

**April 2, 2020 Minutes  
Washington County Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor's Room Courthouse  
Blair, Nebraska 68008**

The Washington County Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Nebraska, met in an emergency meeting at 3:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 2, 2020 in the Supervisor's Meeting Room at the Courthouse in Blair, Nebraska.

Chairman, Steve Dethlefs declared the meeting was in session and that the meeting is being recorded. Chairman made note that the Open Meetings Law is posted on the door and the north wall. Present: County Board Members Jordan Rishel, Lisa Kramer, Bob Frahm, and Kevin Barnhill. Absent: Jay Anderson and Steve Kruger. Also present: Co Clerk Barbara Sullivan, Treasurer Marj Hoier, Co Attorney Scott Vander Schaaf, Clk of District Court Susie Paulsen, Assessor Steve Mencke, Sheriff Mike Robinson, and several office heads. Most attendees were present remotely using Zoom Meetings application.

Dethlefs stated the purpose of the emergency meeting is to update the modified business plan due to an uptick in confirmed cases of COVID-19 present in Washington County. A modified business plan was put in place effective March 23 to allow limited access to Washington County offices in order to adhere to the COVID-19 "social distancing" guidelines recommended by State and Federal agencies. Dethlefs displayed for viewing the proposed updated version that will restrict public access to county offices starting April 3, 2020.

Board members and office personnel discussed at length how best to manage day to day business activities with proposed new restrictions. Dethlefs also discussed what some other counties are doing that is similar and suggested that the Emergency Management Committee review the situation daily. Chris Shewchuk said he will still need to meet people at door as some transactions cannot be done thru mail. Marj Hoier suggested that transactions that need to be done in person should take place at the east entrance as a barricade will be in front of west door. Mike Anderson spoke.

Dethlefs read thru the Modified Business Practices for Washington County Offices and Buildings. Motion Anderson second Kramer to approve the Modified Business Practices in accordance with COVID-19 guidance provided by Federal and State authorities. Vote- Aye: Rishel, Kramer, Frahm, Dethlefs, Barnhill, Anderson, Kruger. Nay: None. Motion carried. Kruger had technical difficulties and placed his vote via text message to Kramer.

**Modified Business Practices for Washington County Offices and Buildings**

Beginning Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Washington County Offices will be conducting business in a modified manner in order to comply with COVID-19 social distancing guidelines recommended by [Federal](#) and [State](#) agencies. All Washington County offices will be open for business via phone call; email and regular mail ONLY. We encourage all individuals who need services to access these online or over the phone when possible. The State of Nebraska has cancelled all [Drivers License testing](#) until further notice. Anybody wishing to attend a court hearing will need to have approval from the court in order to be granted access inside the Courthouse. In accordance with the Governor's recommendations, no more than 10 individuals, whether they be employees or court attendees, will be allowed to congregate in open areas throughout County offices and spaces.

Until further notice, regularly scheduled Washington County Board of Supervisors meetings(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays @3pm) and Planning Commission meetings(1<sup>st</sup> Thursday @ 7pm) will go on as scheduled with the Public having access through online services. Please visit the County Web site for details.

Washington County officials will monitor the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic guidelines daily and make adjustments to our Business practices and services to the public as needed. Thank you for your understanding and patience during these very challenging circumstances.

***Respectfully, your [Washington County Officials](#)***

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 3:28 P.M., meeting was adjourned until the next regular Board meeting date, April 14, 2020.

Attest:  
Barbara Sullivan  
Washington County Clerk

Steve Dethlefs, Chairman  
Washington County Board of Supervisors

I, Barbara Sullivan, County Clerk, in and for Washington County, Blair, Nebraska, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings took place during the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors

Barbara Sullivan  
Washington County Clerk