

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Dwight A. Kruse, Keith Olsen, and Richard L. Lehmkuhl. Also present was Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley. County Attorney Kevin Hill was present for a portion of the meeting. Dwight Kruse opened the meeting at 8:10 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Richard Lehmkuhl led the meeting with a prayer.

MINUTES

Motion by Keith Olsen to correct the July 31, 2020:

SPARK

Motion by Keith Olsen to recommend reimbursement from Brown County SPARK to Brown County District Court for \$1,101.60. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

SPARK

Motion by Keith Olsen to recommend reimbursement from Brown County SPARK to Brown County District Court for \$1,101.65. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve the corrected minutes. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

ATTORNEY

Brown County Attorney, Kevin Hill, spoke with the commission concerning the school districts. He advised them to speak with a local health official before making any decision, and the commission could make a less restrictive order than the Governor’s order with the school board being able to make more restrictions than the Governor’s orders.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Julie Liberty, Road and Bridge Secretary, updated the commission on tracking hot patch.

HIAWATHA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

John Broberg, HCH CEO, was present via Zoom to update the commission on the Hospital. Brown County is up to 36 COVID-19 cases. He stated that staffing is down at the hospital for different reasons such as accidents and maternity leave. Broberg expressed the importance of face coverings. Broberg reviewed the hospital financial reports and updated on the audit. The hospital signed a contract with KRCC to assist in physician recruitment.

KWORCC

The commission reviewed the KWORCC quarterly report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley, requested a 5 minute executive session with the three commissioners and Melissa Gormley present to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Motion by Keith Olsen for a 5 minute executive session on non-elected personnel with the three Commissioners and Melissa Gormley, present to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel with executive session necessary to protect privacy interests. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Closed 8:49 a.m. Opened 8:54 a.m. No binding action was taken.

SPARK

Motion by Keith Olsen to recommend reimbursement from Brown County SPARK to Brown County for \$6715.00 for the health nurse wages. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried

SPARK

Motion by Keith Olsen to recommend reimbursement from Brown County SPARK to Brown County District Court for \$179.97 for disinfecting supplies. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

SPARK

Motion by Keith Olsen to recommend reimbursement from Brown County SPARK to Brown County District Court for \$549.87 for a video system and sneeze guard. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

COVID-19

Chastity Schumann, Brown County Health Nurse and Kristina Romine, Brown County Health Department CEO, were available via Zoom. Schumann stated that the school boards should make their own decisions about the mask mandate. Schumann suggested if social distancing could not take place then masks should be worn. Lonnie Moser, USD #415 Superintendent and Jason Selland, USD #430 School Board President, were present. Rex Lockwood and Kendra Heinen were also in attendance. Moser stated that the employees of USD #415 were in favor of the orders. Selland was looking for some guidance from the commission on whether they would allow the school boards to have less restrictive orders. Romine stated that surrounding counties have not entered into any orders, with the exception of Nemaha County and the local health departments are working with the school boards.

Motion by Keith Olsen, to allow schools to use lesser guidelines set forth in the Operations section of Navigating Change, and allow them to add more restrictions as they see fit. Seconded by Dwight Kruse. Opposed by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

ELECTION

Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley, reported Brown County has had 190 early voters, 626 advanced ballots have been received out of the 855 that were mailed.

Motion by Keith Olsen to adjourn. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m. A special meeting will be held Wednesday, August 5, 2020, at 8:10 a.m. and Thursday, August 6, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, August 10, 2020.

ATTEST:

APPROVED BY:

MELISSA GORMLEY, COUNTY CLERK

DWIGHT A. KRUSE, CHAIRMAN

KEITH OLSEN, MEMBER

RICHARD L. LEHMKUHL, MEMBER