

## ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**March 7, 2022**

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

***Members Present:***

*Dennis Rolfs, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner*

*Gregory C. Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commissioner*

*Stephen S. Dlabal, Jr, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner*

### **OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the agenda with a change. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes of February 28, 2022. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Bender received a call from the emergency manager asking that the Commissioners do not remove the burn ban even though we received snow fall. They all agreed that the snow would be gone in a day or two and embers can last longer than that time frame.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

**Stacie Schmidt, Economic Development Director**, wanted to know if the Commissioners had any questions in regard to Bob Fredrickson's question last week, regarding the annual meeting and the Treasurer's report not being given at the meeting. Ms. Schmidt explained that she gave the financial reports at her meetings the rest of the year. The Commissioners were okay with her adding it to her annual meeting next year.

### **APPOINTMENTS:**

**Shelly Vopat, County Clerk**, received a call from their website provider, Revize. Revize thought the County of Ellsworth should consider buying an SSL Certificate for a \$175 a year with a one time fee of \$250. Ms. Vopat said we do not take payments through our website, so we do not have to add this feature. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go into executive session with Shelly Vopat to discuss litigation for a terminated employee from 9:20 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. At 9:30 a.m. Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

**Nathan Florian, EMS Director**, asked if he could pursue a grant for AEDs (Automated External defibrillator) for all County buildings. Jim Kirkbride was present for the meeting, and he thought ECMC had grant money that could be used for this project. Mr. Kirkbride would check into the guidelines of the grant and contact Mr. Florian. EMS will be receiving their new ambulance soon and Claflin's voluntary EMS Department would like to purchase our old EMS truck for the trade-in value of \$8,500. The Commissioners thought it was a good idea to help our neighboring EMS. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go into executive session with Nathan Florian and Shelly Vopat to discuss disciplinary action for non-elected personnel from 9:42 a.m. to 9:47 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. At 9:47 a.m. the Commissioners returned to open session. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to terminate Luke Brandenburg effective today, March 7, 2022. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center CEO**, has been talking with Kerianne Ehrlich, Health Department Director, about a position at the hospital that they have not been able to fill in four months. The Health Department is willing to provide that service because they are already doing infection prevention at the county level. The Hospital will pay the salary to the Health Department. After Kerianne Ehrlich gives her presentation to the hospital board, Mr. Kirkbride and Ms. Ehrlich will come back for permission and to sign an agreement for both entities.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Commissioners tabled the approval of the job position descriptions until they had a chance to review them thoroughly.

The fence viewing will be tabled for now as it seems both parties are coming to an agreement on their own.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

The Commissioners met for a special meeting to discuss the burn ban. Chairman Bender called the meeting to order at 1:02. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to lift the burn ban as of 1:05 p.m. today, March 10, 2022, rescinding Resolution 2022R03. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:12 p.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Bender adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

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Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

March 7, 2022