

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

January 11, 2021

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 11th day of January 2021 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Dennis L. Rolfs, 1st District Commissioner

Kermit Rush, 2nd District Commissioner

Stephen S. Dlabal, Jr, 3rd District Commissioner

OPENING BUSINESS:

Chairman Dlabal called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Rush moved to approve the Agenda with a change. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rush moved to approve the Minutes for January 4, 2021. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Greg Bender was in attendance but did not wish to address the Commissioners.

APPOINTMENTS:

Shelly Vopat, Ellsworth County Clerk, explained that the FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) Leave expired December 31, 2020. Under the FFCRA, full time employees are entitled to a one-time allotment of 80 hours of paid sick leave. Ms. Vopat asked the Commissioners how they wanted to handle this leave in 2021 now that it was voluntary. The Commissioners said to let employees use up their 80 hours, but no additional hours will be awarded to those who have exhausted this leave. Commissioner Rush made a motion to go into executive session with Shelly Vopat and Commissioner Elect Greg Bender to discuss non-elected personnel sick leave donation from 9:10 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. At 9:20 a.m. Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

Terry Whitmer, representing EMS, asked the Commissioners to approve a grant paying for the tuition for EMS students. Although no motion was made, Chairman Dlabal signed the grant application.

Kerianne Ehrlich, Health Department Director, & Keith Haberer, Emergency Management Director, believe the Commissioners should leave the mask mandate in place. The hospital only has 4 patients in the COVID-19 unit, but they are being hit hard in the Emergency Room for COVID-19. Commissioner Rush and Commissioner Dlabal think they should leave the mask mandate as is. Ms. Ehrlich received 30 vaccines for COVID-19 and distributed them all out. Ms. Ehrlich will be receiving the second dose soon.

Beth Wagner, Commissioner Rush's daughter, stated how proud the family is of Commissioner Rush's dedication to the County for 20 years. **Darlene Rush, Commissioner Rush's spouse,** commented that for the last 20 years Mondays have been tied up with the Commission. He would only miss one Monday each year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rush moved to approve Abatement 2021-58 in the amount of \$15.18. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to appoint David Koralek Jr. as Ash Creek Township Trustee. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rush moved to approve the 2021-03 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for Travel Shoppe #2 in original and unopened containers. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to appoint Greg Bender to the North Central Planning Commission Board. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2021 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

After the swearing in of the newly elected County Commissioner, Commissioner Rolfs moved to elect Stephen S. Dlabal, Jr. as Chairman. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Bender moved to elect Dennis L. Rolfs as Vice-Chairman of the Ellsworth County Board of Commissioners for 2021. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dlabal adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk