the Emergency Management Act (the “Act”) and other Nebraska laws; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that Gage County and the Gage County Board of Supervisors, and along with its elected officials, administrators, employees and agents, take all appropriate emergency management actions necessary to forestall or mitigate the imminent and existing danger to public health and safety, and take all appropriate emergency actions and exercise all authority and permissible actions as permitted under and pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-829.51, the procedures therein and other applicable laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing findings and facts, the undersigned on behalf of Gage County, Nebraska, hereby declares a local emergency under the Act to continue in effect until the emergency has been dealt with to the extent that the conditions in my findings no longer exist.

Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



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SEAL

/s/ Erich Tiemann  
Erich Tiemann, Chairman  
Gage County Board of Supervisors

/s/ Dawn Hill  
Gage County Clerk

Motion made by Jurgens, seconded by Dorn to approve affirming the Gage County Emergency Proclamation. Motion carried 5-0.

Lytle joined meeting.

Motion made by Jurgens, seconded by Hill to approve suspending SUP (Special Use Permits) and Board Meetings of the Planning & Zoning Commission, until the emergency has been dealt with to the extent that the conditions no longer exist, including canceling the March 31, 2020 Planning & Zoning Meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 20-06**

**Authorization for Board Chairman and County Clerk to Act on Behalf of the Board in the Event of an Emergency Closure of Courthouse.**

**WHEREAS, in the event of an emergency closure, the Gage County Board of Supervisors may not convene for its regularly scheduled meeting; and**

**WHEREAS, although the Board may not hold its regularly scheduled meetings, the activities of County government shall continue and certain claims and warrants must be acted upon; and,**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 23-104(6), the County has the power to do all acts in relation to the concerns of the county necessary to the exercise of its corporate powers; and,**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 23-103, the powers of the County as a body are exercised by the County Board.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA that, pursuant to the statutory authority of this Board as set forth above, that in the event of an emergency closure, the Chairman of Gage County Board of Supervisors and the Gage County Clerk are hereby authorized to prepare claims and issue warrants for the following expenditures:**

- 1. Payroll and associated expenses**
- 2. Utilities**
- 3. Lease, Bond & Federal Judgment Payments**
- 4. Contract and/or other installment payments which have been contracted for or authorized by action of this board;**
- 5. Expenses associated with jurors of the various courts and attorney fees and expenses ordered by a judge in the usual and ordinary manner; and,**
- 6. Payments that are in accordance with Gage County's current Written Standards of Eligibility and Assistance for General Assistance for the Poor.**

**The aforementioned individuals have no authority to conduct County business beyond that stated above. Payments pursuant to Paragraphs 1 through 4 above may only be made in those instances when required by law or enforceable contractual obligations to be made during the effective dates of this Resolution. Any other action may only be undertaken by the Board either in an Emergency Meeting, when such meeting**



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**has been called and convened pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 84-1411, or pursuant to a meeting requested by 1/3 of the members of the board, and shall be made in writing to the Co. Clerk pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 23-273.**

**Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Hill to adopt the foregoing Resolution. All members present as listed and voted as follows:**

**Yea: Jurgens, Hill, Tiemann, Dorn, Byars, Lytle**

**Nay: None**

**/s/ Erich Tiemann  
Chairman**

**Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.**

**/s/ Dawn Hill  
Gage County Clerk**

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Hill to approve adopting Resolution #20-06 for authorization of the Board Chairman and County Clerk to act on behalf of the Board in the event of an Emergency Closure of the Courthouse. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Dorn to approve 6 items presented in a Health Insurance Amendment to enhance coverages for COVID-19. Lytle temporarily absent. Byars voting aye, Jurgens, Hill, Tiemann and Dorn voting nay. Motion failed 4-1.

Motion made by Hill to approve all items in the Health Insurance Amendment except #6. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Jurgens, seconded by Dorn to approve Health Insurance Amendment items with the exception of numbers 2 and 6. Jurgens, Tiemann and Dorn voting aye, Hill and Byars voting nay. Motion carried 3-2.

Judge Rick Schreiner spoke to the board on how things are being handled in the court regarding COVID-19.

Short recess at 9:42 a.m. Lytle rejoined meeting at 9:43 a.m. Back in session at 9:48 a.m. with all members previously listed present.

Motion made by Byars, seconded by Dorn to move into closed session at 9:48 a.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Lytle left meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Motion made by Byars, seconded by Dorn to move out of closed session at 10:15 a.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The Finance Committee convened to review claims submitted for payment with Hill, Dorn and Tiemann present.

Judge Steven Timm spoke to the board about court cases held in County Court and changes made due to Covid-19

Chairman declared Board of Supervisors meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m. until March 25, 2020.

Board minutes can also be viewed on the Gage County website at [www.gagecountynebraska.us](http://www.gagecountynebraska.us).

/s/ Dawn Hill  
Dawn Hill

/s/ Erich Tiemann  
Erich Tiemann, Chairman



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Gage County Clerk

Gage County Board of Supervisors

I, Dawn Hill, County Clerk of Gage County, do hereby certify that the above records are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Witness my hand and official seal this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

(SEAL)

/s/ Dawn Hill

Dawn Hill

Gage County Clerk