

Courthouse
Emmetsburg Iowa
August 30th, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

The Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors met in regular session. Members present: Linus Solberg, Chair; Keith Wirtz, Ron Graettinger, Craig Merrill, Ed Noonan. Present: Peter Hart, County Attorney.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the motions offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Wirtz, Graettinger, Solberg, Noonan, Merrill. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

Motion by Merrill, seconded by Graettinger to amend the agenda for August 30th, 2016, to hold a conference call with FEMA representatives regarding a 2nd appeal. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, seconded by Wirtz to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

The Board of Supervisors walked to the Brink Building to review draft floor plans for the remodeling of the Brink Building. Present: Peter Hart, County Attorney; Walter Davis-Oeth, County Engineer; Rick Elbert, Jim Fisher, Draftsman.

The Board discussed possible options for the floor plan for the Brink Building. Walter & Peter will work with the draftsman to come up with a floor plan to optimize the space at the Brink Building.

At 8:45 a.m., the Board returned to the Courthouse Boardroom to discuss wind energy setbacks.

Present: Janna Swanson, Paul Swanson, Brady Evans, Adam Sabloski, Joe Neary, Mark Hunefeld, David J. Kirk, Clayton Helgeson, Dan Lutat, Ray Grandstaff, Mike Hermansen, Dennis Mandsager, Jack Kibbie, Mark Zacccone, Dani Spangler, Brett Swanson, Jennifer Cashey, Valerie Newhouse, Carey Jensen, Lynn Schultes, Mike Brown, Robin Jamison.

Peter Hart, County Attorney, presented the wind energy ordinance dated August 11, 2016, draft final report recommendation to the supervisors. Linus Solberg, Chair, thanked the Zoning Board, the wind energy companies, the Supervisors & Peter Hart, County Attorney.

Keith Wirtz stated the following information:
Palo Alto County met December 8, 2015, at the Emmetsburg VFW for a public forum discussing the proposed Wind Energy Conversion System ordinance. Planning and Zoning again met January 25, 2016, at the Palo Alto County Courthouse with a public forum to continue its public discussion of the Wind Energy Conversion System ordinance. Planning and Zoning again met February 9, 2016, at the Palo Alto County Courthouse during which an open meeting was conducted in review of the proposed Wind Energy Conversion System ordinance. Planning and Zoning met April 14, 2016, in a public meeting to review their proposed ordinance. Planning and Zoning met August 11, 2016, and approved the Wind Energy Conversion System ordinance and voted to forward their written recommendations to the Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors. Now on August 30, 2016, the Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors met in open session and reviewed the Palo Alto County Wind Energy Conversion System ordinance received from its Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion by Wirtz, seconded by Noonan to tentatively set the setback distance of 1,500 feet from existing permanent residential locations and to set 10:00 a.m. on September 13th, September 20th, and September 27th, 2016, as the three consecutive dates for the readings of the Palo Alto County Wind Energy Conversion System Ordinance. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, seconded by Wirtz to adjourn. Motion Carried. Motion by Graettinger, seconded by Noonan to reconsider adjournment and go back into session for a conference call with FEMA representatives. Motion Carried.

The Board of Supervisors held a conference call with Jim Grandquist of Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management. The Board has submitted a 2nd appeal for FEMA disaster funds for 2014. The state will submit a recommendation along with our appeal to the federal FEMA headquarters.

Dani Spangler, Invenergy, reviewed wind energy project maps with the Board.

Motion by Graettinger, seconded by Noonan to adjourn. Motion Carried.

LJ Solberg, Chairman

Carmen Moser, County Auditor