

May 29, 2020
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Friday, May 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present in person or via teleconference for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Kevin Stevens, Tom Appel, Donna Gravley, Norm Holmen, Larry Anderson; County Attorney Nick Anderson, County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong, Auditor/Treasurer Donna Torkelson, Kathy Marsh, Paul Johnson, Gale Bondhus, Kathy Kretsch, Kay Gross, Mark Schenk, Kyle Pillatzki, Jed Rhubee, and Joel Alvstad.

Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order. The purpose of this special meeting was to discuss further information that may be available to the board regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Paul Johnson, Emergency Management Director, updated the board on COVID related items. Cottonwood County has a total of 68 confirmed cases, with 9 of the 68 active at the present time. Johnson informed the board that United Community Action, in partnership with BARC and the Windom School, will have a free food distribution for those in need on June 3. Commissioner Gravley added that they have enough volunteers and that they will have enough food for 700 families. Johnson stated that composting of hogs is continuing in Nobles County at approximately 1,000 head per day, Le Sueur County continues at approximately 1,200 head per day and Freeborn County is just opening.

Chairman Stevens asked for Johnsons recommendation on the opening of County offices. Johnson stated that he has talked to a few Department Heads and recommends staying with appointments until the Governor initiates Phase 3 of Stay Safe Minnesota then bringing up for discussion again.

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Chairman Stevens asked the board for thoughts on continuing the special meetings. After discussion, motion by Holmen, second by Anderson, unanimous roll call vote to tentatively schedule special meetings for Tuesdays, June 9, June 23, and June 30, at 9:00 a.m., if needed.

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Jed Rhubee, Public Works Superintendent, informed the board that the bathrooms at Talcot Park will be open June 1, but the shelter house will be closed due to repairs.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Donna Torkelson, Auditor/Treasurer

Kevin Stevens, Board Chair

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator